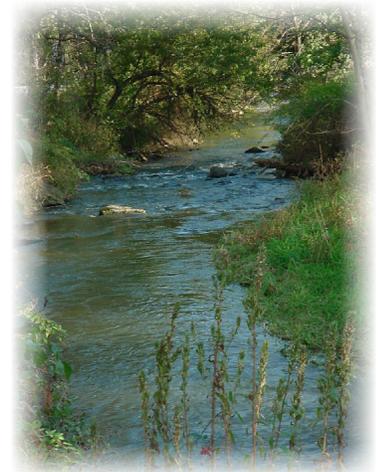


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ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE CONSERVATION
& DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS



MAKING THINGS HAPPEN IN THE KEYSTONE STATE

2006

PA RC&D Loses a Good Friend



The Pennsylvania Association of RC&D (PARC&D) Councils lost a good friend and dedicated conservationist in 2006 with the passing of Dick Rice. Dick passed away peacefully on April 29, 2006 doing one of the things he loved most: farming. The five-term Commissioner from Bedford County was known across Pennsylvania as a true believer in the power of the RC&D Program. Dick Rice was a founding member in 1988, of the Southern Alleghenies Resource Conservation and Development Council during his first term as County Commissioner, and Director of the Bedford County Conservation District. He served as Chairman of the RC&D Council for most of the organization's existence. Dick served as Vice President of the PARC&D Councils, and was active in the Mid-Atlantic Association of RC&D Councils.

Under his leadership, the Southern Alleghenies RC&D Council adopted and implemented many innovative resource conservation and development projects that addressed some of the region's greatest challenges including: abandoned mine drainage, sustainable agriculture, alternative wastewater management, farmland protection, and historic preservation. Dick Rice was a dedicated conservationist and a passionate protector of the natural resources in his community and the region. His style of leadership, by example, and his eternal optimism are the ways by which he will always be remembered.

Vision of the Pennsylvania Association of Resource Conservation & Development Councils, Inc.

We will serve, and promote Resource Conservation and Development Councils by nurturing partnerships and by providing innovative and dynamic leadership. The result will be an excellent quality of life in Pennsylvania and a strengthened ability to be responsible for the environment

2006 Officers:

President – Jack M. Preston (Penn Soil RC&D)
Vice President - Dave Shenk, III (Community Partnerships RC&D)
Secretary - Ron K. Beam (Capital RC&D)
Treasurer - Paul R. Sell, Jr. (Southeastern RC&D)
Member at Large - Robert Hughes (Pocono Northeast RC&D)

www.parc.org

Jack M. Preston, President:

As president of the Pennsylvania State Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils, it is my pleasure to introduce the annual report of our State Association and the nine RC&D Councils working together to make Pennsylvania a better place to live, work, and recreate. RC&D is a truly unique program, giving local people not just a voice to express their needs and problems, but also the ability to determine what the solutions and opportunities for improvement are, and even some of the resources needed to make it happen!



This past year was a successful one on several fronts. As you look over the featured projects and highlights of each RC&D Council, it should become apparent to you that RC&D is alive and well, serving the needs of local people all across our state. It is also noteworthy that nationally, the RC&D program continues to suffer through massive budget cut attempts in the President's proposed budget for the past three years. This year, the President's budget proposal included only \$14 million for RC&D and called for only one coordinator per state.

Across the state of Pennsylvania and across the country as well, RC&D Councils and the people that we serve continue to send a message to Congress that gutting a successful program is not the answer to budget problems caused by the war on terrorism. As I write this, Congress has not yet settled the budget issues, but hopefully the voice of RC&D supporters requesting that funding be restored to \$56,000,000 has been heard, and we can go back to focusing our attention on our mission and working with our partners to improve our local communities.

In summary, I would like to personally thank the volunteer council members and staff of each RC&D Council, the citizens who took the time to get involved by writing or calling their congressional leaders, and the members of Congress who heeded the message, and supported funding for the RC&D program. I also would like to thank all of the Council members, Council staff, and RC&D Coordinators that are participating in helping to plan and deliver the 2007 Mid-Atlantic RC&D Annual Meeting to be held on September 16th -19th in Grantville, PA. I know that many hours of your time are needed to work through this planning process, and I appreciate your dedicated efforts to make this a quality event that Pennsylvania RC&D can be proud of. I look forward to continuing to work with you and our many partners to carry out a wide variety of successful future RC&D projects. Working together, we know that RC&D really can and does make a difference in our communities. **Keep up the good work!**

Gary P. Smith, USDA – NRCS RC&D Program Manager:

RC&D Councils in Pennsylvania bring a diversity of projects that fit well with local community development and natural resource needs throughout the state. Councils are to be commended for taking the initiative to analyze the issues through their long range and annual planning processes and then finding funding sources to meet these needs. The array of projects is impressive and the benefits to the communities the Councils serve are endless.

RC&D is administered by the U.S.D.A. and is financially supported by NRCS with a Coordinator, part-time administrative assistant, office space, and a vehicle. Coordinators provide technical assistance to Councils in seeking funding and carrying out Council projects. With an outstanding group of Coordinators in Pennsylvania, we are better able to provide the technical assistance needed to respond to the Council leadership.

