

# Delta Conservation Demonstration Center

Metcalfe, Mississippi

Turn Row Green      Water Clean



# DCDC

- **Established in 1999 by the Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District**
  - to demonstrate Delta specific conservation practices in a working farm environment
  - to be a teaching and training center for conservation
- **Today the DCDC operates as a 501(C) (3) corporation with a Board of Directors representing 3 Delta States**



**DCDC**



# DCDC

- **In 2007 the Mission and the long-range focus changed**
- **New Mission Statement:**
  - **To be a working NRCS Conservation Security Program (CSP) Tier III Farm**
  - **To be a Training and Education Center for Delta specific conservation activities**

# DCDC

## Our Vision

**To see all the surface water in the Delta become Clean and Clear and our Natural Resources in the Delta enhanced and protected for generations to come.**

# Delta Surface Water



# DCDC

## Our Plan

- **Six Key Areas of Activity**
- **All activities of the DCDC are organized in one of these areas**
  - **a staff person is responsible for each**

# **DCDC**

## **Six Areas of Activity**

- **Farm**
- **Communications**
- **Facility Use**
- **Curriculum Based Training**
- **Farm Labor Training**
- **Program Development and Administration**

**DCDC**

**Farm**



# DCDC

## Communication

- **Database of Delta People**
- **Conservation Communications**
  - **Newsletters**
- **Service to Partners**

# DCDC

## Facility Use

- **Maximize use for Conservation Education**
- **Work space for Conservation Partners**
- **Available for diverse groups in conservation**
- **Solicit users through out the Delta**
- **Utilize as NRCS training facility**

# DCDC

## Curriculum Based Training

- **DCDC created/owned training programs**
- **Focus on Clean Clear Delta Surface Water**
- **Conservation Security Program (CSP) Delta Train Module**
- **Identify Training needs and create Training Modules to fit**

# DCDC

## Farm Labor Training

- Great need for trained farm labor
- Training to protect Conservation practices on farm
- Focus on training DOC inmates
- Specialized training as needed by grower
- Placement service
- Follow up evaluation service

# **DCDC**

## **Program Development and Administration**

- CSP Total Farm Implementation and Demonstration**
- Total Resource Management Demonstration**
- Tail Water Recovery Demonstration**
- Plant Material Nursery and Demonstration**
- Creating DCDC Membership Base**
- BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS**

# DCDC

- **An active conservation link between:**
  - Industry
  - Extension
  - University
  - USDA
  - SWCD
  - Growers and Landowners
  - Municipalities
  - Environmental Groups
- **Promoting Clean, Clear Delta Surface Water**

# DCDC

- Creating a conservation vision for the Delta
- Begin activities and messages with the end in mind
- Creating a simple “test” for all to self evaluate
- Communicate the benefit to everyone in the Delta
- “The objective is to save the soil, clean the water, and protect the natural resources. How we get there is not most important”

# DCDC

- Farming in the Delta is done differently
- Conservation in the Delta has to be different
- Clean, Clear Delta Surface Water

# DCDC

- **Who is our audience and customer?**
  - **Everyone in the Delta**
    - especially the farmer
    - **SWCD, NRCS, USDA**
    - **Extension, Consultants, Applicators**
    - **Industry, Schools,**
    - **Jr. Colleges, Universities**
    - **Churches, Lending Agencies**

# DCDC

- **How will we accomplish our mission and see Clean, Clear Surface Water in the Delta?**
  - **One field at a time**
  - **One farmer at a time**
  - **All the conservation partners promoting the same goal**
  - **A planned methodical approach over time using a recognized understandable message.**

# DCDC

- **What can you do?**
  - **Promote the benefits of clean clear surface water in the Delta**
  - **Encourage growers to use Best Management Conservation Practices**
  - **Actively promote soil and water conservation in your work**
  - **Support the Delta Conservation Demonstration Center**

# DCDC Core Values

**We believe:**

- **Every Delta citizen**
- **Down stream neighbors**
- **Delta growers can do better**
- **Gov Agencies can do more**
- **Not necessary to till the soil**
- **Muddy surface water is a result of tillage**
- **Soil is too valuable**
- **Water is too precious**
- **One message for all**
  - **CLEAN CLEAR DELTA SURFACE WATER**

# Clean Clear Surface Water...

