

SCS-710

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Seminole Soil and Water Conservation District
1972

With the end of the 1972 year this annual report is prepared by the Board of Supervisors of the Seminole Soil and Water Conservation District. It is a review of the accomplishments of the past and a summation of the indicated objectives to be strived for in the coming year.

Since its organization in 1948, the District has provided land owners and users, units of government and other groups, technical assistance in land use planning for the conservation of natural resources, pollution abatement, wildlife and timber management, along with other services.

Through a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Soil Conservation Service has provided the services of specialists in all fields to assist land users in planning the wise use of their land.

The governing body of the District is composed of five elected officials serving for terms of four years each. The current Board consists of--

- James Hughes - Chairman
- Joe Hopkins - Vice Chairman
- C.A. Wales - Secretary and Treasurer
- Hubert Bagwell - Member
- W.W. Linz - Member

S.C.S. is represented by John Winter, District Conservationist. The office is located at 110 E. Commercial St. in Sanford, Florida.

The Board of Supervisors met four times during the year to conduct District business. The Chairman also attended the Annual Central Florida District meeting (of six Districts) at the C. Wilson Ranch near Kissimmee, Florida on April 19th.

Acknowledgment and appreciation is directed to the Seminole County Board of Commissioners for contributing \$500. toward defraying the cost of operations throught the year.

Our thanks and appreciation is also directed to other agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Florida State Forrestry Service, the Extension Service and the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service for their assistance in promoting the District Program.

The local office of the Farm Bureau has been helpful in publishing articles in their monthly News Letter concerning Conservation. The local Radio Station, WTRR has released spot articles and tapes dealing with program subjects.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service furnishes technical help for carrying out the District Program. Mr. Winter has been assigned to this District since 1957, and for the last three years has been in charge of the local office. Specialists from the Area and State offices who have given assistance are Bishop C. Beville, Smiley Norris, Rankin Peadon, John McEvoy, Earnest Copeland, Cecil Jernigan, Robert Craig, Cliff Carter, Peat Heard and Jim Krider.

The primary objective of the Seminole District is to assist land owners and users in planning for the wise use of all natural resources within the District. The Board directs the program and encourages land users to become Cooperators to become cooperators with the District, assigns priorities in the development of conservation plans with the help of the Soil Conservation Service, oversees development of plans by establishment of conservation practices and necessary follow-up, record keeping, attending meetings of local, area and State level and reports are prepared for interested parties.

Informational activities in the District have been through local news media of news papers, radio stations, and news letters. Church programs are initiated during Soil Stewardship Week in local Demoninations. Work with school children was initiated during the year with a biology class at Jackson Heights elementary school in Oviedo, towards the development of an outdoor class room on the school grounds.

Introduction of new Plant Materials for pasture improvement and ornamentals was continued during the year. Also, development and management of fish ponds, with stocking carried out through assistance with the National Fish Hatchery at Welaka, Florida.

Individual resource conservation plans were developed for 20 new cooperators. Assistance was given to 84 individuals on conservation problems not requiring a complete plan. Conservation practices applied to the land include--Pasture Planting, Management, Conservation Cropping Systems, Crop Residue management, Dikes and levees, Ponds, Fish pond management, Irrigation Systems and water management, Land grading, Drainage systems and control structures, Grazing systems and range management, Wells, Tree planting, Wildlife management and development.

These services are available to all land users for the asking at no cost to the individual. Contact any Board member or the local SCS office is all that is required.

Objectives for the coming year include --

1. Seeking new cooperators with the District
2. Involvement in local problems of conservation and environmental impact
3. Educational activities to inform the public of new developments in the environmental field of study and pollution abatement.
4. Hold meetings to keep abreast of developments
5. Sponcer observance of Soil Stewardship Week in local churches
6. Continue to work with other agencies of Federal, State and Local governments in planning the wise use of natural resources in the District.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Hughes

James Hughes, Chairman
Seminole Soil & Water
Conservation District