

# At Your Service



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
STATE CONSERVATION AGENCIES

# The NWC:

- Advocates using total resource management principles in planning, and believes the USDA assisted small watershed programs are among the best planning and implementation vehicles available for wise water and land management.
- Represents the concerns and needs of watershed project sponsors at the national level.
- Offers assistance on watershed planning when requested, sponsors biennial national watershed conferences, produces other specialty resource conferences, distributes information via the website/social media and publishes conference proceedings.
- Provides resource testimony before Congress on watershed programs and policy, and believes proper care of our nation's natural resources a top national priority.



# NASCA Mission

To strengthen members' capacity and influence national programs and policies by providing leadership, focus, and direction



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# NASCA Policy Committee

The membership of this committee represents all 7 NASCA regions. One of the accomplishments of this committee has been the development of a resolution supporting the Small Watershed Program at USDA.



# NASCA Farm Bill Committee

This committee will provide a report to our membership tomorrow which includes an entire page dedicated to support of the Watershed Program.



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# President's Budget

- Program Funding Levels
- Proposed Farm Bill Program Changes
- Call for a Greater Dependence on the Private Sector for Conservation Planning



# Shared Concerns



**2017 Conservation Conference**  
NEBRASKA CITY  
NEBRASKA

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*"Coming together is a beginning;  
keeping together is progress;  
working together is success."  
- Henry Ford -*

Welcome friends to the Cornhusker state! For many of you, this is not your first meeting of the National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA). For others, you are not attending your first National Watershed Coalition (NWC) meeting. Still others may be regulars at conferences held by both of these organizations. However, here in Nebraska, you are excited about for the first time, a joint meeting between the NWC and NASCA. Both groups are excited about putting our members together for what we believe will be a tremendously valuable and perhaps historical experience.

Speaking of history, you are immersed in history at the Lied Lodge. This is the home of Julius Sterling Morton, Grover Cleveland's Secretary of Agriculture and the founder of Arbor Day. His fascination with trees, combined with his political influence, helped shape the future of many of this country's conservation programs.

For those NASCA members who have become regulars at these meetings, you will notice a few long-time friends not in attendance this year. Pat Harris of North Carolina and Tim Rubald of Nevada both retired earlier this year, and Steve Shine of Michigan took another job, which took him away from our NASCA ranks. We will miss them tremendously! However, you may also notice a few new faces this year. If you don't already know these folks, be sure to introduce yourself to Tom Gordon of Maine, Clyde Cristman of Virginia, Kirk Hines of Ohio, Vernon Cox of North Carolina, Frank Minch of New Jersey, Mark Bostrom of Montana, John Switzer of Michigan, and Steve Dwinell of Florida. These are very talented individuals who you may not have met just yet, but you'll be glad you did at this meeting!

We are particularly grateful to Kent Zimmerman and all of the folks from Nebraska who are hosting us this week. They have developed a conservation delivery model that is envied across the country, and we are grateful to them for sharing some of their trade secrets with us.

We hope this meeting is one you will remember for years. Both the National Watershed Coalition and NASCA are at your service here in Nebraska. If there is anything we can do to make your stay more comfortable or your experience more rewarding please reach out to our staff leaders:

Dan Sebert  
Mike Brown  
Aaron Andrews

(405) 834-8569  
(302) 270-8624  
(302) 570-0258

**Welcome to Nebraska!**



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