

Proposed Conservation District Principles

- Protect, restore and enhance natural resources
- Honesty
- Local
- Education and outreach
- Partnerships

Background

These principles were determined using the PACD policy process. First the membership determined six sets of regional principles during the Fall PACD Region Meetings. The PACD Executive Board then worked with the resulting six sets of principles to determine one statewide list of five principles that unite all conservation districts.

We ask that your local board review these principles and come to the PACD Winter Meeting prepared to vote on them. If these principles are approved by the membership, this will complete our second priority, **Principles**. PACD will then move forward with our third priority, to **Advocate** these principles on behalf of the membership

All of these items are part of our top five priorities as determined by the membership:

Top 5 (M-PACT) Priorities

MONEY – Obtain funding for the districts to enable them to continue to do the important work underway in each community;

PRINCIPLES – Develop ideals that can be agreed upon to guide this Association and the districts;

ADVOCATE – Advocate these principles to target captive audiences;

CONSISTENCY – Be consistent across the state with regard to delegated programs; and

TRAINING – Provide and expand needed training for the membership.

(Continued on next page)



For your reference, included here are the top three principles that were approved by each region:

South East

1. Natural resource stewardship based on sound science
2. Mutual respect and fairness with regard to state and federal delegation agreements and MOUs
3. Cooperation with others for greater conservation

North West

1. Conservation
2. Education
3. Integrity

South West

1. Pro-Active
2. Integrity
3. Transparency

North East

1. Advocates and coordinators of the conservation network
2. Transparency and flexibility in carrying out programs and policies
3. Public service (Public servants)

North Central

1. Balanced, comprehensive voice for local natural resource management
2. Protect, restore and enhance natural resources for future generations
3. Education and outreach to local community

South Central

1. Trustworthy, open, transparent
2. Grassroots desired ideas/policies not top down (local solution)
3. Conservation/stewardship of resources (not environmentalists)



**Proposed PACD Bylaws Amendment
– PACD Bylaws Amendment Process –**

ARTICLE XIII – AMENDMENTS

Proposed bylaw amendments shall first be submitted to the Executive Council. After a review and suggested changes by the Executive Council, and if approved by the Executive Council, all Voting Delegates, Alternate Voting Delegates and Conservation District offices shall be notified in writing of the proposed amendment. Voting on the amendment shall **then** be at ~~the Annual Meeting~~ **any statewide meeting** of the Executive Council of the PACD. The bylaws of the PACD may be amended by a majority vote of the members voting.



**Proposed PACD Bylaws Amendment
– Region Director Eligibility –**

ARTICLE VIII – REGION DIRECTORS

Section 1. Election of Region Directors

Each PACD Region will elect a ~~District Director~~ **PACD Voting Delegate or Alternate Voting Delegate** in good standing to serve as Region Director. Each Conservation District in good standing in attendance at its respective PACD Region Meeting shall have one vote which shall be cast by a certified Voting Delegate of the Conservation District. If more than one candidate is seeking election, the election shall be by secret ballot. A candidate shall be elected by a simple majority.

The Region Director will serve a term of two years and may be re-elected. Elections will take place at the PACD Region Meeting after the PACD Annual Meeting in odd-numbered years.



Cooperative Working Agreement

By and between **The Pennsylvania Envirothon Inc., N.P.** an incorporated, nonprofit organization (hereinafter referred to as Envirothon) made up of members of County Conservation Districts and others, operating under bylaws, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A", with a current office at 702 West Pitt Street, Bedford, Pennsylvania.

And,

The Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc., (hereinafter referred to as PACD), with a local office at 25 North Front Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

And,

The State Conservation Commission, (hereinafter referred to as SCC), with a local office at PA Department of Agriculture, 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Whereas, the Envirothon is responsible for coordinating local and statewide competitions of High School students, through the County Conservation Districts in cooperation with the North American Envirothon Committee, various public sponsoring agencies in Pennsylvania, and, others, and

Whereas, in order to carry out these duties, the Envirothon expends money for support activities, maintains a staff to assist local Conservation Districts and schools, coordinates the annual Pennsylvania statewide Envirothon competition and finances, and organizes the Pennsylvania team effort to the North American Envirothon, and,

Whereas, the Envirothon solicits and receives funds from public and private sources to fund the annual Pennsylvania Envirothon activities, and,

Whereas the Envirothon is desirous of having the PACD and the SCC serve as the primary sponsors of the Envirothon program,

The parties hereto agree as follows:

The Envirothon will be responsible for the following:

- 1) Envirothon will provide copies of meeting minutes and treasurer reports, notification of officers, and By-Law changes to PACD and SCC on a regular basis and present reports as requested.
- 2) Envirothon will organize, plan, and conduct the annual statewide Envirothon program in cooperation with county conservation districts and federal and state environmental agencies.
- 3) Envirothon will seek private and public funding to support the Pennsylvania Envirothon program.
- 4) Envirothon will participate in periodic statewide meetings to update county conservation districts on the Envirothon program.
- 5) Envirothon will secure all required licenses, permits and insurance coverage necessary to conduct the annual statewide Envirothon program.

Cooperative Working Agreement

The PACD will be responsible for the following:

- 1) PACD will provide space at its statewide meetings for Envirothon activities to the best of its ability when requested.
- 2) PACD will provide two Representatives to serve on the Envirothon Board of Directors.
- 3) PACD will cooperate with the Envirothon whenever possible to secure private and public funding to support the Pennsylvania Envirothon program.
- 4) PACD will help promote the Envirothon program to the best of its ability when requested (i.e., PACD newsletter, web site, etc.)
- 5) PACD will encourage its members to serve as volunteers at the Pennsylvania Envirothon.

The SCC will be responsible for the following:

- 1) SCC will provide space at its statewide meetings for Envirothon activities to the best of its ability when requested.
- 2) SCC will provide two Representatives to serve on the Envirothon Board of Directors.
- 3) SCC will cooperate with the Envirothon whenever possible to secure private and public funding to support the Pennsylvania Envirothon program.
- 4) SCC will help promote the Envirothon program to the best of its ability when requested (i.e., newsletters, web site, etc.)
- 5) SCC will encourage its members to serve as volunteers at the Pennsylvania Envirothon.

The agreement shall begin on January 1, 2013, and continue for a period of five years therefrom, at which time it shall be reviewed. Any party may terminate this agreement at any time following at least 60 days written notice. In the event no such notice is given, this agreement shall continue thereafter on five year basis, until the giving of notice.

By: Pennsylvania Envirothon Inc., N.P.

Attest: _____ (seal)
Secretary

Chairperson

By: Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc.

Attest: _____ (seal)
Executive Director

President

By: Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission

Attest: _____ (seal)
Executive Secretary

Chairman