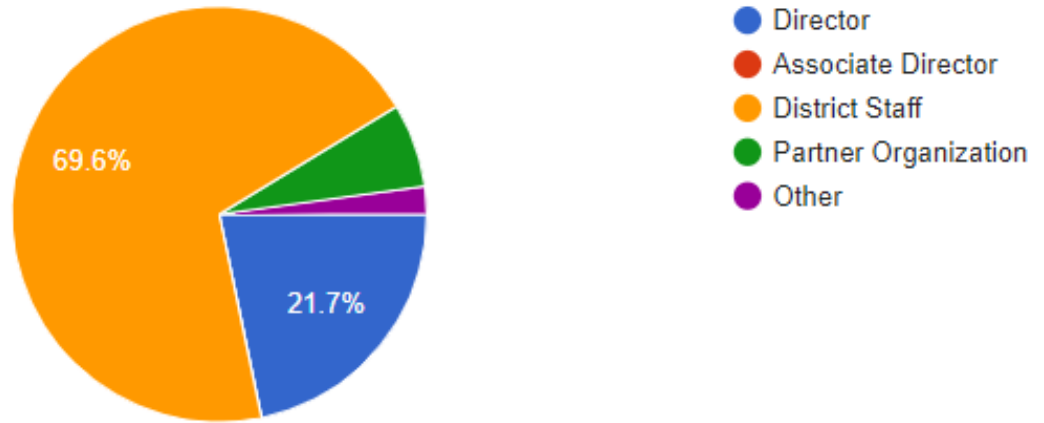


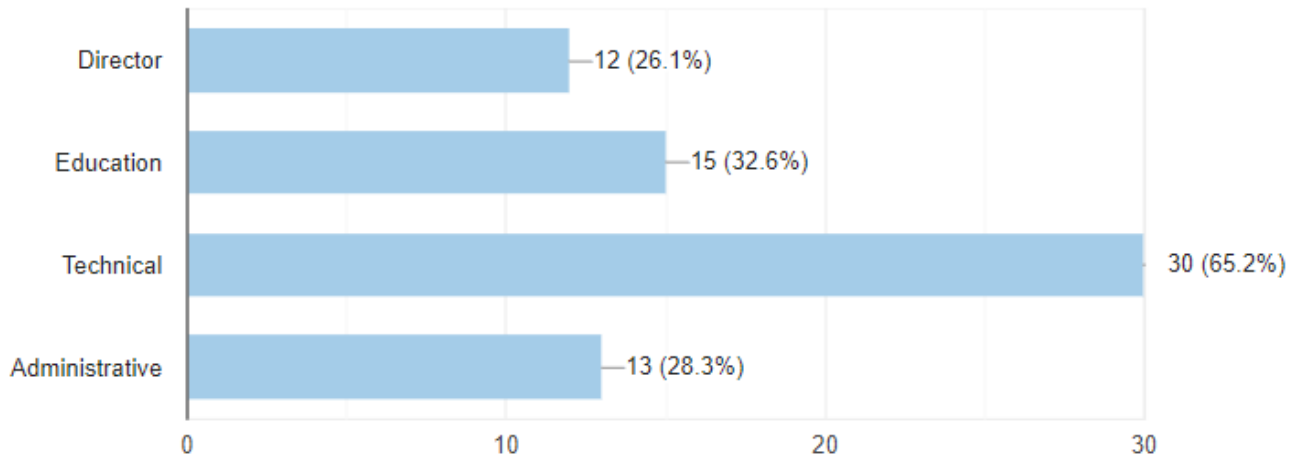
2020 VASWCD Virtual Training Blitz Feedback Responses

Breakdown of Survey Participants:
46 responses



What track would you normally take for trainings offered at Annual Meeting? (select all that apply)