This past year has brought new leadership to NRCS in Pennsylvania with the appointment of Craig Derickson as State Conservationist. As with his predecessor, the State Conservationist remains a strong supporter of the RC&D program.

We in NRCS appreciate the time and energy that Council members working as volunteers put into this program. The accomplishments so well documented in this report could not have happened without this outstanding partnership.

Turning Ideas into Reality The RC&D Council

Over 40 years ago, Congress established a unique program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture that empowered rural people to help themselves. The USDA focus was to assist local people by providing tools and technical support to stabilize and grow their own communities while protecting and developing natural resources. To carry out the RC&D concept, diverse groups of local volunteers (The RC&D Council) are brought together in a unique partnership to find solutions to their problems. Local people are best able to determine needs and create solutions for their Community. The focus on local direction and control has made RC&D one of the most successful rural development programs of the Federal Government. The focus of the program provides for the sustainability of local economies and resources.

Why RC&D?

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils play an important role in the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources. RC&D Councils work to improve the general level of economic



activity and to enhance the environment and standard of living in all communities. Councils provide a system of rural development to encourage the wise use of natural resources, and improve the quality of life in America.

- ▶ Congress created this public/private partnership as a way of engaging local leaders to promote their local economy by leveraging limited federal dollars.
- ▶ Councils provide a focal point of local leadership and bring together private citizens and local, state and federal agencies to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area.
- ▶ RC&D Councils have proven ability and strength of leadership to engage and accomplish projects from the local to the national level.
- ▶ The USDA Secretary of Agriculture has designated 375 RC&D Areas. Designated RC&D Areas serve 85% of U.S. counties. Currently 25 more areas have pending applications to become a designated RC&D area.
- ▶ The average RC&D Area covers 7 counties and the average RC&D Council has 14 sponsors. Nearly half of the Councils' members are locally elected officials such as mayors, judges, or commissioners. All Council members serve as volunteers.
- ▶ RC&D activates community support for over 180 million people in 2,614 counties in all 50 states, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Basin.
- ▶ RC&D Councils successfully leveraged the RC&D appropriation 8 to 1 to directly support conservation and economic development in local communities across the nation.
- ▶ All RC&D Councils have Area Plans defining their goals and objectives. Councils serve as a conduit for USDA Programs that assist in Area Plan implementation.
- ▶ Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides a full-time coordinator for each authorized RC&D Council.

2006 Statewide Projects

Weed Control/Wildlife Habitat Technical Assistance Project



The RC&D Councils across the Commonwealth have embarked on a statewide project to provide technical assistance to landowners enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The goals of the project are to provide education and outreach to those enrolled in CREP on weed control and wildlife habitat issues through the use of educational fact sheets, articles, workshops, field days, demonstration plots, and one-on-one talks. The Councils will provide oversight in conjunction with other agencies, organizations, and individuals along with the technical assistance.

This project's objectives include producing five fact sheets specifically addressing wildlife habitat and the identification and management of multiflora rose, Canada thistle, purple loosestrife, and Japanese knotweed. Other objectives include the production of a *Landowner Guide to Buffer Success* for forested riparian buffers, and *Weed Management in CREP Grasslands* for upland grass plantings.

The one-on-one technical assistance will include a review and explanation of the CREP contract, contractual obligations and requirements, maintenance regimes, wildlife habitat enhancement, and weed identification and management methods. The one-on-one help is available to all landowners enrolled in CREP and will be available until September 30, 2007.



Consortium for Scientific Assistance to Watersheds (C-SAW)

The Consortium for Scientific Assistance to Watersheds (C-SAW) has developed and implemented a successful capacity-building model that provides programmatic and technical assistance to address local water quality concerns across the state. The willingness of private citizens to take action to protect and restore local streams, as evidenced by the many groups contacting C-SAW providers, is having an effect on the water quality and streams in the Commonwealth.

The groups helped through the C-SAW program includes watershed associations, lake associations, municipalities, and other organizations targeting both long-term and short-term assistance as well as quality assurance/quality control needs of an area.



C-SAW is guided and administered by Pennsylvania's RC&D Councils with the help of service providers collaborating and enhancing the group's programmatic and technical skills to monitor, protect, and restore PA's waterways for the long term. The following are members of the consortium: The Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, PA Lake Management Society, Stroud Water Research Center, Inc., USDA-NRCS, the United States Geological Survey, Western PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, and Wilkes University.

Dry Hydrants for Rural Fire Protection

A dry fire hydrant is a non-pressurized system that consists of a hydrant head where a fire truck can attach its hose to draw water, a piping system to a water source (lake, pond, river, stream, etc.), and a strainer placed within the water source at a sufficient depth for adequate water withdrawal. The RC&D Councils across the Commonwealth have been working with fire companies, municipalities, home owners' associations, and landowners to site, design, and install dry hydrants in rural areas for fire protection.

Fire damage to structures and properties results in thousands of dollars of damage each and every year. Many rural areas do not have the adequate infrastructure for municipal water systems or pressurized fire hydrants, thus the dry hydrant program is a necessary program for these communities and areas. Everyone benefits from the fire protection that dry hydrants provide, and some can even realize lower insurance premiums as a direct result of the program. The project is targeting the installation of 360 dry hydrants across the Commonwealth.



