

VASWCD IT Committee  
Report to the Board of Directors & Membership  
Dec 02, 2018

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This report concludes the seventh year of activity for the IT Committee. We have met on-line 6 times in FY2019 thanks to the facilitation of Roland Owens (DCR).

**Committee Charge:**

The IT Committee was created by the President of the VASWCD to serve as an advisory body to the VASWCD Board and Executive Committee on IT issues, plans and programs. The committee members are Districts Directors, District and Association Staff, and representatives from DCR. The mission of the IT Committee is to:

1. Provide advice, assistance, and educational opportunities for Districts to improve their IT capabilities and maintain a clearinghouse of IT best practices that can be adopted by Districts
2. Monitor the status of IT systems and practices used across Districts to identify risks, technology gaps, or insufficient investments for Conservation objectives
3. Advise the VASWCD on IT issues and developments, including future technology directions that can be applied to conservation of soil and water resources
4. Coordinate IT efforts with DCR and other partners

**Committee Members:**

It is only with strong, committed committee members we make progress. The IT Committee is seeking your input and welcomes directors and staff to join conference calls/webinars to discuss and share issues. The following people have contributed to IT Committee work:

- Thomas Herbert, Henricopolis SWCD, Chair
- Kris Dennen, Loudoun SWCD, Co-Chair
- Bob Jeremiah, Colonial SWCD
- Sheila Jaruseski, Colonial SWCD
- Edna Justus, Big Sandy SWCD
- Michael Trop, John Marshall SWCD
- Lonnie Murray, Thomas Jefferson SWCD
- Marina Schumacher, Loudoun SWCD
- VASWCD Staff

**Partners:**

- Roland Owens, DCR
- Carl Thiel-Goin, DCR

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**Work Efforts:**

**IT Security, Risk Management, and Business Continuity**

The IT Committee assists the VASWCD with content on a webpage at [www.vaswcd.org/it](http://www.vaswcd.org/it) containing links to recommended methods for maintaining IT Security, Best Management Practices, Risk Management, and links to free on-line IT Security training.

The IT Committee has developed Minimum Recommended Practices for Individual Workstations/Laptops.

The IT Committee is working with DCR to make the excellent on-line IT Security Training available to all District staff. As of August 2018, Carl Thiel-Goin (DCR) reported that 100% of current District staff required to take the training completed it, along with 9 other District staff.

The IT Committee is interested in contributing to the proposed new Operations Committee and hopes to include IT Security Best Management Practices in a possible Operations Guide for Districts.

**Areas of Concern:**

Securing mobil applications.

Making sure new employees and new directors are brought up to speed on District IT Security practices and issues.

Raising awareness of the necessity for Districts to have Business Continuity Plans.