03.0101 Natural Resources Conservation Cluster

This instructional program prepares individuals for employment involving the conservation and/or improvement of natural resources such as air, soil, water, land, fish, and wildlife for economic and recreational purposes.

Emphasis within the program should be on developing competencies in the following areas

Surveying
Mapping soils
Planning drainage systems
Constructing drainage systems
Performing general office work
Assembling, servicing and maintaining equipment and facilities
Maintaining and constructing structures
Controlling the plant environment
Maintaining and improving grounds
Assisting in public relations activities
Managing the business
Applying safety practices
Breeding, handling and caring for animals
Maintaining animal health
Managing and utilizing timber

The following are examples of occupations for which instruction may be provided at the secondary level

Park Aide/Technician
Soil Conservationist Aide
Forester Aide
Gamekeeper

Training received in this program may be used as a basis for entry level into the labor market or for further training at a postsecondary agency. Articulation between the secondary and postsecondary programs will be a part of the regional delivery systems.

The following occupational listing shows examples of occupations which are available to students who advance and successfully complete a specialized program at the postsecondary level.

Soil Conservation Technician
Game Farm Manager
Timber Surveyor
Park Caretaker
Recreation Specialist
Land Use Planning Technician
Soil Test Technician

In addition to those occupations already noted, there are many agricultural occupations of a professional nature requiring a baccalaureate degree and beyond.

Workplace skills such as 1) those skills used in work performance that are transferable across jobs and occupations and that are instrumental to job and classroom success, 2) skills used to manage life's transitions and 3) skills employed in the resolution of interpersonal, information or task-related problems or problems related to behavior in cooperative group settings should be included in this curriculum. Leadership skill development is an integral part of this program and is delivered through

career and technical student organization (FFA) activities. Individualized instruction and learning reinforcement are provided through supervised agricultural experience programs (SAEPS) maintained by each student.

Employment opportunities are available to workers with competencies in the field of agricultural resources in both semiskilled and skilled areas of employment. Employment centers around the conservation and improvement of renewable natural resources for economic and recreational purposes. Employment is available in such diverse fields as parks and recreation management, conservation structure development and management, fish and wildlife ecology and management, and forest utilization and management.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION COURSE SEQUENCE

Course Title	Credits per Semester	Length in Semesters	Grade Level
Orientation			
Introduction to the Agricultural Industry	.5	2	9
Basic Agricultural Science	.5	2	10
Supervised Agricultural Experience Program I	*variable	2	9, 10
Preparation			
Natural Resources Conservation and Management	.5	2	11, 12
Environmental Science	.5	2	11, 12
Agricultural Leadership	.5	1	11, 12
Agricultural Communications	.5	1	11, 12
Agricultural Business Management	.5	2	11, 12
Biological Science Applications in Agriculture (Plants)	.5	1	11, 12
Biological Science Applications in Agriculture (Animals)	.5	1	11, 12
Physical Science Applications in Agriculture I	.5	1	11, 12
Physical Science Applications in Agriculture II	.5	1	11, 12
Supervised Agricultural Experience Program II	*variable	2	11, 12
Agricultural Cooperative Education	*variable	2	12

* As determined at the regional system level.