

# SWCD Spotlight

## Vermilion SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Iberia-Vermilion Soil and Water Conservation District was established in 1945. The two separated on April 1, 1985, and the Vermilion Soil and Water Conservation District (VSWCD) was created.

Since its creation, the district, with the assistance of cooperating agencies, has carried out an intensive program providing technical assistance, planning, education outreach, and other services to the people of Vermilion Parish.



**Vermilion SWCD has a field sign and will be rotating it throughout the parish in recognition of conservation-minded producers. These producers have worked with the SWCD and NRCS field office and taken extra steps to make sure that conservation of natural resources is working on their farmland.**



### Vermilion SWCD by the numbers:

- A No-Till Drill and GPS surveying equipment are available to all in Vermilion Parish. Over 1,750 acres have been no-tilled with the district drill in the past three fiscal years.
- 57 producers were assisted with Resource Management Plans.
- Voluntarily applied Conservation Practices to 132,224 acres in Vermilion Parish.
- In the past three years, the district has promoted conservation education to the general public reaching 2,224 children and 211 adults using the Conservation Classroom. Most recently, through a partnership endeavor with the Vermilion 4-H using Conservation Classroom, it continues to be an effective outreach tool.

### Success story

Vermilion Soil & Water Conservation District, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, and other federal, state, regional, and local partners have begun the Environmental Assessment of a proposed Watershed Plan to address the ongoing flooding and hydrologic restoration of the Lower Vermilion River Watershed.

The purpose of developing a Watershed Plan for the Lower Vermilion River Basin is to study and identify solutions to mitigate and reduce saline storm surges and other flood damage to farms, homes, and businesses while enhancing public safety and improving overall water quality and preserving wetland habitat in the area.



**The Vermilion Soil & Water Conservation District is proud to provide its producers with a no-till drill to rent for their use.**

Saline storm surges and annual flooding have devastated low-lying areas of Vermilion Parish over the past decades. This damage has negatively impacted farmers, residents, and business owners and diminished the potential for future land use and reinvestment in the area. As a result, VSWCD and other stake holders have identified potential hydrologic restoration alternatives to mitigate annual flooding and help to reestablish public safety, productive farmland, viable wetlands, and overall water quality in the area.

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### VERMILION SWCD

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**To learn more about SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS in Louisiana, or to find your local SWCD office, visit [www.ldaf.la.gov](http://www.ldaf.la.gov).**