

Virginia Association of RC&D Councils Legislative Committee

Purpose Statement:

The Legislative Committee will track legislation in the state and federal legislatures that impacts the RC&D program in Virginia. The committee will develop and implement a method to ensure that our representatives are contacted about important issues that directly impact RC&D programs. The committee will keep elected officials informed about Virginia RC&D Council activities.

Activities:

1. The Legislative Committee will organize the delegation from Virginia to the Annual National RC&D Forum in February.
 - a) Develop an information sheet and leverage fund sheet. *Nov Dec*
 - b) Teleconference of attendees to review DC plans *January*
 - c) Send letters to legislators requesting appointments. *January*
 - d) Schedule appointments with legislators *January*
(letter then phone call)
 - e) Follow – up on thank you letters to legislators. *Feb ~ Mar*
 - f) Insure reports about Forum are made to each council. *Mar ~ April*
 - g) Stress home contact with legislators following the National Forum so they know we were there. *May*

2. Keep both state and federal legislators informed of Virginia RC&D accomplishments. *Year round*
 - a) Encourage Councils to develop strong relationship with their legislators on a local level.

3. Keep abreast of Federal and State legislative proposals and take actions such as visiting our representatives, writing letters or making phone calls as needed. *Year round*

4. Lead an inquiry with the Virginia Councils and the VARCDC to determine if there are legislative issues that the VARCDC should advocate for or against. *Spring and Fall meeting*

5. Members should be aware of issues that our sponsors are supporting and bring them to the VARCDC Board for discussion. *Spring and Fall meeting*

Updated October 04