

Guiding Principles for all WALCE Committees, and Representation on Non-WALCE Sponsored Committees

Administrative Committee:

1. Establish minimum statewide performance standards and prohibitions for controlling erosion and non-point source water pollution, to be implemented through County Land and Water Resource Management Plans.
2. Minimize the number of grant "pigeon holes", paperwork and bureaucracy that counties must contend with to obtain outside funds for local programs.
3. Maximize local control and flexibility in implementing conservation programs, including regulatory and voluntary approaches.
4. Recognize the regional diversity that exists throughout the state (i.e. does not jeopardize the flexibility or effectiveness of one area at the expense of another).
5. Encourage local planning, prioritization and program implementation based on approved County Land and Water Resources Management Plans.
6. Support a sufficient base level of grant funds to all counties to implement their LWRM plan (i.e. an "average of three staff persons per county").
7. Support targeted grant funds to support comprehensive county efforts to implement state performance standards and prohibitions, including regulatory efforts.
8. Encourage the integration of federal, state and local efforts into a seamless conservation program at the local level.
9. Facilitate communication and information exchange between WALCE and WLWCA, WCA, state and federal lawmakers and agencies, and agricultural, urban, environmental and conservation special interest groups.
10. Continue to explore and pursue alternative funding sources to bolster county staffing and program implementation efforts statewide, including non-bonding sources.

The WALCE Administrative Committee will oppose any effort that is in conflict with any of these principles.

Professional Improvement Committee:

1. Coordinating an annual conference that provides high quality training for all types of land conservation employees, timely program updates, and an exposure to new ideas and trends in the land and water conservation field.
2. Recognizing outstanding contributions to conservation programs by land conservation employees through an annual awards program.
3. Sharing information among county land conservation departments throughout the year, especially for new employees and innovative or unique program efforts.
4. Developing and distributing interagency education and training materials that provide local conservation professionals the tools they need to carry out their duties.
5. Coordinating interagency training workshops, conferences and other professional improvement opportunities for all types of land conservation employees.
6. Coordinating the WALCE Scholarship Program.

The WALCE Professional Improvement Committee will oppose any effort that is in conflict with any of these principles.

Technical Committee:

1. Promote the integration of technical methods and procedures used by Federal, State, and local conservation programs and agencies.
2. Work with, and provide input and support to, WALCE Committee (Administrative Committee and Professional Improvement Committee) on technical issues.
3. Provide recommendations to the WALCE Board for appointments to non-WALCE committees that are technical in nature.
4. Encourage development of Technical Standards based on sound engineering practices and field research through SOC process.
5. Assist with the development, distribution, and review of Technical Standards before they are adopted or published.
6. Promote a fair and consistent technical certification process that recognizes the demonstrated knowledge, training, and experience of conservation staff.
7. Promote site inventory and conservation planning tools that are easy to use and account for the wide variety of Wisconsin landscapes.
8. Promote the development of technical guidance documents to assist field staff with planning, designing, and implementing conservation practices.
9. Promote tracking and reporting tools that are easy to use and measure actual implementation of program goals and objectives.

The WALCE Technical Committee will oppose any effort that is in conflict with any of these principles.

All Other Committees

1. A WALCE representative must be a paid member in good standing for at least two, most recent consecutive years.
2. Before WALCE representation is sought on any committee, the WALCE Board must determine the committee to be of importance.
3. Representative(s) must represent the WALCE organization as a whole, not their personal position, and must follow guidelines in our strategic plan.
4. The president will appoint committee representatives with concurrence by the Board. The President may remove any WALCE representative at any time with concurrence of the Board.
5. Representatives need to effectively communicate with the board via-written or oral reports (at a minimum, a typed report presented annually to the board prior to the annual meeting).
6. Representatives may serve as long as they are regularly attending the scheduled meetings, participating in a manner that accurately represents WALCE and effectively communicating progress with the WALCE board. In the event where the progress of a committee has become stagnant and/or the effectiveness of the committee is questionable, the representative shall be responsible for relaying that information to the WALCE board.
7. Open positions will be listed in the Thursday Note, posted on the WALCE and WLWCA web sites and will be sent out on e-mail