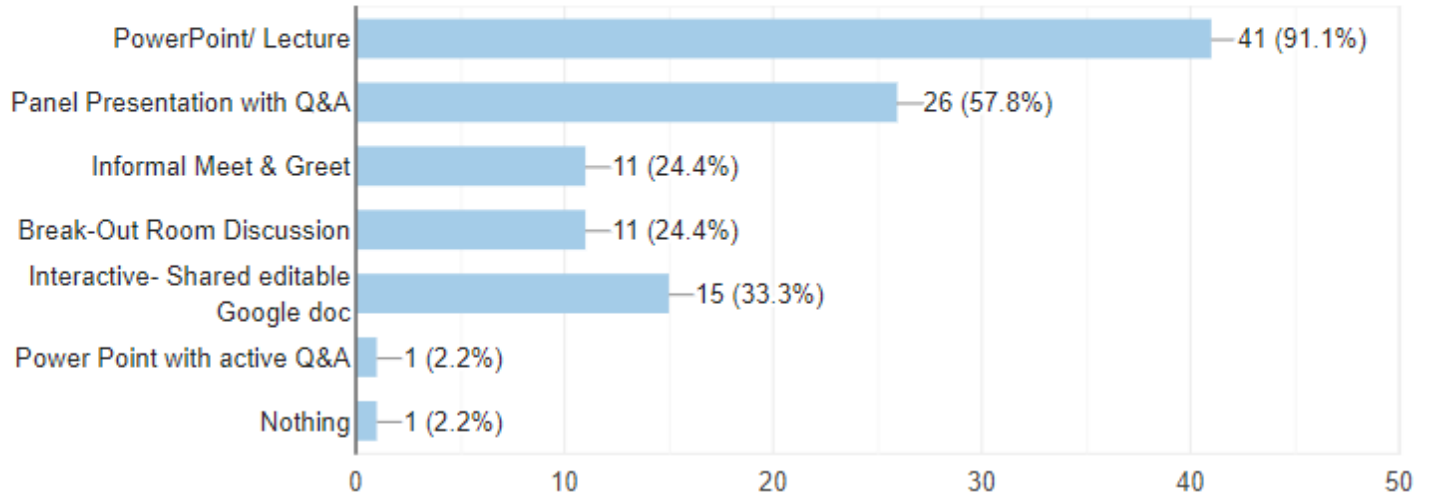
46 responses



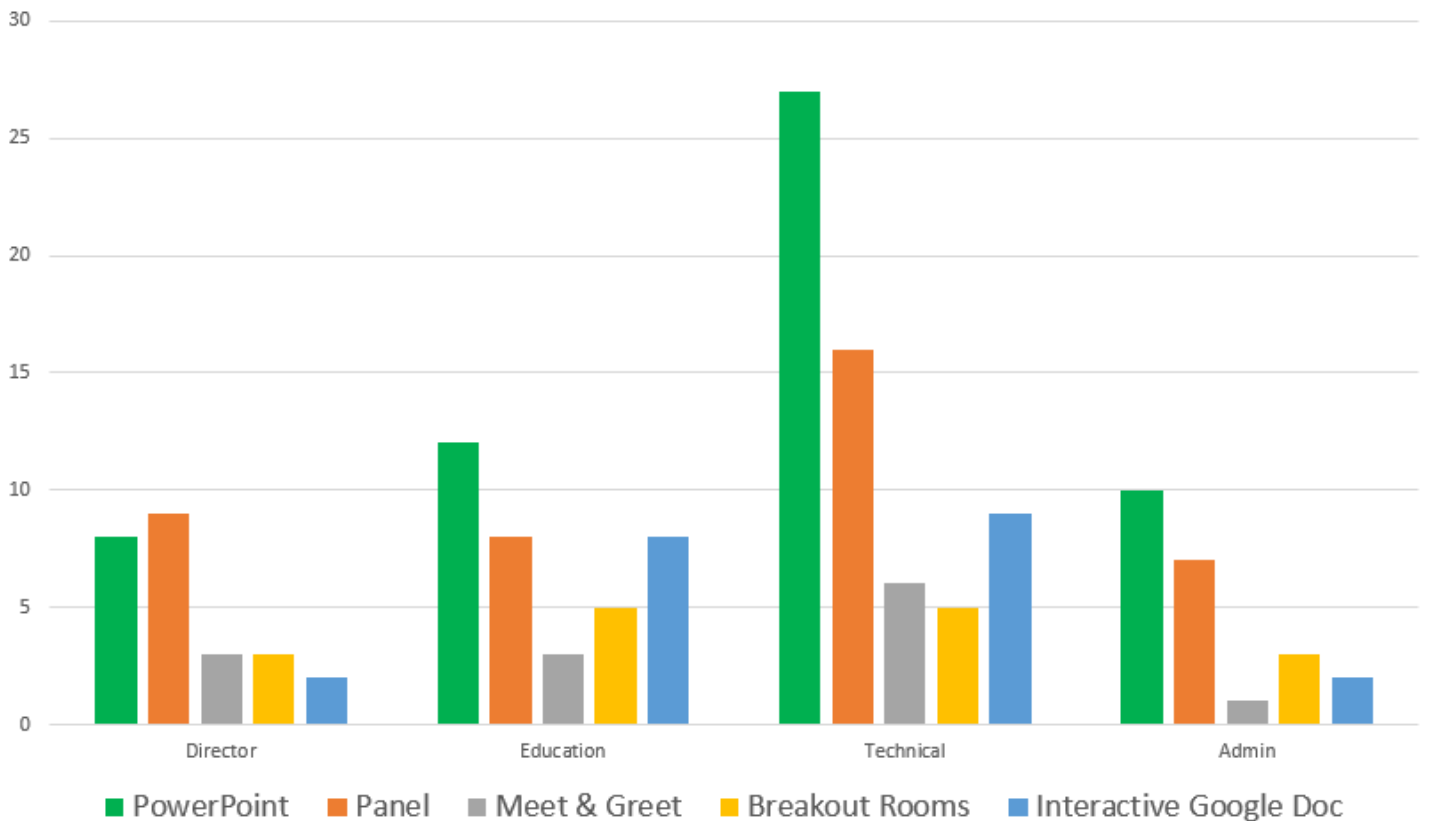
2020 VASWCD Virtual Training Blitz Feedback Responses

