

# SWCD Director & Employee Workshop

## Why should you attend? \_\_\_\_\_

As a conservation district director, you are a public official who will represent and protect the needs and interests of the public through your actions and decisions. You will be looked to for guidance and to add valuable expertise to your conservation district team. More importantly, you are being entrusted with the power to administer state and local programs, receive and spend public funds, and educate the public on soil, water, and natural resource issues.

### Your main responsibilities as a SWCD Director will include:

- Assuring the actions and policies of your district and its employees remain within the limitations of the Conservation District law.
- Acting as a district representative in communicating district action, policies, etc. to your local community.
- Managing your district's resources (funds and property).
- Encouraging landowners and operators to become cooperators with your district.
- Keeping informed on conservation issues in the district and being familiar with important state and national laws, policies, and programs that affect soil, water, and related natural resources.
- Developing a working relationship with county governments, state and national legislators, agency officials, local municipal, and other organizations that do or could provide assistance to your district.

*“The soil conservation district is the workshop through which those who love the land pool their efforts and information in making the land more stable and productive and our country more prosperous, more attractive, and a better land in which to live. The fact that landowners themselves have the responsibility for petitioning and voting in a district, formulating its program and work plan, administering its business, and entering into cooperative agreements with their fellow landowners and operators makes soil conservation districts a democracy in action.” – V.C. Marshall*