

# USDA Watershed Programs Fact and Figures Resource Packet



A new document is now available that has the most comprehensive information about the USDA Watershed Program that is available. The 288 page document was compiled by Larry Caldwell who worked 51 years for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Oklahoma Conservation Commission as an engineer, national rehabilitation program manager and watershed specialist. Caldwell spent many hours compiling this information from multiple data sources and documents.

“The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive summary of watershed information in one place,” said Caldwell. It provides brief descriptions and some context for key legislative authorities, technology developments, inventories, and results that track the evolution of the watershed movement over the past seven decades.

“This document describes the history of the program, current status, and challenges for the future. Some of these data should be considered a “snapshot-in-time” look at the status of the Watershed Program since new dams will be built, more dams will be rehabilitated, and monetary benefits will increase due to inflation and land use changes”, according to Caldwell.

The document will be an important and useful resource for NRCS staffs, project sponsors, and other stakeholders interested in the watershed program when developing informational materials, working with the media and educating people about the program.

The document is posted on the National NRCS web page, but may be difficult to find since it is not listed on the main home menu, but tucked away under the “About Us” tab and then under “History” and then under “NRCS History Publications”. But for now just click on this link to find the publication:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/about/history/?cid=stelprdb1042935>

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