

# Josh Walker

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**Experienced in diversified crop and livestock farming working in conservation to assist landowners in implementing Best Management Practices through technical assistance, Virginia Agricultural Cost Share, and as Administrator of awarded National Fish and Wildlife Fund grants.**

## EXPERIENCE

### Shenandoah Valley SWCD- Conservation Engineering Technician

**6/25/20-Present**

#### Accomplishments

Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner #911  
Certified DCR Conservation Planner  
Certified Resource Management Planner  
DCR Engineering Job Approval Authority  
2023 VACS Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Animal Waste Subcommittee Proxy for VSDA & VACDE  
Co-writer of NFWF 2022 “Expanding Manure Injection as a Standard Application Method on Virginia Dairy Farms”  
Speaker at 5/5/22 Cashing Up-Ag Production Field Day

#### Daily Roles

- Survey, design, and construction overview with Contractors, Private Engineers, DCR Engineers and Landowners to insure projects are designed and implemented to DCR/NRCS Standards
- Manure injection outreach and education to farmers
- Review of Manure Injection (NM-6) practice participants cost-share
- Administer 2020 NFWF Manure Injection grant to meet manure injection grant acreage goals
- Collaborating with Sustainable Chesapeake as the V.E.E. grant holder for complimentary manure injection grant

### Headwaters SWCD- Conservation Technician

**4/12/18-6/15/20**

#### Accomplishments

Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner #911  
Speaker at Vantage No-till Conference 2/18/20, Harrisonburg, Va  
Speaker at 2/5/20 Permitted Livestock Operations, Rocky Mount, Va  
Speaker at 1/14/20 Professional Crop Advisors Meeting, Weyers Cave, Va  
DCR Engineering Job Approval Authority  
2020 VACS Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Animal Waste Subcommittee Voting Member  
2020 TAC Voting Member  
2019 NFWF Grant recipient "Increasing Manure Injection Opportunity and Adoption in Virginia", project # 65455.  
Created and collaborated on VACS 2020 NM-6 Manure Injection Practice and Specification  
Drafted ‘Manure Separation’ be made a cost-shareable option within VACS 2021. Passed DCR TAC process.  
Wrote 2020 NFWF SWIG (grant) ‘Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Operations at the Augusta County Correctional Center’- collaborating with DONR, VDOC, NRCS, DOF, JRA, DEQ, CBF and others to fence state owned cattle from waterways.

#### Daily Roles

- Working with Contractors, Private Engineers, DCR Engineers and Landowners to size, plan, construct and conduct as-built review to DCR/NRCS Standards.
- Lead Technician with farmer applications for DEQ BMP Loans with over \$2 million of approvals from July 2019-Present
- Lead Technician for correspondence, requests, and updating for Mercury Trustees; Ann Jennings and Anne Condon
- Collaborating with Sustainable Chesapeake for overlapping grants needed to allow for manure injection equipment purchase
- Logistics, financial and field planning with Lewis Horst, Shen Valley Customs for manure injection grant goals

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## Skills- (Trained and Proficient)

- Nutman 3.0
- Autocad Civil 3D
- Geographic Information Systems
- FieldDoc
- Easygrants
- DCR Tracking Conservation Plan Module
- DCR Tracking Resource Management Plan Module
- DCR Tracking Nutrient Management Plan Module
- DCR Tracking BMP Module
- Trimble survey interface
- Microsoft Excel and Office Suite

## Walker Dairy at Oak Grove Meadows, Marshall, VA

3/1/2009-4/1/2018

### Management/Owner

- Leased Dairy facility and 800 acres of farm land from two entities.
- Milked, fed, and managed manure/waste of 200 custom raised heifers and 300 owned dairy animals
- Managed and incorporated a bedded pack barn daily
- Managed 40 head pastured swine and layer operation
- Managed employees, finances, bookkeeping, equipment service, soil fertility, planting, and harvesting

### Conservation as a farmer

- Fenced 6 miles for stream bank protection, creating 67 acres of riparian protection
- Installed culverts for dairy lanes, cattle and equipment stream crossings
- Planted riparian areas to willows, poplar, sycamore, oaks, pines, varying in size from 'whips' to 'balled and burlap'
- Stabilized a large pond drainage ditch with drainage tile, trenching, grading, and backfilling with Riprap stone
- Designed, fabricated, and implemented a portable cattle walk-thru biting fly trap, minimizing pesticides and beneficial insect mortality
- Maintained EQIP rotational grazing and laneways
- Converted existing canary grass waste filter system to 60'x12' manure holding tank
  - Determined grey water versus septic for undocumented drainage system
  - Created gutter, downspout, drainage for barn rainwater
  - Worked with engineer to develop pumping station for parlor waste to manure holding tank
  - Coordinated demolition crew hired for rock removal (explosives)

## Experience or Work History or Professional Experience

Walker Dairy, Grottoes, Virginia

2006 – 2009

## EDUCATION

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Dairy Science Major

2004-2006

Blue Ridge Community College

2003

Fort Defiance High School Graduate

2002