



The National Association of Conservation Districts

Soil Health Champions Network

The NACD Soil Health Champions Network is made up of more than 370 farmers, ranchers, woodland owners and land managers from across the nation who practice good soil health management on their operations and promote the use of soil health management systems in their communities.

PRIMARY GOAL OF THE NETWORK

To increase the adoption of soil health systems by landowners and operators nationwide.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Soil Health Champions play an integral role in the national movement to improve and conserve America's soils and other natural resources. In return for their dedication to promoting soil health systems in their communities and across the nation, Network members receive:

- ★ Membership in an exclusive Network where they can exchange best management practices, share success stories, and learn how to make improvements in their own operations.
- ★ Special and exclusive access to new technologies, services and information specific to soil health and conservation outreach, including a quarterly soil health bulletin.
- ★ National recognition for their work to advance soil health in NACD's publications, on social media, as part of national presentations and on NACD's website. Requests for privacy will be respected.

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

All members should have the support of their local conservation district or local USDA-NRCS service center and be able to show how they use conservation practices in their operations – such as integrating best management practices (BMPs), cover cropping, no-till, crop rotation, terracing, prescribed grazing, nutrient management and integrated pest management. They should also:

1. Conduct soil health outreach in their communities. Outreach opportunities could include hosting farm tours and field demonstrations, speaking at conferences and meetings, giving media interviews, presenting at seminars or workshops, contributing to their local district's newsletter, and manning educational booths at community events.
2. Report on their outreach activities to NACD. NACD collects and utilizes Soil Health Champion research, stories, pictures and testimonials on NACD's website and in national publications. NACD also rounds up information on Soil Health Champion events and outreach and shares it through social media, on the organization's website and in a quarterly bulletin. Through member engagement, NACD is able to amplify the voices of conservation-minded producers and operators on a national platform.

TO BECOME A SOIL HEALTH CHAMPION

Every Soil Health Champion must have the support of their local conservation district or USDA-NRCS service center. Support can be as simple as a reference or referral to NACD or it can be as strong and defined as an outreach partner with the Champion. In some cases where needed, NACD can facilitate the introduction to the local conservation district.

Once the support has been secured or relationship has been established, **please return the information requested on the next page to beth-mason@nacdn.net** as an attachment or in the text of an email. All personal contact information will be used by NACD to maintain communication with the Champion and will not be released to any outside entity without express permission of the Champion.

CHAMPION CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Mailing Address:

Email:

Phone:

Website:

Spouse/Life Partner (if applicable):

Email:

Conservation District:

Contact Person:

Email:

Phone:

NACD SOIL HEALTH CHAMPION PROFILE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Provide a brief bio. Please include your name, home, family and conservation district affiliation.
2. Describe your operation. How do you apply the soil health principles? For a refresher on the five soil health principles, [click here](#). What soil health practices do you incorporate on your land? These may include but are not limited to reduced tillage, cover crops, multi-species crop rotations, efforts to build organic matter in soil, and incorporating conservation practices such as riparian buffers. What caused you to begin using them? How long have you been using them?
3. Please share some of your experiences as you have adopted soil health principles and practices. (good and not-so-good)
4. What challenges does your region of the country and your location present for soil health stewardship? How have you overcome these challenges?

To read profiles on current Soil Health Champions, please visit www.nacdnet.org/soil-health-champions-network/.

Please return this information to beth-mason@nacdn.org.