What training format would you prefer for future virtual trainings? (select all that apply)

45 responses



Preferred Presentation Style by Normal "Track" Taken at A.M.



2020 VASWCD Virtual Training Blitz Feedback Responses

Which of the following Trainings did you attend? *

Ag Waste Management- **17**
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion- **7**
New Employee Meet & Greet- **6**
Pasture Condition Score- **19**
Erosion Fundamentals (RUSLE2 Background); Assessing Sheet & Rill Erosion with RUSLE2 – **14**
Grazing Plan Development- **16**
Personnel Management Training-**12**
Education Outreach: COVID-19 Programming Shifts & Success Stories- **12**
Education Outreach: Water Conservation & Literature- **7**
VACS Program 101- **15**
Ensuring Your Conservation Efforts Live on: Legacy Planning for Farm & Forest Owners - **7**
Director Meet & Greet- **5**
Technical Part I (DNH AM Session): Virginia Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species Protection- **23**
Technical Part II (DWR PM Session): Virginia Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species Protection- **21**
Technical Part III (DHR Session): Virginia Cultural & Historic Resources Protection-**20**
VCAP: Identifying Resource Concerns, FAQ, & Local Funding Discussion-**13**
VASWCD Quarterly Board Meeting- **12**
VASWCD Annual Membership Meeting-**25**
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Training – Meets Code of VA Training Requirements-**19**
Partner Agency Panel Updates and Q&A- **17**
Legislative Training: Understanding the Legislative Process, the Work of your VASWCD & the SWCD Role and Impact- **14**
Marketing & Outreach: Maximizing Online Presence using the VASWCD Marketing Toolkit-**12**

Which training(s) did you find the most relevant or helpful? Why?

-I found all of them helpful in one way or another. I really enjoyed the Legislative Training as I had not participated in this before. The personnel management was informative. I missed the Education Outreach: Water Conservation and Literature but enjoyed reading the book and listened to some of it on YouTube.

-All were well organized and helpful. The Partner Agency briefing was one of the best I have attended, live or virtual. The Agency heads were able to have contributions from their staff, giving more information than usually in a live setting. It would be great to see all of them, though.

