

# 2009 NACD Legislative Conference

## *Agenda*

### *DRAFT*

Washington Court Hotel  
525 New Jersey Ave, NW  
Washington, D.C.

**\*\*Registration Badge Required for All Events\*\***

#### **Sunday, July 19**

7:00 am-5:00 pm      Registration  
*Ballroom Foyer*

5:00 pm-6:00 pm      Welcome Reception  
*Atrium Ballroom*

#### **Monday, July 20**

7:00 am-5:00 pm      Registration  
*Ballroom Foyer*

7:00 am-8:30 am      Continental Breakfast  
*Ballroom Foyer*

8:30 am-10:00 am    Speakers Program  
*Ballroom*

Welcome and Opening Remarks  
**NACD President Steve Robinson**

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
**Dave White, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service**  
*Get an update on current activities at NRCS, including how the agency is organizing under the new administration, implementation of conservation programs, budget and more.*

U.S. Department of the Interior  
**Anne Castle, Assistant Secretary Water and Science (invited)**  
*The Office of Water and Science oversees two key agencies in the department, the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Geological Survey. Hear about current conservation initiatives at both agencies and in the Department of the Interior.*

**Ned Farquhar, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and**

### **Minerals Management**

*The Lands and Minerals Management Office includes the Bureau of Land Management, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, and the Minerals Management Service. Get an update on management of our nation's public lands and resources.*

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### **Larry Elworth, Agriculture Advisor to the Administrator**

*Great opportunities exist to further conservation district work with the EPA. Hear from the point person on Agriculture regarding activities at EPA and how conservation districts can participate.*

10:00 am-10:30 am

Break

10:30 am-11:30am

Speakers Program  
Ballroom

Presiding

#### **Earl Garber, NACD 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

U.S. Forest Service

#### **Paul Ries, Director of Cooperative Forestry**

*Hear from the new director about how the Cooperative Forestry program works with States, private landowners, and other partners to promote healthy forests and livable communities throughout the U.S.*

U.S. Department of Agriculture

#### **Bill Hohenstein, Director, Office on Global Change**

*The Office on Global Change coordinates efforts department-wide in USDA as well as with other federal agencies. Learn about the analysis USDA has undertaken and current projects underway.*

*Congressional Perspectives*

U.S. House of Representatives

#### **Anne Simmons, Senior Professional Staff, Agriculture Committee**

U.S. Senate

#### **Tina May, Professional Staff, Agriculture Committee (invited)**

*The Agriculture Committees are playing a key role in the climate change debate as legislation is being drafted that will determine details of a cap and trade program and the potential for agriculture and forestry offsets.*

12:00 pm-2:00 pm Luncheon  
*Atrium Ballroom*

Presiding  
**Gene Schmidt, NACD 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Luncheon Program: *Administration Perspectives on Agriculture and Conservation*

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
**Carole Jett, Deputy Chief of Staff**

USDA Natural Resources and Environment  
**Ann Mills, Deputy Under Secretary (invited)**

*Hear from USDA officials on priorities of the Obama administration for American agriculture and get an update on the department's priorities on conservation, forestry and climate change.*

2:30 pm-4:30 pm Resource Conservation Act Listening Session\*  
*Ballroom*

Presiding  
**Steve Robinson, NACD President**

*The Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act (RCA) requires that USDA conservation programs be based on a comprehensive and continuing natural resource appraisal. Conservation districts can participate to ensure that USDA's conservation programs are responsive to the long-term needs of the Nation.*

4:30 pm-5:00 pm Conference Recap and Hill Preparation  
**NACD Policy Staff**

*Are you ready for Hill visits? Review the issues, talking points and how-tos for Tuesday's hill visits.*

## **Tuesday, July 21**

8:00 am-10:00 am Information Station  
*Hotel Foyer*

*Forget something? Visit the NACD information station to make sure you have all the information you need prior to heading out for visits to Capitol Hill.*

9:00 am-3:00 pm NACD Open House  
*509 Capitol Court, NE Washington, D.C.*

*Still haven't seen the renovated 509 Capitol Court building?  
Come relax, get refreshments and see all the new changes at  
your NACD National Headquarters.*

5:00 pm-6:30 pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Capitol Hill Congressional Reception  
*902 Hart Senate Office Building  
Come enjoy an opportunity to network with fellow  
conservationists and policymakers, enjoy refreshments and hors  
d'oeuvres, and take in views of the Capitol from high atop the  
Hart Senate Building.*

\*The RCA Listening Session is with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

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