

Acronyms an SWCD employee might encounter

AC	=	Administrative Coordinator - SWCD administrative position
AC	=	Administrative Coordinator - USDA-NRCS Area administrative position
AC/RC	=	Administrative Coordinator/Resource Conservationist - SWCD employee serving in both positions
ACEP	=	Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
ACS	=	Alternative Cropping System
ADA	=	Americans with Disabilities Act
AFT	=	American Farmland Trust - partner organization
AIMA	=	Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement - IDOA agreement with Illinois utility companies
AISWCD	=	Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts -state membership organization for all Illinois SWCDs
AMA	=	Agricultural Management Assistance Program - USDA
APHIS	=	Animal Plant Health Inspection Service
APS	=	Area Program Specialist - USDA-NRCS specialist position
APW	=	Annual Plan of Work (also known as the APO - Annual Plan of Operations)
ARC	=	Area Resource Conservationist - USDA-NRCS specialist position
ARS	=	Agricultural Research Service - department under USDA
ARSS	=	Area Resource Soil Scientist - USDA-NRCS specialist position
ASAE	=	American Society of Agricultural Engineers
ASTC	=	Assistant State Conservationist - USDA-NRCS Area leadership position
AWEP	=	Agricultural Water Enhancement Program - USDA-NRCS
BF	=	Beginning Farmer - USDA term referring to client status
BLM	=	Bureau of Land Management (federal agency)
BLWR	=	Bureau of Land and Water Resources - Bureau under Illinois Department of Agriculture
BMP	=	Best Management Practices
C2000	=	Conservation by 2000 (state initiative to meet certain levels of conservation by the year 2000)
CAA	=	Clean Air Act (federal)
CAFO	=	Confined Animal Feeding Operations
CAP	=	Conservation Activity Plan (written plan required for certain NRCS programs)
CART	=	Conservation Assessment Ranking Tool - USDA-NRCS application ranking software program
CCA	=	Certified Crop Advisor
CCC	=	Commodity Credit Corporation, part of USDA-FSA
CCE	=	Common Computing Environment
CCI	=	Cooperative Conservation Initiative
CCPI	=	Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative
CCSI	=	Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative
CD	=	Conservation Desktop - NRCS planning and contracting software program
CE	=	Civil Engineer, USDA-NRCS position
CED	=	County Executive Director - USDA-FSA county office leadership position
CES	=	Cooperative Extension Service - University of Illinois
CIG	=	Conservation Innovation Grant
CMA	=	Cooperative Management Agreement (same as MOU)
CMS	=	Central Management Services (state)
CNMP	=	Comprehensive Nutrient Management System
COB	=	Close of Business
COE	=	US Army Corps of Engineers (also USACE and Corps)
CONS6	=	Conservation Assistance Notes on NRCS-CPA-6 form
COOP	=	Continuity Of Operations Plan
CP	=	Conservation Planner - IDOA field staff position
CPA	=	Conservation Priority Area
CPESC	=	Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control
CPP	=	Conservation Practices Program (former name of PFC cost-share program)
CREP	=	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program - USDA-FSA and IDNR program
CRP	=	Conservation Reserve Program - USDA-FSA
CRR	=	Cultural Resources Review
CSP	=	Conservation Stewardship Program - USDA-NRCS (also referred to as CStP)
CTA	=	Conservation Technical Assistance

