

Local Working Groups



What is a Local Working Group?

The locally led conservation effort is the foundation of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's conservation program delivery process. The local working group supports locally led conservation by coordinating programs with other Federal, State, tribal, and local conservation programs to provide an integrated solution to addressing natural resource concerns.

What Happens at Local Working Group Meetings?

Every year, conservation districts host local working group meetings with NRCS support where farmers, ranchers, foresters, conservation partners, Tribal leaders, and other members of the community discuss the natural resource needs for a county or reservation. Input from local working group meetings will guide local NRCS conservation investments.



Purpose

The local working group assesses local conservation needs, identifies priority resource concerns, and helps conservation districts and NRCS take action to address local needs.

Local working group responsibilities include:

- Developing a conservation needs assessment using community input.
- Identifying priority resource concerns and areas needing conservation assistance.
- Making recommendations regarding conservation program criteria.
- Helping NRCS and conservation districts with public outreach efforts and identifying information and education opportunities and producer training needs.
- And more.

Attendance

Local working group meetings are open to the public and all community members with an interest in local natural resources are encouraged to attend. Attendees typically include farmers, ranchers, and foresters representing the variety of crops and livestock raised in the local area, including operations of all sizes; Federal, State, and local agencies that represent a variety of interests in disciplines; Tribal leaders and members; and nonprofit organizations.

Learn More

Learn more about local working groups from your conservation district or NRCS office.



Participate

Watch for public notification of the annual Local Working Group meeting in your community.

As the NRCS state staff is notified of Local Working Group meetings, the details will also be posted on the website at nrcs.usda.gov/events. Set the filters to upcoming events in Montana using the LWG event type

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