

# THE TEXAS CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP



**TSSWCB**

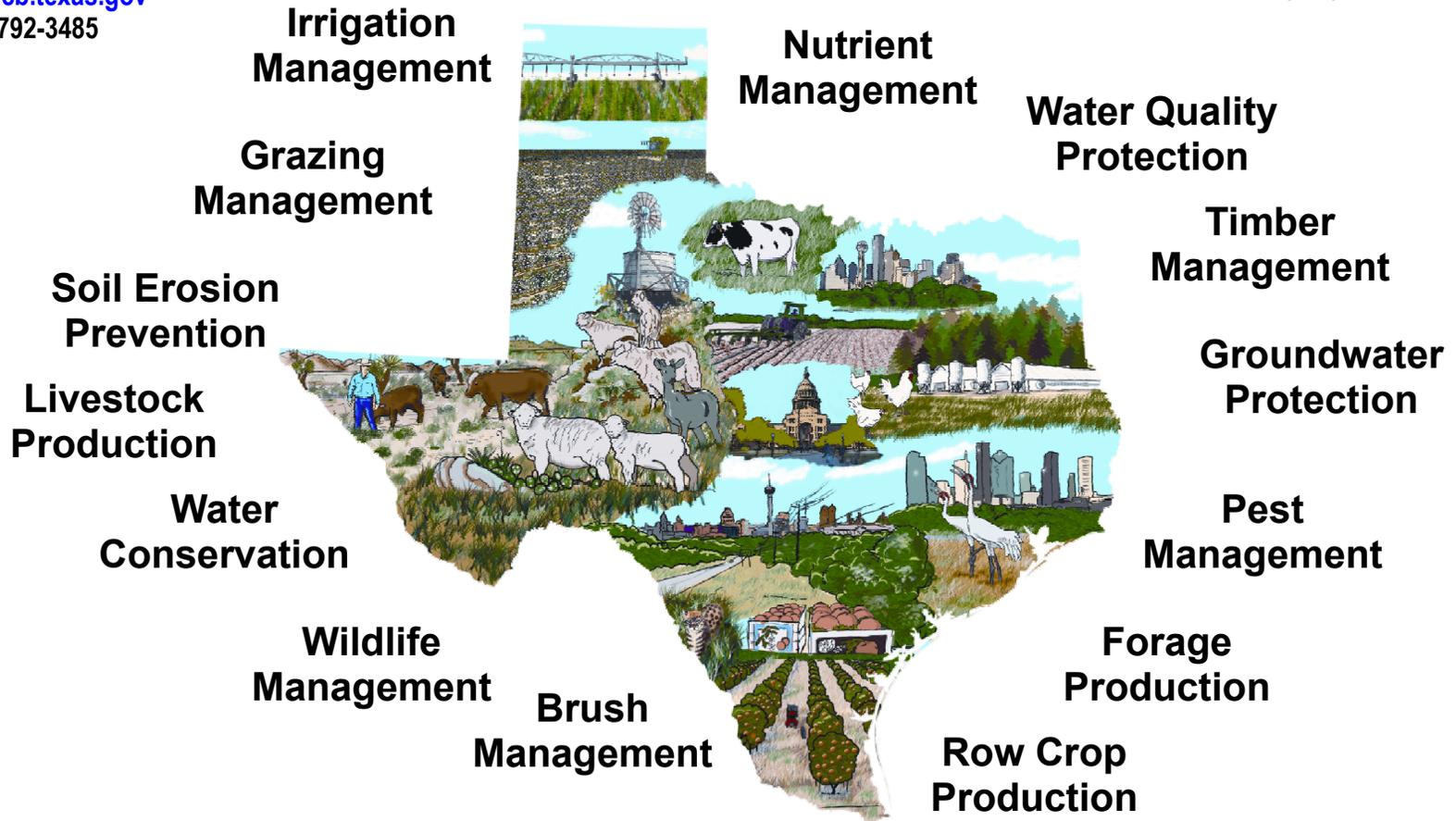
TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION BOARD  
[www.tsswcb.texas.gov](http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov)  
(800) 792-3485



