

**MUTUAL AGREEMENT**  
Between the  
**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
and the  
**STATE OF TENNESSEE**  
and the  
**MADISON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**For their Cooperation in the  
Conservation of Natural Resources**

THIS AGREEMENT is between the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the State of Tennessee and the Madison County Soil Conservation District.

The authority of USDA to enter into this agreement is the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, 16, 590; the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, Public Law No. 103-354; and Secretary's Memorandum No. 1010-1, dated October 20, 1994. The State of Tennessee's authority is defined in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 43-14-101 and Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 43-14-218. The District authority is defined in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 43-14-201.

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The parties have the common objective of assisting people in their efforts to utilize and manage natural resources in accordance with their capabilities and needs for protection and improvement. Each party is independent, has its respective responsibilities, yet recognizes the need to coordinate as a federal, state and local partnership for the successful delivery of conservation programs related to our soil, water, air, plant, animal, and human resources. Therefore, the parties will cooperate to implement their respective long-range natural resources conservation programs considering available resources, statutory authorities, and regulations. The parties will develop appropriate agreements to further define this relationship.

**IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT:**

Broad based conservation programs delivered through the cooperation of the USDA, the Madison County Soil Conservation District, and the State of Tennessee are vital to the protection of the natural resources, economic stability and well-being of our Nation.

The parties reaffirm the relationship between the USDA, the Madison County Soil Conservation District, and the State of Tennessee. The Secretary will continue, within the terms of various statutes administered by USDA, to carry out broad conservation programs of assistance encompassing technical, research, educational, and financial assistance to land owners and users through the Madison County Soil Conservation District, and the State of Tennessee.

The parties also recognize and encourage a continued commitment from the State of Tennessee in aiding administration, coordination, financing, and the delivery of conservation programs through the Madison County Soil Conservation District.

This Agreement establishes an enduring basis for cooperation and assistance between the parties to achieve common natural resources conservation goals and objectives. Authority to carry out specific projects or activities, such as the transfer of funds, acquisition of services, and property will be carried out under separate agreements. The parties will encourage other natural resource related agencies to develop similar agreements.

The signatories will be in compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions contained in Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-259) and other nondiscrimination statutes, namely, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and in accordance with regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture (7 CFR-15, Subparts A & B), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Agriculture or any Agency thereof.

This agreement can be modified or terminated at any time by mutual consent of all parties or can be terminated by any party by giving 60 days written notice to the others.

This agreement supersedes all previous Memorandums of Understanding.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

By:   
(Secretary of Agriculture)

Date: 1-24-96

STATE OF TENNESSEE

By:   
(Governor)

Date: 6-28-96

MADISON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

By:   
(Chairperson)

Date: 7-17-96