



Alabama Association of
Conservation Districts

Contact: Noopie Cosby
Cosby Company, Program Developer
Phone: (334) 412-1008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 7, 2015

**STATE SENATOR RECEIVES LEGISLATIVE
AWARD FROM STATEWIDE AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION**

Montgomery, Ala. - Senator Gerald Allen (R-Tuscaloosa) has been named the Senate Leader of the Year by the Alabama Association of Conservation Districts (AACD) at a recent State Association meeting held in Orange Beach.

Sen. Allen received the award for his dedicated service, leadership, and assistance to all citizens for the wise use and conservation of Alabama's natural resources.

Sen. Allen serves as Chairman of Transportation and Energy Committee, Confirmations and is a member of the Finance and Taxation Education Committee. He assisted in providing state funds for the 67 county Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) offices.

Senator Allen said it was an easy decision for lawmakers to increase funding for soil and water conservation because the state match has provided a 25-1 return on investment.

"The support we've provided to funding over the last several years is a testament to your selfless effort to keep the land working," said Allen, "It's hard to find another program that has a better return on investment."

-more-

Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee (ASWCC) Director Bill Puckett relayed to the audience how fortunate the Legislature and general public are to benefit from Sen. Allen's knowledge and his commitment to conserving Alabama's natural resources."

"Conservation is a duty for all," said Puckett, "Few have taken on that responsibility as seriously as Senator Allen."

AACD President Laslie Hall commended Sen. Allen for being accessible and providing the leadership qualities that he possesses.

"We are thankful to Sen. Allen for making agriculture a priority," said Hall, " We understand that the Legislature has been faced with difficult decisions and we are proud to call them friends of conservation and agriculture."

AACD was organized in August, 1943 and is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization of the 67 SWCD's in Alabama.

SWCD's are independent subdivisions of state government, just as counties and school districts.

The AACD's mission is to provide aid and guidance in programs for water quality, the prevention and control of soil erosion and conservation of soil and water resources.

The Association serves as a vehicle for unified action by SWCD's, exchange of information, and discussion.

Conservation districts are local governments at work and their specific responsibility is management of soil and water resources. The idea behind their formation is to keep decision-making on soil and water conservation matters at the local level.

To learn more about AACD and its programs please visit us at www.swcc.state.al.us.

####