CTIC	=	Conservation Technology Information Center
CWA	=	Clean Water Act (federal)
CWA	=	Cooperative Working Agreement
CY	=	Crop Year
DARTS	=	Data Access, Recording & Tracking System - IDOA + SWCD (now decommissioned)
DC	=	District Conservationist - USDA-NRCS District Grouping leadership position
DG	=	District Grouping - NRCS grouping of their Field Offices
DOH	=	District Operational Handbook (Set of two handbooks written by IDOA as guides for SWCD offices)
DWG	=	Drainage Working Group
DWM	=	Drainage Water Management
EA	=	Environmental Assessment
EAB	=	Emerald Ash Borer
eAuth	=	electronic Authentication - USDA term for being authorized to access certain (electronic) computer programs
EC	=	Education Coordinator - SWCD position
EcoCAT	=	Ecological Compliance and Assessment - state computer program for endangered/threatened species reviews
ECP	=	Emergency Conservation Program - USDA
ED	=	Executive Director - SWCD lead employee and AISWCD leadership position
EE	=	Environmental Evaluation
EEO	=	Equal Employment Opportunity
EI	=	Erodibility Index
EIS	=	Environmental Impact Statement
EMP	=	Environmental Management Plan
EO	=	Executive Order (by US president or Illinois Governor)
EQIP	=	Environmental Quality Incentive Program - USDA-NRCS
ESC	=	Erosion + Sediment Control program (another former name of PFC cost-share program)
EWG	=	Environmental Working Group
EWP	=	Emergency Watershed Protection Program - USDA
EWRP	=	Emergency Wetland Reserve Program - USDA
FA	=	Financial Assistance - USDA term for providing cost-share dollars to participants
FAC	=	Food and Agriculture Council
FEMA	=	Federal Emergency Management Agency (federal)
FIP	=	Forestry Incentive Program - USDA-NRCS
FMI	=	Forestry Management Incentive - USDA-FSA part of CRP
FMMI	=	Federal Management Modernization Initiative
FMP	=	Forest Management Plan
FO	=	Field Office - USDA-NRCS county service center
FOIA	=	Freedom of Information Act (state and federal)
FOTG	=	Field Office Technical Guide - also eFOTG (electronic version of FOTG)
FPAC	=	Farm Production and Conservation Business - USDA
FPE	=	Floodplain Easement
FPPA	=	Farmland Protection Policy Act
FRPP	=	Farm + Ranchland Protection Program - USDA-NRCS
FS	=	Forest Service (federal)
FSA	=	Farm Service Agency - USDA agency (formerly ASCS - Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service)
FTE	=	Full-time Equivalent
FWP	=	Farmable Wetlands Program - USDA-FSA as part of CRP
FY	=	Fiscal Year
GIS	=	Geographic Information System
GLRI	=	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (federal)
GRP	=	Grassland Reserve Program - USDA-FSA
HB	=	House Bill (state and federal level)
HEL	=	Highly Erodible Land (field determination)
HELC	=	Highly Erodible Land Conservation (provisions that apply to HEL fields)
HQ	=	Headquarters
HR	=	House Resolution (state and federal level)
HUC	=	Hydrologic Unit Code
HUS	=	Historically Underserved - USDA term referring to client status

IAAP	=	International Association of Administrative Professionals
IAG	=	Illinois Attorney General
IARC&D	=	Illinois Association of Resource Conservation & Development Areas
ICA	=	Interagency Cooperative Agreement
IDENR		Illinois Department of Energy & Natural Resources
IDNR	=	Illinois Department of Natural Resources
IDNR-OWR	=	Illinois Department of Natural Resources-Office of Water Resources
IDOA	=	Illinois Department of Agriculture
IDOT	=	Illinois Department of Transportation
IDP	=	Individual Development Plan (federal)
IEMA	=	Illinois Emergency Management Agency
IEPA	=	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
IFA	=	Illinois Forestry Association
IFDA	=	Illinois Forestry Development Act - IDNR
ILCS	=	Illinois Compiled Statutes, (published listing of State of Illinois laws)
ILICA	=	Illinois Land Improvement Contractors of America
INHS	=	Illinois Natural History Survey
IPAC	=	Information for Planning and Consultation - federal computer program for endangered/threatened reviews
IPM	=	Integrated Pest Management
ISGS	=	Illinois State Geological Survey
ISWCDEA	=	Illinois Soil and Water Conservation District Employee Association - membership organization for Illinois SWCD employees
ISWS	=	Illinois State Water Survey
ITS	=	Information Technology Specialist - OCIO-USDA (Computer Specialist)
IWPA	=	Interagency Wetland Policy Act
LESA	=	Land Evaluation and Site Assessment System
LISA	=	Low Input Sustainable Agriculture
LRP	=	Long Range Plan
LTA	=	Long Term Agreement
LUC	=	Land Use Councils (16 groupings of Illinois SWCDs)
MLRA	=	Major Land Resource Area (soil survey organizational group)
MOA	=	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	=	Memorandum of Understanding
MRBI	=	Mississippi River Basin Initiative - USDA
NACD	=	National Association of Conservation Districts -national membership organization for all US SWCDs
NAD	=	National Appeals Division
NASCA	=	National Association of State Conservation Agencies
NASDA	=	National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
NCAD	=	North Central Association of District Employees - regional membership organization for SWCD employees
NCDEA	=	National Conservation District Employee Association - national membership organization for SWCD employees
NDS	=	Non-discrimination Statement
NEPA	=	National Environmental Policy Act
NFIP	=	National Flood Insurance Program
NGRREC	=	National Great Rivers Research and Education Center - partner organization
NHEL	=	Non-highly Erodible Land (field determination)
NLRS	=	Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy
NMP	=	Nutrient Management Plan
NPDES	=	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPS	=	Non-point Source (referring to a source of pollution)
NRCS	=	Natural Resources Conservation Service - USDA agency (formerly SCS-Soil Conservation Service)
NRI	=	Natural Resource Information Report (Illinois SWCD Act Section 22.02a)
NRI	=	National Resource Inventory (federal)
NTE	=	Not to Exceed
NW	=	Non-wetland (field wetland determination)
NWI	=	National Wetlands Inventory
OCIO	=	Office Chief Information Officer (federal)
OMA	=	Open Meetings Act (state)
OMB	=	Office of Management and Budget (federal)