TEXAS SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS  
[www.tsswcb.texas.gov/swcds](http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/swcds)



USDA NATURAL RESOURCES  
CONSERVATION SERVICE  
[www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov)  
(254) 742-9800



**77 YEARS OF VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION**



The **Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board**, a state agency established in **1939**, administers Texas' **soil and water conservation law** and delivers **coordinated natural resource conservation programs to agricultural producers** throughout the state. A seven-member State Board governs the agency, which is composed of two members appointed by the Governor and five members elected from across Texas by the more than **1,000** local soil and water conservation district directors. The TSSWCB is responsible for planning, implementing, and managing programs for **preventing and abating agricultural and silvicultural nonpoint sources of water pollution**; administers a **water supply enhancement program** to increase available surface and ground water supplies through the targeted control of water-depleting brush in areas in need of **water conservation**; works to ensure the State's network of **2,000 flood control dams** is protecting lives, private property, and public infrastructure from flood damage; works to improve **border security** along the Rio Grande through control of invasive carrizo cane; and facilitates the **Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee**.



Since 1935, the **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** (originally called the Soil Conservation Service) has provided leadership in a partnership effort to help America's private landowners and managers conserve their soil, water, and other natural resources. NRCS employees provide **technical assistance** based on sound science suited to a customer's specific needs. NRCS provides **financial assistance** for many conservation activities. **Participation in programs is voluntary**. Our **Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)** program provides voluntary conservation technical assistance to land users, communities, units of state and local government, and other Federal agencies in planning and implementing conservation systems. We reach out to **all segments of the agricultural community**, including underserved and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, to ensure that our programs and services are accessible to everyone. We manage natural resource conservation programs that provide **environmental, societal, financial, and technical benefits**. Our science and technology activities provide technical expertise in such areas as animal husbandry and clean water, ecological sciences, engineering, resource economics, and social sciences. We provide expertise in **soil science** and leadership for soil surveys and for the National Resources Inventory, which assesses natural resource conditions and trends in the United States.



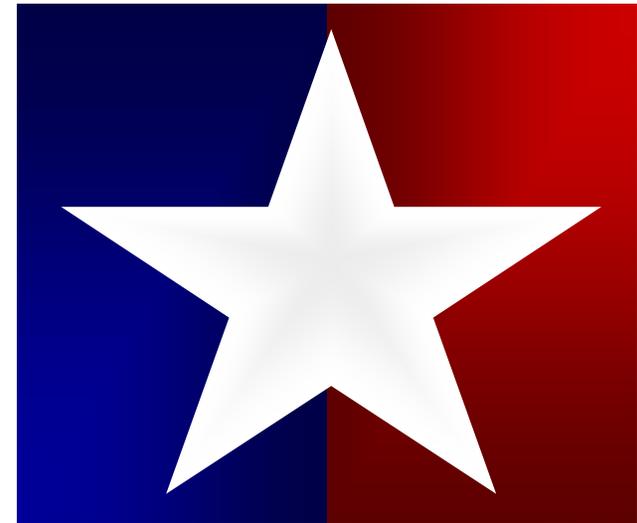
## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

A soil and water conservation district (SWCD), like a county or school district, is a subdivision of state government. A SWCD is brought into existence by a vote of the landowners within the boundaries of a district. Each SWCD is administered by a board of five directors who are elected by their fellow landowners. There are **216** individual SWCDs organized in Texas.

Help or assistance comes to an SWCD from various federal, state, and local agencies. Through decades old agreements, SWCDs offer agricultural landowners and operators technical assistance through a partnership with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board. It is through this Conservation Partnership that local SWCDs are able to furnish technical assistance to farmers and ranchers in the preparation of a complete soil and water conservation plan to meet each land unit's specific capabilities and needs.

\*\*\*\*\*

**If you are interested in voluntarily conserving natural resources associated with your land, please contact your local SWCD and request assistance. SWCD contact information can be obtained by visiting the TSSWCB website at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov>, or by calling the TSSWCB at (800) 792-3485.**



The "Texas Conservation Partnership..."  
—  
Providing Conservation Assistance to Private Landowners for 77 Years!