Many of the 360 dry hydrants have been installed and are currently serving to protect local rural communities. Several fire companies have used the hydrants for fighting fires, and have expressed gratitude to the RC&D Council's for their efforts.

Capital RC&D



The Capital RC&D No-Till Initiative:

The Capital RC&D has been supporting the promotion of a “continuous no-till system” approach for several years now. This low-cost agricultural BMP helps to maintain sediment and nutrients on land, and is being touted as one of the most effective ways to reduce agricultural impacts on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. In 2006, the program took a new direction that led us to the multiple projects described below.

PA No-Till Alliance - We have been supporting the development of the PA No-Till Alliance since 2004, which is a farmer-led effort to support no-till methods. Thanks to collaboration with our partners (NRCS, Penn State Extension, and PA DEP) we have now been able to fund a full-time Statewide No-Till Coordinator to provide assistance to the Alliance and local partners throughout the state. We are also working with several county-based farmer groups to increase the peer-to-peer exchange as an effective means of facilitating learning and behavior change from conventional to no-till methods.



Park the Plow Program - This regional project provides technical assistance and education to individual producers with a goal of promoting farmer transition to a no-till system. The program has been increased in its funding and an expanded scope will increase the counties served to nine counties with potential for up to 10,000 acres to be enrolled for assistance. Farmers who would like cost-share payments, in conjunction with the transition planning assistance, are being directed to EQIP and other county-based programs. In addition to the program assistance, the Capital RC&D has been able to provide funds to Penn State Cooperative Extension and county conservation districts for field days, staff/farmer trainings and other outreach activities.

Vision Statement:

“Healthy Communities in Harmony with the Natural Environment”

Mission Statement:

“The Capital Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Council, Inc. is a seven county non-profit organization that networks people, resources and projects to promote responsible use and conservation of our region’s natural, community and economic resources.”

Look Beyond The Field You are Standing In This 2006 training session was designed for Conservation District, NRCS, and Extension personnel to learn about the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), Zoning, Comprehensive Plans, Subdivision and Land Development Plans, and Stormwater. We hope that this effort increased understanding of municipal regulations and assisted them in serving their clients.

Claremont Community Gardens Program

This series of therapeutic/intergenerational gardens at the Claremont Nursing and Rehab Center in Cumberland County is a partnership effort with Penn State Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners Program. To date, a resident vegetable garden has been installed in which the residents can interact with youth groups, grow produce, and host meals at the Center utilizing their products. Other program areas being planned are a children’s garden, a “Birds and Butterflies” garden and a sensory garden, all focused on enhancing the residents’ lives and bringing the community and resident families in contact with the elderly and disabled patients living there.



Taste the Gifts of our Region



Data collection for a guide to agritourism and cultural amenities in the Capital RC&D region was completed during 2006. The final product will highlight local agricultural business and tourism opportunities intending strengthen the agricultural economy of the region by

increasing visits to local farm markets, wineries, and farm stays and B&B’s. A funding strategy for the guide was developed in order to fund a print and web-based version of the guide in 2007.

Regional Riparian Initiative Funding through the state’s Chesapeake Bay Program enables Capital RC&D to provide cost share funds for riparian fencing projects on livestock farms located within the South Central Project Grass region. Scope changes are proposed for implementation in 2007 to better reflect funding needs identified by conservation district personnel and the project steering committee. The program already provides funds for fencing on rotational grazing projects, but we strive to also provide funds for additional best management practices on other agricultural lands.

SouthCentral Buy Fresh, Buy Local

Capital RC&D partnered with the PA Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA) to lead this consumer awareness campaign in south central Pennsylvania. The campaign promotes consumption of local farm products as well as raises awareness of the benefits to individuals and communities associated with buying locally-produced food. It makes use of a logo and materials developed for use throughout the state and country to create a nationally-recognizable brand distinguishing local products. A business plan was developed and several successful promotional activities were undertaken in 2006. The campaign steering committee also set the stage for 2007 with initial planning for a Consumers Guide and a regional “Buy Fresh Buy Local Week.”



Goals:

- ✓ Promote Long Range Regional Planning
- ✓ Recognize Water Resources as a Critical Regional Issue
- ✓ Perpetuate the Conservation of Open Space, Farmlands and Natural Areas
- ✓ Enhance Agricultural Sustainability and Development
- ✓ Grow the Capacity of the Capital RC&D



Counties Served: Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York

Capital Resource Conservation & Development Council
 108-109 Church Hall, Penn State Harrisburg, 777 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057
 Phone: (717) 948-6633 * Fax: (717) 948-6306
www.capitalrcd.org



Community Partnerships RC&D

PA Partners In the Arts Program

Community Partnerships RC&D has been involved in the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts program for a few years and is excited to say the program has grown each year. In 2006, the RC&D awarded \$52,318 to more than thirty applicants. The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts has thirteen partners in the state who administer the grant and the RC&D is one of those partners. The main goal and mission of the grant is to foster and promote access to arts experiences for all the people of Pennsylvania by supporting the artists, arts organizations, and infrastructures that deliver these experiences. Through this grant, money can reach smaller organizations, events, and individuals who showcase talent and art for small communities that may not have access to larger cultural arenas. The RC&D has been able to fund festivals, dance recitals, arts workshops, concerts, film festivals, and many other wonderful events. These events are held in the Community Partnerships RC&D region of Central Pennsylvania and benefit many rural areas that have limited access to the arts.

