



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS**

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Press Release – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The NARC&DC Participates in Special White House and USDA Events

Washington, DC—December 14, 2011—The National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils (NARC&DC) were invited guests at two special events hosted by the White House and the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The NARC&DC was among a few special guests granted a rare opportunity to see the White House decorated for the holiday season at a White House Holiday Open House Tour. The event afforded the National Association the opportunity to discuss important issues facing RC&D with key USDA and White House officials including Carole Jett, Deputy Chief of Staff for USDA Secretary Vilsack and Dallas Tonsager, Under Secretary for Rural Development.

After the tour the National Association participated in a White House briefing on the current status of conservation programs across the United States. President Sipperly noted to John Carson, Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement, “RC&D Councils are here to stay and stand ready to play a leading in role in fulfilling the Administration’s vision.” He encouraged the White House and the newly formed Rural Council “to avail themselves of RC&D as an effective and established delivery system throughout Rural America.” Executive Director Andrew Gordon informed Dan Utech, White House Deputy Director for Energy and Climate Change of the involvement of RC&D in energy efficiency throughout rural America by explaining “over the past few years RC&D’s have helped ranchers and producers save over 3 million dollars in energy costs.”

Olga Walter, NARC&DC Board representative and invited guest, summarized the event as “an excellent opportunity to meet and hear from an array of important federal officials involved in natural resource conservation and rural economic development.”

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Carole Jett , Andy Gordon, Olga Walter

Andy Gordon, Dallas Tonsager, Jim Sipperly

Jim Sipperly, Jennifer Yezak, Olga Walter