-I had never attended a personnel one so I got a lot out of it. Especially dealing with COVID issues. Second would be the grazing ones they did a great job going over everything and showing all of the forms and steps

-Pasture Condition Score & Grazing Plan Development - The information will be beneficial as we write grazing plans and discuss options with landowners who wish to better manage their pasture acres.

-Marketing & Outreach: Maximizing Online Presence using the VASWCD Marketing Toolkit because it is a long-lasting resource that will still be updated and evolve over time, lots of collaboration

-All of them were helpful. The most relevant was hearing about the survey about the Chesapeake Bay Voluntary BMP. It seems to be most relevant to what we do at the SWCD.

-VA Threatened and Endangered Species Review - I had not been able to take training on this subject before due to conflicts with my schedule. I found it most useful.

-All of the trainings I attended or watched the recording of were very informative and helpful. The trainings I observed were the most relevant to me.

2020 VASWCD Virtual Training Blitz Feedback Responses

- Ag Waste Training. The topics discussed were new and helped me understand the process of planning for waste storage structures a little better.
- The wealth of information presented by Chris Lawrence, J.B. Daniel and the DCR Engineering team in the Technical staff-gearred trainings.
- Pasture Condition Score, RUSLE2, Grazing Plan Management, and Marketing. These all pertain to the work I do/ I am interested in.
- Technical trainings that involve the use of tools or software because I use these regularly on the job and with/for customers.
- Grazing Plan Development was very informative and relevant with recent updates. Presenter was very knowledgeable.
- Ed Outreach with literature and Marketing because they both had a take away that I could utilize instantly.
- The DEI Training was the most relevant because of all of the issues in society today.
- Honestly, they all added something to my knowledge! They were all good stuff!!!!
- Parts 1 -3 of the Resource reviews because I had a number to do at that time
- PCS and Grazing Management-technical training to meet needs of producers
- Marketing excited for the new video training upcoming
- Mmbrship, FOIA, Partner Update, Legislative
- All. Good information in all of them.
- All were great for me since I am new
- Best Partner agency update in years
- VASWCD Annual Membership Meeting
- The Grazing and pasture scoring
- VCAP and Ag Waste trainings
- VCAP, Education, Marketing
- Technical Part I, II, III
- Grazing Plan Development
- Personnel Mgmt training
- Could not get in
- Diversity equity
- Personnel
- VCAP

2020 VASWCD Virtual Training Blitz Feedback Responses

-All.

Which training(s) did you find the most engaging? Why?

-The grazing, they were able to show forms and walk through the process instead of just a power point and reading off a slide. I was also surprised by the annual business meeting with all of the Directors how much back and forth there was and a lot of interaction with multiple people.

-The Director meet and greet. The virtual format worked well because folks were able to be heard by all without having a microphone in a large group. The setting was very relaxed, and I could have been on longer to listen to more.

-Ag Waste Training. I found the speakers (i.e. Ben Chester, Amanda Pennington) to be very engaging speakers and good teachers. They explain things really well and they keep the atmosphere of the training session fun and lite.

-all afforded engagement...best back and forth was at the membership mtg. I've been very impressed with the effectiveness of all...still believe it's best to meet in person for all but "lecture/ppt" formats.

-I like trainings with numerous real world examples and/or photos because they give me a clearer understanding of processes, tools or explanations for future public interactions

-I learned a lot during the 3 part tech training because I knew little about our partner organizations and how swcds are involved in helping conservation in that way.

-It was great attending the VASWCD Quarterly and Annual Membership meeting. Listening to the conversations and input from so many was informative and interesting.

-The ones I attended live were the most engaging. Otherwise it seemed like all of the trainings provided ample opportunity for Q/A.

-Education Outreach: COVID-19 Programming Shifts & Success Stories because I hadn't heard about some of the programs before

-Grazing Plan Development - The structure of JB's presentation made the information flow in a way that kept your attention.

-The legislative training. Ken Plum presented interesting info. Also, enjoyed the info on how a bill becomes a law.

-Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion speaker was very engaging and interactive! Presenter has great energy and attitude.

-The DEI and the Marketing trainings were very engaging because of the subject matter--very relevant to my work.

