



Saginaw Conservation District

178 N. Graham Road, Saginaw, MI 48609

(989) 781-1720, Ext. 5

saginawcd@gmail.com

saginawcd.com

Dear Community Member:

We are excited that you are interested in serving on the Saginaw Conservation District Board of Directors. We hope that this information packet answers all your questions concerning the open position.

Within this packet you will find information about Saginaw Conservation District, what it means to be a board member, and how to serve on our board.

Next Steps

- Review this packet
- Complete the online Board of Directors/Associate Director application located at <https://www.saginawcd.com/board>.

Thank you for your interest in serving on our board! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Heather Hart, District Administrator at Saginawcd@gmail.com or 989 781-1720 X5.

Sincerely,

Dave Adams
Chairman

Dave Adams
Chairman

Marcia Kendall, Ph. D
Vice Chairman

Edward C. Meisel, III
Treasurer

Taylor Schomaker
Director

Conserving and protecting natural resources through conservation education, outreach, and partnerships.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 5/5/25

Contact: Heather Hart, District Administrator
Phone: 989 781-1720 X5
Email: Saginawcd@gmail.com

Saginaw Conservation District Seeking Candidates for Board Vacancy

Saginaw Conservation District is accepting applications to fill one open position on its board of directors.

The appointee will serve the remainder of Nicholas A. Dague's term, which expires 3/21/27. Nicholas A. Dague resigned from the board effective 1/12/2025.

The Saginaw Conservation District Board of Directors is comprised of 5 board members. Each member is elected by the registered voters of the district to serve a 4-year term. Applicants for the vacant position must be registered voters who reside in Saginaw county.

Interested candidates can find an information packet, which includes information about the district, position, and application/selection process, on the District website www.Saginawcd.com or by request from the district office. Contact Heather Hart at 989 781-1720 X5 or by email at Saginawcd@gmail.com. Interested candidates may also visit our office located at 178 N. Graham Rd. Saginaw, MI 48609 during regular business hours 8am-4:30pm M-F.

The deadline to submit applications for this vacancy is 4:30pm on 6/9/2025.

For more information, please contact Heather Hart at 989 781-1720 X5.

About Saginaw Conservation District

Saginaw Conservation District was formed in 1947 to provide local conservation services to residents of Saginaw county. Our mission is to "Conserve and protect natural resources through conservation education, outreach and partnerships". Visit our website at SaginawCD.com.

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How Do I Become a Saginaw Conservation District Director?

Directors can either be elected or appointed. Currently, Saginaw Conservation District is accepting applications to fill one open position on its board of directors by appointment. The appointee will serve the remainder of Nicholas A. Dague's term, which expires 3/21/27. Nicholas A. Dague resigned from the board effective 1/12/2025.

The Saginaw Conservation District Board of Directors is comprised of 5 board members. Each member is elected by the registered voters of the district to serve a 4-year term. Applicants for the vacant position must be registered voters who reside in Saginaw county. Interested community members who meet the requirements should complete the application found at <https://www.saginawcd.com/board> by the deadline of 4:30pm on 6/9/25.

The board will review applications and schedule interviews in June. If you are selected, you will be sworn into office at the July 17, 2025 board meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Heather Hart, District Administrator at Saginawcd@gmail.com or 989 781-1720 X5.



District Information Summary

About Us

The Saginaw Conservation District was formed in 1947 to provide local conservation in Saginaw County. We serve the entire county of Saginaw with an annual budget of \$300,000 and 3 full-time employees. The District offers Plat books, soil testing, scrap tire recycling and an annual tree sale. District programming includes a Farm Bill Biologist, the Hunter Access Program, Conservation Technician Assistance Program (formerly MAEAP) and a Natural Resources Conservation Service cooperative agreement.

District's Mission

Conserving and protecting natural resources through conservation education, outreach and partnerships.

Board of Directors and Current Officers

Dave Adams
Board Chairman

Marcia Kendall, Ph. D.
Vice-Chair

Edward Meisel, III
Treasurer

Taylor Schomaker
Director

Board Commitment

A strong, engaged, dedicated board of directors is one of the cornerstones to the successful public service of a Conservation district. It is important to have each seat on the board filled by someone dedicated to seeing the district succeed in serving in the public's best interest. When a board member vacates a seat, there is an opportunity to bring in someone to fill that seat with a fresh perspective and unique experiences of their own, which will help contribute to the board's guidance and advocacy of the district.

Upcoming Board Meeting Schedule

Third Thursday of each month

9am-10am

District Office, 178 N. Graham Rd. Saginaw



Why Would I Want to Be a Board Member?

- Your community needs you! We can't operate without elected board members who are willing to volunteer their time and talents
- Tired of feeling like you don't make a difference in this politically charged environment? Serving as a special district board member is a way you can truly make a difference directly for your community
- Joining a board helps you learn from the people around you, but also gives you the opportunity to share your knowledge and experiences with those same people
- Gain experience in government and leadership that can translate into other potential career or political opportunities



Saginaw Conservation District Board Member Duties

A board member of the Saginaw Conservation District serves on a 5-member Board of Directors responsible for conducting the affairs of the district in compliance with Michigan Conservation District Law, Public Act 451 of 1994, 324.9301-324.51306. The Board of Directors has the legislative authority and power to establish policies and procedures that are in the best interest of the residents it serves.

The board ensures that the district achieves its mission in an ethical, transparent, accountable and prudent manner. Each board member is accountable for the functions described below, all of which are accomplished at board meetings and committee assignments through review of information, strategic planning, conversation and decision making.

Together, the board makes decisions and sets policy for the district. Individually, you do not have any power, but acting with your fellow board members you have an opportunity to have a positive impact on your community. The board's major responsibility is setting policy.

Board members also do the following:

- Attend the board meeting held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 9am. Sometimes special meetings can be held to address specific issues.
- Review and adopt the annual budget
- Approve financial reports
- Set goals and evaluate progress towards those goals
- Hire and evaluate the executive director
- Help set standards, controls and policies that support sound risk management practices are in place; e.g. safety and security, insurance, data controls and personnel management practices
- Delegate authority
- Support fund development activities of the District, such as tree sales, and other volunteer commitments in a manner appropriate for board directors.
- Utilize personal and professional skills, relationships and knowledge for the advancement of the District.
- Connect with the community



Characteristics of a Good Board Members

While most conservation district boards are comprised of individuals from different backgrounds and experiences, individual district board members can be more effective when they exhibit:

- A thoughtful, sincere and deliberate approach to the position.
- Understanding of the issues, knowing that their decisions have a tremendous impact on the community.
- A constructive attitude toward teamwork.
- Understanding that they have no legal authority as an individual board member.
- The willingness to spend the time necessary to be well-informed on conservation issues.
- The ability to represent the entire community and not surrender to special interest groups or partisan political groups.
- The temperament to respond accordingly and appropriately through challenging events remembering that public actions and words of members of the board will impact the district, its image and integrity.
- The willingness to listen respectfully to the opinions and concerns of colleagues and constituents.
- The willingness to express one's own opinion and participate in discussions openly and honestly.
- Encouragement and respect for the free expression of opinion by colleagues.
- The maturity to respect the confidentiality of privileged information, taking no private action that would compromise the board or staff.
- The willingness to model continuous learning, taking advantage of professional development opportunities.
- The willingness to abide by and support the board adopted operating procedures.