When applicants attend the workshops and request an application, they are given information on invasive and native species to make them aware of problems with invasives, and how to replenish their area with native species. Those applicants who are awarded a grant are asked to plant a native tree to show the ties between the arts and nature. This program has been very successful, and many applicants have ceremonies to showcase the planting and invite their legislators and local media. Most of the trees are planted in parks, at local libraries, and other community-oriented areas for all people to enjoy.

“Pride in Community; Partnerships in Action”

Community Partnerships RC&D has been hosting a very successful “Show Me the Money” © Grant Writing Workshop twice a year. The grant workshop is facilitated by Denise Schlegel, who serves as an independent contractor, trainer, facilitator, speaker and consultant at the state and national level. Her goal is to assist non-profit organizations, coalitions and their communities in the areas of organizational development, capacity building, strategic planning, partnership development and grant writing training. She is the author of the training manual used in the class and provides one to five day training workshops on grant writing and works with nonprofits to facilitate grant applications.

The workshops are held in the spring and fall each year, and are located in the Union County Government Center in Lewisburg, PA. The classes are usually made up of attendees from local governments, emergency services, non-profits, health organizations and medical facilities; to name a few. The material covered in the week includes

grant terminology, budgets, preparing for grant writing, elements of a good proposal, key components, and more. The class is great for the grant writing newcomer or for the veteran polishing their skills, and covers grant writing from beginning to end. The classes have been very popular and are being marketed statewide to government, healthcare industries, schools, nonprofits, community organizations, emergency and law enforcement, museums and faith based initiatives.



Mission:

The mission of Community Partnerships RC&D is to address the long term needs of the Community by promoting arts, culture, and asset-based/sustainable use of human and other natural resources.

Goals:

- Community Improvement
- Economic Enhancement
- Human and Natural Resource Sustainability
- Leadership Development



Serving: Juniata, Mifflin, Perry, Snyder, and Union Counties

Community Partnership RC&D

23 North Main Street
Lewistown, PA 17044
Phone: 717-248-4901

<http://msrcd.cas.psu.edu>



Flood Summits

Many of regions of Pennsylvania have experienced flooding at least one time or another. Some areas of the Endless Mountains RC&D region have experienced severe flooding more than six times in the last four years. Everyone is frustrated with the inconvenience and recovery process, and each new flood brings back the same old problems with some brand new ones, which result in millions of dollars of assistance needed to restore homes, businesses, and lives. The traditional ways of dealing with stormwater, floodplain management, and flooding aren't working and are too expensive to support. In the wake of the June 2006 flood that hit the eastern counties of the region, Endless Mountain RC&D Council developed a new goal of developing projects that will enable people to be more pro-active to flooding.

With this new goal, came a new way of thinking for the Council and Watershed Committee. Collectively we needed to figure out how to get this new thinking to the decision-makers in the region. The Council has put together a plan for holding three Flood Summits in the six-county region.

The Flood Summits are designed to walk a participant through understanding stream dynamics and function, explaining why streams flood and how traditional maintenance can negatively impact the stream and its surroundings. Each Summit will highlight recent flood events that have occurred, demonstrate the cumulative damage assessments to each county, and what that means to taxpayers. Presenters will discuss the need for change in everyone's thinking that streams aren't a liability, but a valuable resource which we all have to



protect, embrace, and manage responsibly. Each county and municipality will receive a Flood Toolbox which will contain valuable information on Stormwater Management, Floodplain Management, Stream/Watershed Management, Disaster Response, Hazard Mitigation, and Other Resources. Each Toolbox will contain hanging files for floodplain maps and related ordinances. Many of the resources that are available online or are too large to print, will be put on a Resource CD, so all of the information needed to make informed decisions can be located in the same place.

The remainder of the day will focus on holding roundtable discussions about what participants see as the biggest obstacles to stormwater and floodplain management and identify other information they need to be more proactive to flooding. The purpose of the roundtable discussions is to identify information gaps, lack of understanding of ordinances, programs, and policies; and lack of tools available to decision-makers. This information will be used by the RC&D Council and the Watershed Committee to further develop related projects or programs to fill the gaps.



Ultimately the hope of the Endless Mountains RC&D Council is to motivate attendees to think beyond the immediate need and consider the consequences if the wrong decision is made.

CURRENT PROJECTS:

Adopt-a-Food Plot

EMRCD is working with PA Quality Deer Management (QDMA), four local branches of QDMA, National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF), Ruffed Grouse Society, PA Game Commission, and PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources-Bureau of Forestry on a regional Adopt-a-Food Plot project. The Council is developing a regional approach with the local branches/chapters and public land managers to identify areas on state land that could benefit from the enhancement or installation of a food plot for wildlife and develop strategies for continued monitoring and maintenance of the food plots installed through this program. This project will create acres of wildlife habitat for both game and non-game species.

Many of the local branches of QDMA and NWTF have already established habitat improvement programs on a small scale, but the effort is in building a strong, regional partnership and program to expand the impact of establishing food plots and to assist the state agencies who are in need of support due to lack of funding and manpower.