-The PCS training-very interested in topic and honing my skills to write grazing management plans

-All of the trainings that I attended were very good and I learned something from all of them.

-RUSLE2 was very informative, and the Marketing had good audience involvement and interest.

-Diversity equity Why The interaction with everybody it help improve Communication.

2020 VASWCD Virtual Training Blitz Feedback Responses

- Parts 1-3 of the Resource reviews because I needed the information at the time
- VCAP - had the best applicable photos, before and afters of real projects
- Legislative because it was something I need clarified.
- Legacy Planning - the speaker asked for input
- Erosion Training, Pasture Training
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- VCAP, Education, Marketing
- Very relevant to my work
- Director Meet & Greet
- Marketing & Outreach
- Partner Agency Panel
- Marketing - new area
- Same as above.
- Personnel

What future training topics would be beneficial for either you, or your District?

- Anything to finish Conservation Certification (new employee in November) and keep offering these trainings online it is awesome not to have to travel to get CEUs. I would love to do another Conservation Selling Skills but virtually. Would LOVE to do a solar LWS to hear who has used them and how they have worked
- Board development and Board self-assessment; District Manager-focused topics not just administrative (working with your local govt, engaging your board, best practices for managing or disciplining when you run a tiny staff); areas where SWCDs can coordinate and share resources (contracting for IT support?)
- Maybe something with identifying cover crop grass species (when they are small) verses weedy grass species that are not cover crop but could be confused. I've seen lots of weed like grass species on spot checks this year verses normal years but know what those grasses are.
- I think Districts really need further training and guidance in creating a Conservation Plan in the Tracking program. Myself and others who I have spoken with have been very frustrated in the whole process and there is still a lot we don't understand.
- Conservation Plan Writing (focusing on the narrative), Engineering (review of design tools (i.e., water system worksheet, stream crossing worksheet, etc)).
- Anything that promotes more knowledge for Directors about what our SWCD actually does and the impact it has on soil and water quality in Virginia.

2020 VASWCD Virtual Training Blitz Feedback Responses

- I know there's an entire school for Nutrient Management Planner certification, but what about applying the NM plans in the field?
- how to share/talk about our programs, outreach techniques, best practices for communication and communication tools
- Raingarden installation. I have been getting a lot of inquiries and have no real training in urban bmp's.
- Technical staff-gear training (especially because of no in-person, in-field trainings due to COVID)
- more engineering training and completing the designs the way engineering wants them completed.
- Engineering Design / Documentation Process. RUSLE 2. CREP Processes / Payments.
- More literature connections, engaging the community, reaching a younger audience
- More Urban Topics- just like Ag! Integration of education into other programs?
- I am looking forward to the training on making videos that is coming up.
- Additional animal waste, anything to do with livestock watering systems
- Board and staff relationships. SWCD Governance v SWCD Administration.
- Training on the BMP Manual EAN Process (Extreme Acts of Nature)
- Navigating and starting a You Tube Account, posting to you tube.
- I would like to know more about the Healthy Soils Initiative
- Program updates and continual technical/agronomic topics.
- Va budget, DCR budget, translation to District budgets
- Managing employees and programs in a virtual setting.
- Data management for community engagement
- Soil Management to improve pastures, Pasture Conditioning Score
- Motivation program for directors
- More engineering topics

Did you view any of the follow-up materials? (i.e. video recordings or shared presentations) If yes, please list which materials were most helpful.

- I watched a couple videos when I couldn't make it to the live trainings. The amazing education links have been great even if I can't get into schools yet. Also the grazing docs shared
- Not yet, but I want to do so. I especially want to see the rest of the legislative on that I didn't see all of because I had a conflicting meeting (at the last half hour)

2020 VASWCD Virtual Training Blitz Feedback Responses

- I plan to view the recording for the Marketing & Outreach: Maximizing Online Presence using the VASWCD Marketing Toolkit because I registered for it but missed it.
- Yes. All were very helpful. I hope to take a look at the material for the sessions I missed. Great to have the 'library' available.
- No, but I plan to go back review some of the training videos I missed (especially the RUSLE 2 training from Sept. 28th).
- I did listen to the Water Conservation & Literature and enjoyed the thoughts others attended shared with the group.
- Yes, it is nice to be able to review the list of materials when your schedule allows. (lots of responses like this)
- It was nice to have access to the power point presentations for various trainings.
- Very helpful to have recordings to view and to review
- Yes, the Ag Waste and VACS 101
- Yes - adding lasting information

Please offer any other feedback on the 2020 Virtual Training Sessions.

