

Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner Position to be filled in the 2026 General Election

This year the **Cherokee County Soil and Water Conservation District** will have two District Commissioner positions on **November 3, 2026**, General Election ballot.

The election of conservation district commissioners is through the petition process on a non-partisan basis. Conservation district commissioners are non-salaried officials. Candidates must be registered voters in the county in which they are seeking office.

The completed petition forms must be provided to the Cherokee County Board of Voter Registration and Elections located at 110 Railroad Ave, Gaffney, SC 29340 no later than 12:00 NOON, July 15, 2026, for a candidate's name to be placed on the November 3rd General Election ballot.

The conservation district is managed by a five-member board. These individuals serve as Conservation District Commissioners in each of the state's forty-six Soil and Water Conservation Districts. In South Carolina, conservation district boundaries are the same as county lines.

Conservation districts were created in 1937 by State law for the purpose of managing natural resources and assisting landowners with the latest management tools. The idea is that local citizens can best protect and conserve the natural resources in their communities.

Each year conservation district commissioners volunteer thousands of hours promoting soil and water conservation practices in urban and rural areas and combating erosion and storm water problems. Their tasks include planning and directing a conservation program, assigning priority to resource development and serving as a community clearinghouse for information and services on natural resource issues. Regular board meetings are held, usually monthly, for setting priorities and planning with the cooperating state and federal agencies' staff.

Through a partnership with the federal and state agencies, technical, administrative, and financial assistance is provided through conservation districts by the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service (federal) and the S. C. Department of Natural Resources (state).

For more information contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District office online at www.dnr.sc.gov/conservation or the SC Department of Natural Resources at 803-734-4602.

- A. Each candidate must submit to the County Board of Voter Registration and Elections office a nominating petition with the signatures of 100 qualified electors (registered voters) of the district or 1 percent, whichever is lesser.**

The petition forms must be provided to the Cherokee County Board of Voter Registration and Elections no later than 12:00 NOON, Monday, July 15, 2026.

Petitions can be obtained from the County Board of Voter Registration and Elections office or online at <https://scvotes.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SEC-FRM-1000-200910-Petition-Form.pdf>. Each page of the petition must be on 8.5 X 14-inch paper and have the following information supplied:

1. **In the space provided for “County” (write in the name of the county).**
2. **In the spaces provided for “Purpose” the following should be entered:**

Candidate: Full Name

**Office: Commissioner of the (Name of County) Soil and Water Conservation District;
election Date: November 3, 2026.**

The Statement of Intention of Candidacy can be found at: <https://scvotes.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SEC-FRM-1008-200912-Statement-of-Intention-of-Candidacy-Nonpartisan.pdf>

All candidates are required to file a Statement of Economic Interest and Campaign Disclosure form with the State Ethics Commission. Campaign Disclosure and Statement of Economic Interest forms must be filed on-line at: <https://ethics.sc.gov/>.