

Sponsor: Shana Joy, Policy Committee Chair

Title: NASCA Leadership Policy

Subject: **Support for building leadership capacity and providing leadership development opportunities for NASCA members.**

Supporting material and/or documentation:

New generations of leaders are taking the reins of our member state agencies, conservation districts, and partner organizations at multiple levels in the voluntary, incentive-based conservation delivery system. These upcoming leaders must be provided with opportunities to build their leadership skills that are not only pertinent to today's complex natural resource issues but also in a politically balanced environment. With the passage of federal environmental protection laws, and then state environmental protection laws as well, two basic methodologies of natural resource management have not only emerged but have become of two prevalent mindsets – a regulatory approach and a voluntary, incentive-based approach. It is imperative that leadership development opportunities exist to recognize, inform, and cultivate upcoming leaders within our voluntary, incentive-based, conservation district delivery system.

Action requested to be taken by NASCA:

- Provide leadership development training and opportunities to NASCA members.
- Develop leadership development curricula to facilitate leadership development at the state and local levels.
- Support efforts by core national partners to provide leadership training and development opportunities to core partners' memberships to further the voluntary, incentive-based system.
- Be open to consider proposals for support, whether financial or otherwise, from partners or potential new partners seeking to establish opportunities for voluntary, incentive-based conservation leadership development nationally.