Some specific objectives for this project include: increase forage availability for wildlife, increase visibility of wildlife, spur the educational process of linking deer management to quality habitat and teaching hunters about the various components of habitat, provide a demonstration to private landowners, and promote stewardship and ownership among conservation organizations involved in the project.

A goal of the committee is to develop this program regionally and eventually promoting it for expansion statewide.

Connecting Forest Buffers and Rotational Grazing

EMRCD partnered with Chesapeake Bay Foundation, NE Project Grass, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bradford County Conservation Districts and farmers in the Sugar, Towanda, Wysox, and Wyalusing Creek watersheds in installing riparian buffers, fencing of streams and wetlands, interior fencing, water systems and other BMP's on farms practicing rotational grazing with an interest in expanding their grazing capacity and converting to rotational grazing.

Through this project we were able to install practices which resulted in thirty acres of wetlands set aside and nearly seven miles of riparian buffers installed. Several of these projects supplemented practices installed through USDA's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), so the farmers could install fencing or plant buffers in areas not eligible or go beyond the maximum allowed by CREP.



"The Endless Mountains Resource Conservation and Development Council will lead a diverse group of stakeholders in the sound conservation and stewardship of the region's natural resources. The Council will promote the rural quality of life and its economic stability through organizational efforts, education of communities, technical expertise, and sponsorship of projects."



Counties Served: Bradford, Lycoming, Susquehanna,
Sullivan, Tioga, and Wyoming

Endless Mountains RC&D Council

RR#5, Box 5030-D, Towanda, PA 18848-9354 * Phone: 570-265-5288 ext. 5

www.endlessmountainsrcd.org

Headwaters RC&D



Working together to provide innovative leadership through projects and partnerships that develop or enhance sustainable cultural, environmental, and economic well-being...

Partnerships - Reaching Out to Old and New Friends

In 2006, the Headwaters RC & D (HRCD) made a concerted effort to develop new and redevelop old partnerships in order to better serve the residents of north central Pennsylvania.

Council Sponsors

Having lost the NRCS Coordinator and its own Natural Resource Specialist, HRCD had faced the necessity of relying upon support staff for continuity as it ended the previous year and began the new. The support staff rose to the occasion by assisting the interim Coordinator and filling-in to complete quarterly and annual technical reports.

Unable to make a quorum for over half a year with the prospect of a third meeting failing to make a quorum, the Council began to rediscover itself. Working with the new Coordinator and the support staff, the Council recommitted itself to overseeing existing and developing new projects under its annual plan.

The new Coordinator visited Council sponsors and partners - Conservation Districts, Planners and Planning Commissions, and County Commissioners – in order to re-establish the network of sponsors. Additional contacts were developed with those who expressed interest in the Council and its activities.

Headwaters Charitable Trust

Similar to the Council, the Trust had experienced difficulties arising from the disruptions that affected the Council. The first-ever Joint Committee of the Whole was held to re-acquaint the Council and the Trust with each other in order to better facilitate information exchange and cooperation. This is expected to continue into the future.

VISTA – Corporation for National & Community Service

In order to accelerate partnership building and to develop the capacity of the Council and its friends, HRCD developed a Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) project for as many as thirteen volunteers in the Headwaters area. The VISTA volunteers will help develop capacity of their host organizations and assist directly or indirectly with bettering the residents' standard of living through their conservation-oriented activities.



Toward the end of the year, volunteers were first placed at the *Quiet Creek Herb Farm for Sustainable Living* (pictured at top) with Claire and Rusty Orner – certified environmental educators for grades K-12 who also provide classes in sustainable living for adults. In the end of the following year, the remaining positions will be filled with other partner organizations, such as the Western Pennsylvania Watershed Association, area Conservation Districts, Headwaters RC&D, Allegheny National Forest and, possibly, with boroughs through the Clarion River initiative of DCNR.

Planning – A Foundation for the Future

The Council re-established key committees to review projects as part of developing an updated five-year Area Plan. Combined with partner input, a new plan emerged that would seek greater involvement of students, businesses, and individuals as it began to shift to contemporary goals that expanded to include alternative energy, expansion of sustainable agricultural/forestry practices, and a focus on assisting the Trust in developing long-term investments and endowments that could fund Council-Trust activities.

Working together...

Rail-Trails

Snow Shoe- Gillentown

Continuing its long-term commitment to a regional trail system, HRC D and HCT obtained a PA-DCNR grant of \$ 100,000 to improve the Gillentown Trailhead. Restrooms, a pavilion, loading ramps, landscaping, and pedestrian access ways will greatly improve the well-used entryway. The very active volunteer group will do most of the work. This grant is the



latest in a series of projects done in cooperation with the Snow Shoe Rail Trail Association (SSRTA)

Boondocs

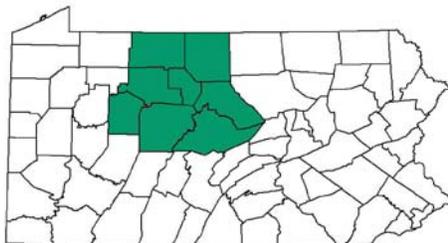
Juvenile Probation Stream Restoration Project

HRC D partnered with McKean County Juvenile Probation and Fish & Boat Commission to use PA DEP grant monies to assist with a stream restoration project along the Tungungwant River behind the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford.

