

## PRODUCER SURVEY ATTACHED



Dear Participant:

*The Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) aims to protect critical areas (fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, wetlands, geologically hazardous areas, frequently flooded areas, and areas with a critical recharging effect of aquifers used for potable water) where they intersect with agricultural activities, through **voluntary, incentive-based measures**, while at the same time improving the long term viability of agriculture. Douglas County VSP encourages agricultural producers to work together through volunteer efforts to avoid regulatory enforcement under the Growth Management Act.*

**The attached self-assessment checklist will help to implement the Voluntary Stewardship Program by:**

1. Identifying and documenting implemented conservation activities that contribute to the critical area protection goals and benchmarks of the VSP work plan.
2. Identifying conservation activities that Douglas County producers are interested in to increase cost-share and technical service opportunities for implementing those conservation activities.
3. Identify educational programs and materials that would benefit Douglas County producers.
4. Encourage high producer participation, through the implementation of voluntary conservation activities, to ensure the success of the VSP.

**The questionnaire will:**

1. Help to tell the story that agriculture can protect critical areas through voluntary conservation, and in doing so, help you avoid further governmental regulation by assuring the VSP succeeds.
2. Give voice to your opinion about what cost-share and educational opportunities will benefit your operation.
3. Report aggregated data to **assure anonymity and confidentiality** of your responses.

**Please complete this checklist if you are an agricultural landowner and/or operator in Douglas County.**

If you have any questions or are interested in additional information, please do not hesitate to contact myself, or South Douglas Conservation District (509-745-9160). Also, please check out the VSP website at <http://www.fostercreekcd.org/programs/voluntary-stewardship-program/>

Sincerely,

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VSP Programmatic and Admin Lead  
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