



Allegheny County Council

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Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 12069-21 **Version:** 1 **Name:**

Type: Proclamation **Status:** Presented & Filed

File created: 10/22/2021 **In control:** County Council

On agenda: 10/26/2021 **Final action:** 10/26/2021

Title: Proclamation congratulating the Allegheny County Conservation District upon their 75th anniversary.

Sponsors: Anita Prizio, Tom Baker, Olivia Bennett, Patrick Catena, Sam DeMarco, Tom Duerr, Cindy Kirk, Paul Klein, Bob Macey, John Palmiere

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Code sections:

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Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
10/26/2021	1	County Council	Presented	

Proclamation congratulating the Allegheny County Conservation District upon their 75th anniversary.

WHEREAS, conservation districts are local units of government established under state law to carry out natural resource management programs; and

WHEREAS, conservation districts work with landowners and local governments to help them manage and protect land and water resources on private and public lands; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's first conservation district was formed under the State Conservation District Law, Act 217 of 1945, in response to the dust bowl of the 1930's to improve soil and water conservation. Potter County was the first district formed in the state.; and

WHEREAS, the Allegheny County Soil Conservation District, now known as *Allegheny County Conservation District*, was formed on March 5, 1946 via a County resolution. The first meeting of the newly formed District was held on July 9th; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, the state recognized the potential of districts ability to educate, promote, and deliver soil and water conservation programs locally. As a result, the state delegated responsibility for certain programs, such as: Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control (102); Dam Safety and Waterway Management (105); Watershed Specialist support; Nutrient Management Act Program (Act 38); and Dirt and Gravel Roads program; and

WHEREAS, from 2009-2013, the *Allegheny County Conservation District* focused on creating a new strategic plan for the organization and as a result, the following was implemented: new District Manager; new office location in the Southside of Pittsburgh; expanded administrative staff; process and program flow improvements; enhanced grant program; and organizational emphasis on training and project development; and

WHEREAS, the current nine-member Board of Directors consists of a diverse and talented group of individuals that has made major improvements in the areas of program and personnel management, accountability, oversight and stewardship; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, Allegheny County Council Member Anita Prizio, Tom Baker, Olivia Bennett, Pat Catena, Sam DeMarco, Tom Duerr, Cindy Kirk, Paul Klein, Bob Macey, and John Palmiere do hereby congratulate the **Allegheny County Conservation District** upon their 75th anniversary, and we thank them for their contributions to the conservation and preservation of Allegheny County's natural resources.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 26th day of October 2021.