Planned or In the Works

- New opportunities to clean up acid/alkaline mine/wellhead seeps working with area watershed groups, the US Office of Surface Mining and the PA Department of Environmental Protection
- Expansion of No-Till working with Agricultural specialists, the No-Till Council, the No-Till Coordinator, NRCS, and PSU
- Identifying biomass production and distribution pathways and hubs to work with a proposed fuel producers cooperative
- Snow Shoe Viaduct safety repairs and renovation

- Ongoing assistance to NRCS, PSU and Conservation Districts in the planning and production of the NW Pennsylvania Grazing Conference
- Dry Hydrants – continued to locate dry hydrants as part of a Penn Soil RC&D



HRC D Request for Assistance:

Organization:

Contact Name:

Phone:

Email:

Project Sponsor:

- Conservation District
- Planning Commission
- County Commission
- At-large member

County (or member name):

Provide a proposed project description on a separate piece of paper.

Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter Counties

Headwaters RC&D Council

478 Jeffers Street, Building 3, Suite D, DuBois, PA 15801-2438

Phone: 814-375-1372 ext. 4

HeadwatersPA.org (under construction)

Penn Soil RC&D

Allegheny GeoTrail

Penn Soil RC&D is partnering with the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry, and Tourism to develop and implement The Allegheny GeoTrail Project, an innovative new concept to increase tourism benefits in a ten county area of north western and north central Pennsylvania. The project utilizes the growing interest in a relatively new outdoor sport for people of all ages called *Geocaching* to provide increased tourism benefits to ten counties which comprise the Allegheny National Forest and its gateway communities. The project is funded by a \$234,200 Economic Development grant from the U.S. Forest Service.

Within the north western and north central part of Pennsylvania, you will find more than two million acres of



public lands set aside for natural resource management and the public's enjoyment. The ten county project area (Cameron, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Forest, Jefferson, McKean, Potter, Venango, and Warren counties) includes the Allegheny National Forest, a portion of the PA Wilds Region, and it also encompasses several State Heritage Areas, and the Oil Region National Heritage

Area. Teeming with wildlife, historical attractions, and beautiful scenic views, the area offers unlimited recreational and educational opportunities.

Geocaching is an entertaining outdoor adventure game for Global Positioning System (GPS) users in which the



participants seek out hidden geocaches by navigating to certain GPS coordinates provided by the person who hid the cache. The coordinates are obtained from a website on the Internet and down-loaded

into a GPS unit. Participating in geocaching is a good way to take advantage of the features and capabilities of a GPS unit, but it is also a great way for people to navigate their way to

find noteworthy attractions and hidden areas that might not be readily found by those casually passing through.

Geocaching combines the love of the outdoors, hiking, sightseeing, wildlife watching, and nature study with the innovative electronic gadgetry of a GPS to result in a high tech treasure hunt enjoyed by young and old alike. More and more people are spending their free time, weekends, and vacations geocaching. The Allegheny GeoTrail is actually a network of roads that will carry visitors across the ten county region in pursuit of special hidden geocaches which contain a unique numbered self-inking stamp that participants will use to validate their Allegheny GeoTrail Passports.



Project volunteers in each county have placed between 10-20 Allegheny GeoTrail caches for participants to seek which will bring visitors into proximity of tourism destinations and special attractions of each county. Participants must find a minimum of six of the GeoTrail caches to get their passports validated and are rewarded with a specially minted Allegheny GeoTrail commemorative coin specific to each county. These coins tend to be highly sought after collector items by geocachers.



The project is expected to generate an estimated \$400,000 in annual tourism benefits to the regional economy by drawing over a thousand geocaching visitors a year to enjoy the project area.



VALUE ADDED DAIRY PROJECT

Penn Soil RC&D has been very active in promoting value added opportunities to improve economic opportunities for dairy farmers. The council has partnered with several other organizations including the PA Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA), the Penn State Women in Agriculture Network (WAGN), and the Munnell Run Farm Foundation to co-sponsor our third basic cheese-making event, a two-day class in Mercer County.



This two-day class was designed for novice cheese-makers and those considering starting a farmstead cheese business. Melanie Dietrich-Cochran taught participants about the milk quality, ingredients used in cheese making, processes for making a variety of cheeses, techniques and requirements for aging cheese, and establishing a business as a farmstead or artisan cheese-maker.



Twenty-one people attended the course to learn about basic milk and cheese chemistry, the art of aging cheese (affinage), and designing and operating cheese making business. This was a “hands-on” class, which gave participants the chance to actually make cheeses.

The mission of Penn Soil RC&D is to provide the local leadership necessary to develop and implement a plan that will improve the economy, environmental and social well-being of the people through accelerated planning and development of the natural resources in the project area consisting of Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango and Warren Counties.



Penn Soil RC&D Council

265 Holiday Inn Road, Suite 3. Clarion, PA 16214
Phone: 814-226-8160 ext. 5 * Fax: 814-226-4521
www.pennsoilrcd.org

Other Completed Projects Include:

Fryburg Water Quality Project- This \$15,000 project funded by the EPA focused on conducting an assessment of water quality from individual household wells in a small community to map the extent of groundwater pollution from failing septic systems.

