

MUTUAL AGREEMENT
Between the
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
and
THE STATE OF OHIO
and the
_____ **COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

For their Cooperation in the
Conservation of Natural Resources

THIS AGREEMENT is between the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the State of Ohio, and the _____ County Soil and Water Conservation District.

The authority of USDA to enter into this agreement is the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, 16.590; the Department Of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, Public Law No. 103-354; and Secretary's Memorandum No. 1010-1, dated October 20, 1994. The Ohio authority is defined in Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 1511. The District authority is defined in Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 1515.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The parties have the common objective of assisting people in their efforts to utilize and manage natural resources in accordance with their capabilities and needs for protection and improvement. Each party is independent, has its respective responsibilities, yet recognizes the need to coordinate as a Federal, State, and local partnership for the successful delivery of conservation programs related to our soil, water, air, plant, animal, and human resources. Therefore, the parties will cooperate to implement their respective long-range natural resources conservation programs considering available resources, statutory authorities, and regulations. The parties will develop appropriate agreements to further define this relationship.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT:

Broad based conservation programs delivered through the cooperation of the USDA, the _____ County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the State of Ohio are vital to the protection of the natural resources, economic stability, and well-being of our Nation.

The parties reaffirm the relationship between the USDA, the _____ County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the State of Ohio. The Secretary will continue, within the terms of various statutes administered by USDA, to carry out broad conservation programs of assistance encompassing technical, research, educational, and financial assistance to landowners and users through the _____ County Soil and Water Conservation District and the State of Ohio.

The parties also recognize and encourage a continued commitment from the State of Ohio in aiding administration, coordination, financing, and the delivery of conservation programs through the _____ County Soil and Water Conservation District.

This agreement establishes an enduring basis for cooperation and assistance between the parties to achieve common natural resources conservation goals and objectives. Authority to carry out specific projects or activities, such as the transfer of funds, acquisition of services, and property will be carried out under separate agreements. The parties will encourage other natural resource related agencies to develop similar agreements. Obligations of the State of Ohio are subject to Ohio Revised Code 126.07 (State of Ohio policy).

The signatories will be in compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions contained in Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-259); and other nondiscrimination statutes, namely, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; and in accordance with regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture (7 CFR-15, Subparts A & B), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Agriculture or any Agency thereof.

This agreement can be modified or terminated at any time by mutual consent of all parties or can be terminated by any party by giving 60 days written notice to the others.

This agreement supersedes the Memorandums of Understanding and Supplements of 1963 between the _____ County Soil and Water Conservation District and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

By: _____
Secretary of Agriculture

Date: _____

STATE OF OHIO

By: _____
Governor or Designee

Date: _____

_____ COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

By: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____