

CHATHAM COUNTY CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP

Update to the Board of Commissioners





AGENDA



1

BACKGROUND

What led to the creation of the CWG; Members and Schedule

2

GOALS

What is the CWG trying to accomplish?

3

GUIDING PROJECT

Tracking progress of Plan Chatham conservation goals.

4

INPUT REQUESTED

How should the CWG keep the BOC updated on conservation?



BACKGROUND



The Dilemma:

The Comprehensive Plan's conservation goals are addressed by numerous departments. Communication and collaboration across these departments has been inconsistent.

The Solution:

Bring these departments together on a regular basis to discuss their ongoing projects and find opportunities to work together.

In Summer 2023, the County Manager emailed department heads asking them to select a representative who worked in environmental issues and would be familiar with the workings of their department.

MEMBERSHIP



DEPARTMENTS

Budget	Cooperative Extension	Emergency Management	Environmental Health	Environmental Quality
Facilities	Manager's Office	MIS	Parks & Recreation	Planning
Public Health	Soil & Water Conservation District	Utilities	Watershed Protection	

Monthly Meetings, Fourth Monday, In-Person



CONSERVATION



Defining conservation as the protection, preservation, and restoration of Chatham County's natural resources, including water, soil, natural areas, wildlife, farmland, and energy.



GOALS

- 1 Coordinate on intra-departmental projects.
- 2 Collaborate on inter-departmental projects.
- 3 Share resources and information.
- 4 Track progress towards Comprehensive Plan goals.
- 5 Communicate progress to the BOC and the community.

TOPICS

Studies

Grant Applications

Project Input

Budget Requests



GUIDING PROJECT



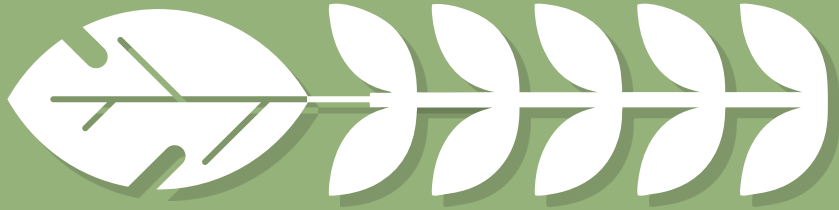
Comprehensive Conservation Implementation Plan

Background: The Comprehensive Plan has ambitious environmental goals. However, we don't have a centralized method to track progress.

Phase 1: Establish metrics based in consensus, availability, and equity. Develop a public dashboard to track progress towards environmental goals.

Phase 2: Create an implementation plan for achieving remaining goals, rooted in capacity.

Status: RFP finalized and will be released in January.



INPUT REQUESTED

The CWG is requesting input on the frequency and format of updates to the Board.