Chapman State Park Concession Employment Project- This project funded by the Penn Soil Conservancy Charitable Trust involved the purchase of a portable hot water hand washing station which allowed Bollinger Enterprises, Inc. (BEI), a local non-profit group, to establish a concession stand at this popular State Park creating employment opportunities for handicapped citizens. The portable facility was necessary to allow BEI to meet state health department codes for preparing hot foods at the concession stand.

Amish Wastewater Systems- This project funded by a PENNSTEP grant involved construction and a monthly water quality monitoring program for nine, experimental, small-flow, wetland treatment systems to treat gray water from Amish households. Results show good potential, but the systems need to be larger than designed to meet PA DEP targets. A second phase of the project is now being pursued.

Council Goals

- * Protect the quality and quantity of our water water resources
- * Improve the overall condition of our local communities
- * Revitalize community and recreational facility needs
- * Control erosion and sedimentation
- * Install Best Management Practices to reduce pollution
- * Develop and implement new and expanded projects for forest based resources that improve economic benefits

Counties Served:

Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest,
Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, and
Warren



Cessna Run Abandoned Mine Drainage Passive Treatment System

Penn's Corner along with the Indiana County Conservation District and the Little Mahoning Creek Watershed Association received Growing Greener and Office of Surface Mining funds to address abandoned mine drainage in Cessna Run in Indiana County. The project goal was to design and construct two passive treatment systems to treat three surface mine discharges that were the largest source of acidity and aluminum impacting the Cessna Run sub-watershed of Little Mahoning Creek.



Cessna Run, a 14.23 square mile sub-watershed, is not only the largest tributary of Little Mahoning Creek, it was also the tributary with the greatest impact from abandoned mine drainage, the tributary with the greatest potential in the entire Little Mahoning Creek drainage, and the tributary that forms the “Delayed Harvest Fly Fishing Only” stretch of Little Mahoning Creek. Because of the water quality impairment, Cessna Run’s biological community was substantially depressed and did not contain a cold water fish community as it should.

Construction was completed in the fall of 2006 and there was an immediate improvement in water quality and the macroinvertebrate community. The alkalinity concentration was increased 34% while the acidity concentration was reduced 251%. Similar improvements were documented for aluminum and manganese concentrations which were reduced 66% and 27% respectively. Brook trout have moved into Cessna Run from stockings that occurred in Little Mahoning Creek, demonstrating that water quality in Cessna Run is now adequate for trout survival and, hopefully, propagation.

“To help people help themselves by providing environmental, economic, and social benefit to the region’s communities and by developing productive working relationships to balance natural resource conservation and development.”

Backyard Woods Workshops

In 2006, the Penn's Corner Forestry Committee hosted the first in a series of Backyard Woods Workshops. Professional foresters from the Westmoreland Conservation District and the Bureau of Forestry gave presentations on topics such as 1) Keep Your Woods Healthy, 2) Attracting Wildlife, and 3) Help Your Preferred Trees Grow. Also, a 44 page, full-color Backyard Woods guide and tip sheets on twelve

different topic areas were provided to participants.



The workshops are designed for individuals who have anything from a few trees to a few acres and want to make the most of their resource. Future workshops over the next several years will cover such topics as planting and pruning trees, identifying and managing hazardous defects in trees, protecting/improving water quality, and generating wood products.

Current Project Highlights:

Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)

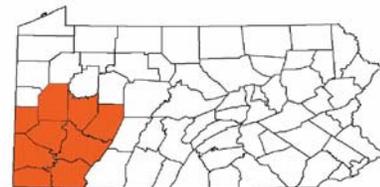
In the fall of 2006, Penn's Corner began working with Conservation Districts, the Department of Environmental Protection, Fort Necessity National Battlefield, and other organizations to form a Cooperative Weed Management Area for southwestern Pennsylvania. The group's mission is to increase awareness of the impact of invasive species and promote their replacement with native species by advocating invasive species control, education and outreach, and project implementation.

Wilson Run Iron Removal and Resource Recovery

Penn's Corner along with the Sewickley Creek Watershed Association and the Westmoreland Conservation District initiated this project to remove polluting iron from Wilson Run, a tributary to Sewickley Creek in Mount Pleasant Township, Westmoreland County. The project will also demonstrate a new aeration technology that can speed up the process of iron removal and reduce the area necessary for treatment.

Goals

- *Reduce Pollution*
- *Improve Land Use*
- *Assure Economic Viability*
- *Improve Resource Development*
- *Protect Wildlife*
- *Advance Environmental Education*
- *Nurture Cultural Growth*



Counties Served:

Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Greene, Indiana, Fayette, Washington, and Westmoreland

Penn's Corner RC&D Council

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Pocono Northeast RC&D



Pennsylvania Fuels for Schools...and Beyond Program

The Pocono Northeast Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, over the last one and a half year period, started working on modeling and developing a “**Fuels for Schools... and Beyond**” program for northeastern Pennsylvania. The program is aimed to reduce the use of fossil fuels by using biomass as a source of heating fuel while enhancing the environment and local economy through use of local biomass products. This idea began to gather momentum within the RC&D area, and after numerous discussions and meetings with potential project partners, it quickly spread to become a state-wide initiative.

