

Weed Wiper Bar

The weed wiper bar is a tractor that wipes or scrapes woody vegetation along ditch banks with a chemical to kill the small trees and saplings, while keeping the low lying vegetation in tact for erosion control and wildlife habitat. This is an environmentally friendly alternative to mowing the ditch banks, ponds, and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) lands.



Mowing

The District maintains ditch banks, rights-of-way along tax ditches, and edges of fields to control vegetation growth.

State and County Matching Funds

The Sussex Conservation District administers funds received from the State of Delaware and Sussex County to assist Tax Ditch organizations with routine maintenance. This maintenance includes but is not limited to channel cleanout, spreading of spoil, emergency repairs, pipe installation and replacement, invasive species control, etc.

History

The Sussex Conservation District was formed in 1944 when the county was mostly agriculture. Since then, Sussex County has gradually evolved to a more urban setting. Development has progressed over the eastern half of the county and is working west. Once thriving farmland has been developed into commercial and residential subdivisions. To meet the challenges of agricultural to urban lifestyles, the District has three programs— Agricultural Conservation, Heavy Equipment, and Stormwater Management. The programs serve the agricultural community and the urban and sub-urban landowners of Sussex County.

Sussex Conservation District

Equipment, Billing, and Stormwater Management

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All District programs are available on a nondiscriminatory basis



Equipment and Services



The Sussex Conservation District's mission is to serve Sussex County by providing technical guidance and financial assistance to enhance, maintain, protect, and improve land and water resources.

Services

As part of this mission, the District offers equipment for hire. The types of services offered by SCD include but are not limited to:

- **Farmland Clearing**
- **Spoil Leveling**
- **Cleanout of Private and Tax Ditches**
- **Relocation and Construction of New Ditches**
- **Construction of Wildlife and Deep Fish Ponds**
- **Installation of Culverts and Drainage Pipe**
- **Shoreline Restoration**
- **Special State and Federal Projects**
- **No-till Drill**
- **Weed Wiper**
- **Mowing of Private and Tax Ditches**
- **Irrigation Pond Cleanout**
- **Wetlands Construction and Restoration**



Equipment Options

The Sussex Conservation District has a wide variety of equipment on hand to serve our customers. This equipment includes various sized excavators with up to a 60 ft. reach; different size dozers for a wide variety of uses; backhoe

services; and tractors for mowing and weed wiping for control of unwanted vegetation. The District also offers a 10 ft. no-till drill for rent.

Pipe Sales

A variety of lengths and diameters of plastic and galvanized pipes are available for sale to the public. Driveway crossings, farm and irrigation crossings, and controlled inlets include some of the uses. For specific sizes available, please call the District office.



No-till Drill

The no-till drill can be used for planting warm and cool season grasses, pastures, over seeding, and small grains.



Farmland Clearing

Farmland clearing includes the removal/clearing of trees for agricultural lands, and the demolition of old structures for conversion into agricultural lands.

Spoil Leveling

Spoil leveling is the spreading of material removed from ditches during cleanout.



Private and Tax Ditch Cleanout

The District's heavy equipment remove sediment and debris from drainage ways to maintain proper flow.

Relocation and Construction of New Ditches

The Sussex Conservation District will relocate and/or construct a new ditch per the recommendations and under the direction of the Division of Watershed Stewardship.

Installation of Culverts and Drainage Pipes

The Sussex Conservation District will install culverts and/or drainage pipes to ensure access to property.



Shoreline Restoration

The District uses restoration techniques to control or prevent shoreline erosion.

Irrigation Pond Cleanout

The District's equipment removes sediments and debris from irrigation ponds.



Special State and Federal Projects

The Sussex Conservation District will partner with various federal, state, county, or other partners in the completion of different types of projects such as wetland construction and restoration enhancement, stream restoration, wetland creation, and dredging.