NACD supports increased funding for several important conservation programs administered by federal agencies, including:

**USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):**

**Full authorized funding for farm bill conservation programs:** Farm bill conservation programs provide critical resources and tools to help local producers and land managers adopt effective conservation practices in all parts of the country. Conservation districts play a key role in the successful administration of these programs. NACD calls on Congress to maintain full mandatory funding for farm bill conservation programs in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024.

At least $300 million for State and Private Forestry Programs: These programs are administered by the FS in collaboration with states, tribes, local communities, and conservation districts to protect and manage forests. The program provides technical and financial assistance to land managers to sustain our nation’s forests and grasslands, protect communities from wildfires, and restore fire-adapted ecosystems.

At least $30 million for the Forest Stewardship Program: The program works in partnership with state forestry agencies, cooperative extensions, and conservation districts to provide private landowners with the information and tools they need to manage their forests and woodlands more effectively.

At least $200 million for the Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Program: This program awards grants to states, territories, and tribes to mitigate nonpoint sources of water pollution, such as agricultural runoff, abandoned mine drainage, and soil erosion. Conservation districts across the country serve as partners on projects supported by Section 319 grants to increase the utilization of agricultural best management practices and enhance water quality.

**USDA’s National Forest Service (FS):**

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**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):**

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**About NACD**

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) represents a nationwide network of 3,000 conservation districts, working with millions of landowners and farmers to manage and protect private and public working lands in the United States. Districts are local units of government that help put locally-lead, voluntary, and incentive-based conservation programs into action.

**Contact**

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