



Watershed Project Orientation for Watershed Coordinators and Soil Conservation District Supervisors

Watershed Project Coordinator

Week #1

1. Read through the approved project implementation plan (PIP) and accompanying Quality Assurance Project Plan
2. Read through materials available as part of the Soil & Water Conservation Binder at www.tinyurl.com/SWCBinder. Critical materials to review include:
 - Section 319 BMP Cost-share Guidelines
 - NDSU Livestock Assessment Tool
 - Living With A River Handbook
 - Success stories

Week #2

Complete the Watershed Academy online training course. Upon completion a certificate will be available for the participant.

Introductory/Overview Modules:

- Ecosystem Services: Benefits to Human Societies

Watershed Ecology Modules:

- Introduction to Watershed Ecology
- Protecting Instream Flows: How Much Water Does a River Need?
- Stream Corridor Structure

Watershed Change Modules:

- Nonpoint Source Pollution with Nitrogen and Phosphorus
- Agents of Watershed Change
- The Effect of Climate Change on Water Resources and Programs

Analysis and Planning Modules:

- Introduction to Watershed Planning
- Overview of Watershed Monitoring

Management Practices Modules:

- Eight Tools of watershed protection
- Agricultural Management Practices for Water Quality Protection
- Forestry Best Management Practices in Watersheds

Community/Social Context Modules:

- Getting In Step: A Guide to Effective Outreach In Your Watershed
- Top Ten Watershed Lessons Learned

Water Law Modules:

- Introduction to the Clean Water Act Tools for Watershed Protection

In addition to the core modules, it is suggested the following modules be completed:

- [Understanding Lake Ecology](#)
- [Watershed Modeling](#)
- [Fundamentals of Rosgen Stream Classification System](#)
- [Stream Corridor Restoration Tools](#)
- [Key Concepts of Impaired Waters and Developing TMDLs](#)
- [Monitoring and Assessment](#)

Week #3

Schedule an appointment for 319 BMP and Funding Manager database training. This may include other SCD staff involved in tracking project costs.

Week #4

Meet with an existing watershed coordinator to discuss program delivery including, contracting and project management.

Week #5

1. Coordinate with the NRCS District conservationist to complete online NRCS training modules pertinent for the project area. Recommended modules are pre-requisites to the Conservation Planning Course and include:
 - [Introduction to Water Quality](#)
 - [Ag Waste Management Systems – A Primer](#)
 - [Conservation Planning Modules 1-5, Part 1 of Ag Learn](#)

While not a requirement, it is suggested that watershed coordinators complete the following training prior to taking Conservation Planning Course.

- [Cultural Resource Modules 1-6, Ag Learn](#)
2. Coordinate with NRCS District Conservationist to enroll in the USDA Conservation Planning Course as available.

Additional Training Opportunities

1. Water quality sample collection training will be provided by NDDEQ staff during the first year.
2. All coordinators are encouraged to attend the annual Watershed Coordinators Workshop held in Bismarck.
3. NDDEQ staff provides notification of relevant workshops and conferences when they are advertised.

Section 319 funds can be used to support attendance of college courses and/or training workshops necessary for project implementation.

Soil Conservation District Board Member

Week #1 Schedule meeting with Section 319 Program coordinator and/or regional NDDoH staff to review/discuss project management and administrative responsibilities.

Week #2 Complete the following modules from the online Watershed Academy:

- [Introduction to Watershed Ecology](#)
- [Nonpoint Source Pollution with Nitrogen and Phosphorus](#)
- [Key Concepts of Impaired Waters and Developing TMDLs](#)
- [Introduction to Watershed Planning](#)
- [Agricultural Management Practices for Water Quality Protection](#)
- [Stream Corridor Restoration Tools](#)

Board members are invited to attend the annual Watershed Coordinators Workshop held in Bismarck.