- Please allow planner credit for these webinars if you were not able to attend live. I'd be happy to answer 3-5 questions as proof that I watched the webinar to receive credit, just like the USDA NRCS Conservation Webinars process for receiving credit/certificate proving you watched the webinar. Everything being virtual now, it can be hard to make all the trainings you would like to live, so having the option to watch it later would be very beneficial. Thank you for your consideration of this and for everyone's efforts to adjust to this new season of work and trainings!
- I think the lineup of topics and the opportunity to view them if you couldn't attend live has been excellent and a great resource. I think it allows more folks to have the opportunity to attend, participate, review the trainings and other panels. Thank you for the hard work putting this together, it was well received and much appreciated!!
- Thank you so much for providing us training this past year. Although I am not always up to date on technology, I have really enjoyed the virtual trainings. It saves a lot of time. I would rather take a class for a few hours online than spend half a day or more traveling for a day class.
- In trainings it would be helpful to have the moderator ask all questions as some folks have difficulty keeping track of multiple things for several reasons. also if you get kicked off you lose your all your chat and possible answer. also some questions just dont get answered.
- It's been great! Really thankful for the effort and time everyone has made to provide these trainings to the districts and looking forward to more opportunities like this in 2021 and beyond until we're able to have in person trainings once again.
- Better than I imagined it could be. The convenience outweighs some of the negatives of not being in person. It is more difficult to interact in a virtual meeting and that is a loss, too. Hats off for the tremendous effort...much appreciated.

2020 VASWCD Virtual Training Blitz Feedback Responses

- I think this format was fantastic!! It seemed to enable so many more staff and Directors to participate that may not have previously participated due to cost, family/schedules, comfort level (new Directors and staff), etc.
- Overall I think it was good. Would be good to provide attendees a simple assignment (read an article, answer some questions about the topic, simple questionnaire ..) in advance and share who is on the call in a graph.
- I am really excited that these trainings were all recorded and are still available for viewing. Especially as we are bringing on new staff, it has been incredibly helpful to be able to refer them to these recordings.
- Very pleased with the quality and quantity of virtual training sessions that have been offered. Excellent coordination between the partners & have heard positive feedback from directors and district staff.
- Even after the pandemic many topics could be covered by the same format. This is a convenient, reduces travel time, and allows for a presentation to go back to for review.
- Doing great, virtual trainings and meetings make it easier for people to access and can get new employees trained much quicker then waiting for so many in person trainings
- I enjoyed all of the training, the way it was spaced out was beneficial. I was able to attend more sessions due to it being virtual as if we had done it live.
- This has been a wonderful opportunity and I think it has made it so much easier to have all of this training that is so accessible. I look forward to more!
- I am so grateful for the flexibility of these trainings being virtual and recorded! I know it took a lot of planning and work behind the scenes.
- You all did an absolutely amazing job taking this challenge on and executing it (seemingly) flawlessly! Thank you all!
- Given the current circumstances, I thought the trainings I attended were well done and well organized. Thank you.
- Good job getting these trainings out so quickly and helping us to keep up with our trainings and certifications!
- Good work given the virus climate. Keeps things moving. We are not hibernating because of the virus.
- Virtual Trainings fill a void , they are no substitute for in-person and one on one trainings.
- No more virtual sessions. Face to face. Starring at a computer screen is not very engaging
- Figuring out how to do informal virtual events for peer sharing would be great
- Thankful to have them with the COVID...looking forward to in person meetings
- Please make sure we get plenty of notice for when these occur.
- It was better than nothing and I appreciate the efforts.
- Excellent training option for a very difficult year!
- They provided opportunity for more people to attend