



Guam Soil and Water Conservation Districts
UNIVERSITY OF GUAM COLLEGE OF NATURAL & APPLIED SCIENCES, UOG STATION,
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GUAM SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS PROMOTE STEWARDSHIP WEEK

(MANGILAO, GUAM)— As a part of the communities of Guam for over 30 years, the Guam Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Guam SWCDs) want to remind you that each of us has a connection to our natural resources. Stewardship week promotes natural resource conservation and reminds us of our individual responsibilities to care for our natural resources. In partnership with the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), the GSWCDs are celebrating the 65th year of Stewardship Week April 26 – May 3, 2020, focusing on the theme “Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators?”

The Guam Soil and Water Conservation Districts were formed to promote the wise use of Guam’s soil and water resources through locally led stewardship and best management practices. The Guam SWCDs work in partnership with the University of Guam and local and federal agencies to promote the conservation of Guam’s precious resources. During Stewardship Week, the Guam SWCDs are encouraging all island residents to practice better stewardship for today and the future.

Pollinators form the underpinning of a healthy and sustainable future for food and the environment, but they have shown disturbing signs of decline in recent years. When pollinators shrink in number, many plants either produce less seed or no seed at all. Most plants depend upon pollinators to reproduce. There are more than 100,000 species of insects, including bees, flies, moths, butterflies and beetles, and over 1,000 species of other animals such as birds, reptiles and mammals, including bats, that pollinate plants. Your local conservation district can assist you in maintaining or developing habitat for pollinators.

“Pollinators play a critical role in our ecosystems every day,” NACD President across the United States, Tim Palmer, said. “It’s important that we work to learn how we can protect their habitat in our communities.”

More ways you can practice being better stewards for our island include planting local plants or a garden, eating and buying local fruits and vegetables, picking up trash around villages or beaches, conserving water and energy, and practicing reuse and repurpose! Share your knowledge with others on helping take care of our natural resources!

Free, downloadable Stewardship Week resources celebrating the theme “Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators?” are available on NACD’s website at [/www.nacdnet.org/store/](http://www.nacdnet.org/store/)

Northern and Southern Guam Soil and Water Conservation Districts are members of NACD, which oversees the annual Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to promote conservation. NACD represents the nation’s 3,000 conservation districts, which were established to encourage resource conservation across the country.

For more information about Stewardship Week and conservation, contact Shaniah Alvarez (Northern Guam SWCD) or Erica Pangelinan (Southern Guam SWCD) at 671-735-2014 or email ngswcd.northern Guam@gmail.com or southern Guams wcd@gmail.com

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The National Association of Conservation Districts is the nonprofit organization that represents the nation’s 3,000 conservation districts, their state and territory associations and the 17,000 men and women who serve on their governing boards. For more than 70 years, local conservation districts have worked with cooperating landowners and managers of private working lands to help them plan and apply effective conservation practices. For more information about NACD, visit: www.nacdnet.org.