

EMSWCD ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR GUIDELINES

Draft for review at 2/2/09 Board of Directors Meeting

Associate Director's Role

Associate Directors assist the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation district (EMSWCD) in conserving the soils and water of Multnomah County east of the Willamette River.

Associate Directors are volunteers and serve as non-voting members of the Board. They may be appointed to serve on committees and may contribute to discussions of District business. Retiring Directors of the Board are invited to serve as Associate Directors for one year. Board meetings are held monthly at the District office.

Selection of Associate Directors is based on the ability of candidates to:

- Consistently represent EMSWCD, its Board of Directors and policies in the community.
- Work to pursue the mission of EMSWCD.
- Represent the interests of constituents to EMSWCD.
- Bring necessary skills and abilities to enhance the Board's effectiveness.

Qualifications/Skills

Associate Directors may be appointed by the Board of Directors if they meet the following requirements:

- A registered voter residing in the District.
- Ability to build inclusive, community-based partnerships between individuals, agencies, and citizen groups with diverse interests and values.
- Commitment to working as a team member with the District and its Board.
- Commitment to a voluntary, non-regulatory, collaborative approach to conservation.
- Willingness to represent the Board and District on committees, as a District representative to other organizations or by assisting EMSWCD in another activity mutually agreed upon with the Board of Directors.
- Demonstrated interest in natural resource conservation.
- Expertise in a relevant area such as community involvement and outreach, conservation practice implementation, project management, accounting, law, personnel management, land and water management (farming, forestry, ecological restoration etc.) and/or public policy.

Selection Process

- Potential candidates may be recommended by Board members or staff of EMSWCD.
- To request consideration as an Associate Director, a candidate submits a letter indicating interest in serving as an Associate Director, setting out relevant skills/qualifications and indicating a particular area of interest in working with the District and its Board along with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three references.

- EMSWCD Directors interview nominees to determine suitability based on qualifications and skills established by the Board and the perceived “fit” of the candidate with the existing strengths and current needs of the Board.
- Associate Directors are appointed by majority vote at a regular EMSWCD Board meeting.
- An Associate Director serves until January 1 in odd numbered years. Every two years district Boards select individuals they wish to reappoint to Associate Director positions.
- Appointment of Associate Directors is at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Please contact the District office about other ways to become involved in volunteer activities at EMSWCD.