OSHA	=	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (state and federal)
OWR	=	Office of Water Resources - division of IDNR (also called IDNR-OWR)
PA	=	Privacy Act (federal)
PC	=	Prior Converted (field wetland determination)
PF	=	Pheasants Forever - partner organization
PFC	=	Partners for Conservation Fund Program (state cost-share program)
PII	=	Personally Identifiable Information
PIP	=	Practice Incentive Payment - USDA-FSA term under CRP
PL	=	Public Law
PL-566	=	Public Law 566 - US Small Watershed Act administered by NRCS
PMC	=	Plant Materials Center
PRMS	=	Performance Review Management System - USDA-NRCS
PT	=	Program Technician - USDA-FSA field office position
QAR	=	Quality Assurance Review (federal)
RAMP	=	Rural Abandoned Mineland (reclamation) Program (federal)
RC	=	Resource Conservationist - SWCD technical position
RC&D	=	Resource Conservation and Development - USDA
RCPD	=	Regional Conservation Practices Program - USDA-NRCS
RCPD-AFA	=	Regional Conservation Practices Program-Alternative Funding Arrangement - USDA-NRCS
RCRA	=	Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (state)
RD	=	Rural Development - USDA agency (formerly FmHA-Farmers Home Administration)
RMS	=	Resource Management System
RR	=	Regional Representative - IDNR-BLWR regional position
RUSLE	=	Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation
SA	=	Survey Aide - SWCD employee position hired through an NRCS grant
SA	=	Sustainable Agriculture
SAFE	=	State Acres For wildlife Enhancement
SB	=	Senate Bill (state and federal level)
SC	=	Soil Conservationist - USDA-NRCS field office position
SCA	=	Soil Conservation Aid - USDA-NRCS field office position
SCT	=	Soil Conservation Technician - USDA-NRCS field office position
SD	=	Socially Disadvantaged - USDA term referring to client status
SF	=	Standard Form (federal)
SHPO	=	State Historic Preservation Officer
SIP	=	Sign-up Incentive Payment - USDA-FSA term under CRP
SIP	=	Stewardship Incentives Program
SP	=	Special Projects Program- IDOA
SR	=	Senate Resolution (state and federal level)
SS	=	Soil Scientist - USDA-NRCS specialist position (also called ARSS)
SSRP	=	Streambank Stabilization + Restoration Program - IDOA
STC	=	State Conservationist - USDA-NRCS state leadership position
SWCD	=	Soil and Water Conservation District
SWCS	=	Soil and Water Conservation Society; (Professional society for soil and water conservationists and related professions)
SWPPP	=	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
T	=	Tolerable soil loss level
TA	=	Technical Assistance - USDA term for providing technical information to clients
TDS	=	Total Dissolved Solids
TMDL	=	Total Maximum Daily Load, (a standard set for waterbodies indicating acceptable amounts of pollutants)
TN18	=	Technical Note 18 - USDA-NRCS form for recording wildlife habitat conditions (also called TechNote18)
TNI	=	Training Needs Inventory
TSP	=	Technical Service Provider
TSS	=	Total Suspended Solids
USACE	=	United States Army Corps of Engineers (see also COE)
USC	=	United States Code, a published listing of United States laws
USDA	=	United States Department of Agriculture
USEPA	=	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFS	=	United States Forest Service

USFWS	=	United State Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	=	United States Geological Service
USLE	=	Universal Soil Loss Equation (precursor of RUSLE)
VSS	=	Volatile Suspended Solids
W	=	Wetland
WAE	=	While Actually Employed (NRCS temporary position)
WASCOB	=	Water and Sediment Control Basin
WC	=	Wetland Conservation (provisions that apply to wetlands)
WDP	=	Well Decommissioning Program
WHIP	=	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program - USDA-NRCS
WREP	=	Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program - USDA-NRCS
WRP	=	Wetland Reserve Program - USDA-NRCS
WRPO	=	Wetland Reserve Plan of Operation