DRAFT Survey Questions for Local Leaders – Soil and Water Conservation

This survey is designed to be completed by elected or appointed officials or senior staff; local conservation and NGO leadership, and local educators. It should take about 10 minutes to complete. Responses are confidential and results will be used to improve and enhance training and information for Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District’s elected leaders. We appreciate your honest feedback.

1. On a scale of 1 – 5 with 1 being the most important, please rank the water concerns that most impact your community given your local budget and existing constraints
   1. \_\_ Aquifer / groundwater recharge
   2. \_\_ Aquifer / groundwater water quality
   3. \_\_ Aquifer / groundwater withdrawals
   4. \_\_ Potable water supply
   5. \_\_ Sanitary sewer
   6. \_\_ Surface water levels
   7. \_\_ Hydrologic extremes
   8. \_\_ Surface water quality / pollution
   9. \_\_Recreational water access
   10. \_\_ Invasive aquatic species
   11. \_\_ Sustainability of water resources
2. On a scale of 1 – 5 with 1 being the most important, please rank the soil concerns that most impact your community given your local budget and existing constraints
   1. \_\_\_ Erosion
   2. \_\_\_ Loss of productive soils
   3. \_\_\_ Implementing agricultural best management practices
   4. \_\_\_
   5. \_\_\_
3. Which of the following tools would you use or consider as a way to protect or improve soil and water resources for your community? Please check all that apply.
   1. Comprehensive planning
   2. Zoning ordinances, including growth boundaries
   3. Subdivision and land development ordinances
   4. Stormwater management ordinances
   5. Local taxation polices or fees (e.g., environmental impact fees)
   6. Conservation easements and/or purchase of development rights
   7. Source water protection plans
   8. Forest protection or tree canopy ordinances
   9. Litter control ordinances
   10. Erosion and sediment control ordinances
   11. None of the above
   12. Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which of the following rules or regulations is your community subject to? If you are

not sure if your community is subject to these rules or regulations, please choose “not sure”

1. NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System)
2. MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems)
3. CSO (Combined Sewer Overflows)
4. DEP Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP)
5. Local TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load)
6. SDWA (Safe Drinking Water)
7. Groundwater withdrawal restriction permits
8. not sure
9. What kind of role do you have in your community?
   1. Elected/Appointed official
   2. NGO Leadership
   3. Senior staff
   4. Other
   5. None
10. Are you involved in making policy decisions for your community?
    1. Yes
    2. No
11. If you had a question about water resources or how best to implement environmental policy, do you have a knowledgeable person or source you could go to for assistance?
12. Yes
13. No
14. If you wanted to learn more about environmental policy and/or water resources, which of the following would you want to access? Please check all that apply.
    1. In-person classes or training
    2. Online classes or training (including webinars)
    3. A person to call or email for more information
    4. Case studies, best practices, or guidance documents
    5. Non-profit organizations or non-government organizations
    6. University or academic resources (e.g., extension programs)
    7. Resources provided by Federal or State government
    8. Resources provided by Local/County government
    9. Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    10. None of the above
15. In the last three years, which of the following has your community undertaken related to water quality or water resources? Please check all that apply.
    1. Community outreach efforts
    2. Public meetings or public discussions
    3. Adopting local rules, ordinances, or regulations
    4. Implementation/enforcement of local rules, ordinances, or regulations
    5. “On the ground” projects to directly improve water quality or water resources
    6. Developing a comprehensive plan
    7. Apply for grants/funding to assist with projects
    8. Formation of an advisory council or citizen advisory committee
    9. Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_
    10. None of the above
16. Based on your current understanding, which of the following statements about a watershed are true: [Select all that apply]
    1. A watershed is a specific geographic area
    2. Watershed boundaries are based on local jurisdictions (e.g., cities and counties)
    3. Every community is part of a watershed
    4. All watersheds are approximately the same size
    5. My community is part of the Upper Santa Fe Watershed
    6. Actions taken in one part of a watershed affect other parts of the watershed
17. What role do you hold in your organization? Please check all that apply.
    1. Executive position (e.g., Mayor, County Executive, WMD director, etc.)
    2. Municipal governing body member (e.g., City or Town Council, County Board or Commission, Township or County Supervisor, etc.)
    3. NGO Board member
    4. None
18. What is the population of the community you represent?
    1. 999 residents and under
    2. 1,000-4,999 residents
    3. 5,000-9,999 residents
    4. 10,000-24,999 residents
    5. 25,000-99,999 residents
    6. 100,000-249,999 residents
19. Where is the community you represent located?
    1. \_\_\_ Multi-county region
    2. \_\_\_ Bradford County
    3. Other county: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    4. City of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    5. Town of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    6. Other:
20. How many years have you served in your position?
    1. Less than one
    2. 1-2 years
    3. 3-5 years
    4. 6-10 years
    5. 11 or more years
    6. Prefer not to answer

Thanks so much for taking this survey and for taking the time to answer these questions. This survey is sponsored by Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District to better understand how to shape programs that equip local landowners/operators, citizens, and leaders to make sound soil and water conservation decisions related to resources in Bradford County and the Santa Fe Basin and Suwannee River watershed. For more information, please visit <https://www.bradfordsoilandwater.org/about>