

Background The Foundation is a North Carolina Corporation chartered in 1999. It is a public non-profit tax-exempt organization having obtained its 501(c)(3) status in 2000. The Foundation has raised over \$15,000,000 and leveraged over \$16,000,000 to implement projects addressing priority natural resource issues and building conservation capacity.

Purpose The Foundation is organized to carry out the present and long term mission and purposes of the North Carolina Soil & Water Conservation Districts that locally address statewide conservation needs.

Mission The Foundation’s mission is to promote, protect and improve North Carolina soil and water resources for the enhancement of economic growth and stewardship of the natural environment.

Structure The Foundation is governed by a 20+ person board of directors and is managed by a two person staff with project managers added as needed.

Objectives The Foundation’s objectives focus on three major priority areas: Building Conservation Capacity, Educating the Citizens, and Improving the Natural Environment

Current and Past Funding Partners

Corporate and Nonprofit Partners	State and Federal Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Altria Group ▪ AgCarolina Farm Credit ▪ BB&T ▪ Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina ▪ Cape Fear Farm Credit ▪ Carolina Farm Credit ▪ Caterpillar Foundation ▪ Cotton Incorporated ▪ Duke Energy ▪ Environmental Defense Fund ▪ Environmental Enhancements Program ▪ NC Cattlemen’s Association ▪ NC Electric Cooperatives ▪ NC Farm Bureau Federation ▪ NC Pork Council ▪ NC Soybean Producer’s Association ▪ NC State Grange ▪ Sloan Family Foundation ▪ Smithfield Foods ▪ Walmart Foundation ▪ Wells Fargo ▪ Wrangler ▪ Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Golden LEAF Foundation ▪ NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs – NC Military Affairs Council ▪ NC Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund ▪ NC Forest Service ▪ NC Policy Collaboratory ▪ NC State University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sentinel Landscapes Initiative - College of Natural Resources ○ College of Agriculture and Life Sciences – Biological and Ag Engineering – Crop and Soil Sciences ○ NC Agriculture Foundation ▪ NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission ▪ The Rural Center ▪ Texas A & M University’s Institute for Renewable Natural Resources ▪ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service ▪ USDA Southern SARE ▪ US Department of Navy / Marine Corps ▪ US Environmental Protection Agency ▪ Virginia Tech University

CHAIRPERSON Jimmy Gentry - President, The North Carolina State Grange, Statesville

VICE CHAIRPERSON Don Butler - Retired, Smithfield Foods Inc., Raleigh

SECRETARY Deborah Johnson – Communications Director, Prestage Farms, Smithfield

TREASURER David Corum – President and CEO, AgCarolina Farm Credit, Raleigh

BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Tom Bowman – retired Physician, North Wilkesboro

Vance Dalton – President and CEO, Carolina Farm Credit, Statesville

Jay Darden – Farm Credit Express, Clinton

Tina Gross – President, NC Agritourism Networking Association, Gross Farms, Sanford

Shawn Harding – President, NC Farm Bureau, Southside Farms, Chocowinity

Chris Hogan – President, NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission, Orange Conservation District, Farmer, Chapel Hill

Chris Hughes – 1st Vice President, NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, NC Soil & Water Conservation Commission, Watauga Conservation District, Blue Ridge Resource Conservation & Development Council, Christmas Tree Farmer, Boone

Evan Kleinhans – Chief Executive Officer, Cape Fear Farm Credit, Fayetteville

Blount Knowles – Past President, NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, NC Soil & Water Commission Conservation, Bertie Conservation District, Farmer, Windsor

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Neill Westerbeek – Grower Relations Manager, Smithfield Hog Production Division, Kenansville

Manly Wilder - Retired Chief Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Raleigh

Bill Yarborough – Haywood Conservation District Supervisor, Farmer, Waynesville

STAFF

Michelle Lovejoy – Executive Director, Raleigh

Amanda Egdorf-Sand – Finance Officer and Program Manager, Randleman

Gail Hughes – Program Manager, Rougemont

Tom Potter – Program Manager, Pikeville