The Pennsylvania **Fuels for Schools...and Beyond** program focuses on providing school districts, hospitals, greenhouses, businesses, governmental buildings, and other facilities the option of utilizing biomass as a source of thermal energy thus enabling energy users the opportunity to manage renewable resources sustainably, to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, to bolster the local economy, to increase the market potential for biomass feedstocks, and to provide significant cost savings to end users. It is innovative in that it targets small diameter, low grade wood as a feedstock and promotes the use of other agricultural biomass

feedstocks such as native grasses, grains, and waste products. No matter what type of feedstock is used, it must be grown, harvested, or procured sustainably so no adverse affect on the resource, the environment, or the economy, would result from its use.

Is there an interest or need for the program, and does this program have the ability to become established in Pennsylvania? Currently, a school district in Susquehanna County, PA is using a biomass heating system that was installed in 1991 and is fueled by wood chips. The district has documented that during the 2004-2005 heating season, the district saved \$51,000 by burning wood chips versus fuel oil. During the 2005-2006 heating season the district saved \$114,000. By comparing these savings other organizations can see that a biomass heating system makes economical sense.



“To enhance and improve the ecological, cultural, and economic characteristics of the area through projects and programs that promote the management, protection, and sustainable utilization of our area’s resources.”

Biomass & Renewable Fuel Development Utilizing Pelletized Grasses



The Pocono Northeast RC&D Council has identified alternative energy as a program that needs to be pursued and developed within the Council area.



This is an exciting and innovative biomass and renewable fuel development project which has as its key element the construction and demonstration of a mobile pelletizing unit. This pelletizer uses harvested native grasses as the source of heat and energy – a solid biomass fuel for direct combustions. Pelletized grasses will provide the material for a hitherto unexplored market that is low-risk and environmentally-sound for Pennsylvania’s producers.

Grasses have been burned as biomass feedstock in large, industrial scale, heating and energy production, but not been burned at local, residential, or light industrial locations in the United States. The use of densified grass for thermal energy is a relatively young technology, but it is receiving increased research funding and is proving to be a viable pathway. Grass pellets have proven to reduce, to a considerable extent, greenhouse gas emissions when compared to fossil fuels; to reduce heating costs in comparison with other heating methods; and to provide the highest net energy output-to-input ratio in conjunction with high net energy yields per acre.

This project has established a partnership with individuals who are dedicated to promoting warm season grasses as a renewable energy choice. The project partners are overseeing the construction of a mobile pelletizing unit. They are planning to produce 1,600 tons of densified grass fuel to be tested under various conditions. Approximately 860 tons of pelletized material will be provided to the Benton School District for use in its flexible fuel boiler unit as part of the District’s renewable fuels development projects.

Other Current Projects:

► Forest Management & Wildlife Habitat Initiative

The Council is assisting landowners in preparation and implementation of conservation plans and practices such as forest stand improvement and establishment of native grasses, shrubs, and trees for erosion control and wildlife habitat improvement.

► Orchard Limestone Drain Rehabilitation Project

The Council undertook to recondition the Orchard Limestone Drain by increasing the size and capacity of its present treatment system, by replenishing the limestone with high CaCO₃ and by installing a flushing system within the limestone drain.



Goals

- Land & Water Conservation
- Resource & Energy Development
- Community Resource Development
- Nonprofit Organization & Management



Counties Served:

Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Schuylkill, and Wayne.

Pocono Northeast RC&D Council

1300 Old Plank Road, Mayfield, PA 18433 * Phone: 570-282-8732 ext. 4 * Fax: 570-281-5379

www.pnercd.org

Southeastern PA RC&D



Farm Market Transportation - The Missing Link?

In 2006 the Southeastern PA Resource Conservation and Development Council conducted a pilot project of providing free bus transportation to take low income senior citizens and participants in the Women-Infant-Children (WIC) Program to farmers' markets and roadside stands. This project was developed because of a perceived need in the region.

To encourage people in both groups to eat more fresh fruits and vegetables during the summer months, the PA Department of Agriculture provides them with checks that can be redeemed at farmers' markets and roadside stands. Unfortunately many of the checks were not used, particularly those given to WIC participants.

Besides helping people get fresh, locally-grown food, SEPA RC&D also saw the project as a beneficial way of reconnecting farmers with the urban community and an opportunity to increase small farm income.



The project is supported by funding from the USDA Ag Marketing Service and is being done in partnership with Penn

State Cooperative Extension, County WIC offices, County Offices of Aging, PA Dept. of Agriculture, NRCS, and others. The Southeastern PA RC&D Council scheduled buses to take people to farmers' markets during the months of July, August, and September. Pick-up sites included senior centers, churches, apartment complexes, and town centers.



“Farm Ambassadors” rode along on the bus handing out nutritional brochures, providing information about the farmers' market, and answering questions about purchasing fruits and vegetables at the market.

Over 225 individuals participated in the program and utilized the bus service. The results from a follow-up survey showed that the service was appreciated. Some of the participants don't drive; they enjoyed visiting different places; and many of the people spent their own personal cash in addition to the provided farm market checks.

SEPA RC&D is looking forward to an even bigger and better program in 2007!

MISSION STATEMENT

“To improve the quality of life for people in the region by promoting programs that conserve and enhance the area's natural and community resources.”

VISION STATEMENT

An organization that others value for our ability to effectively bring people and organizations together to get things done.

Conservation Services and Products Directory

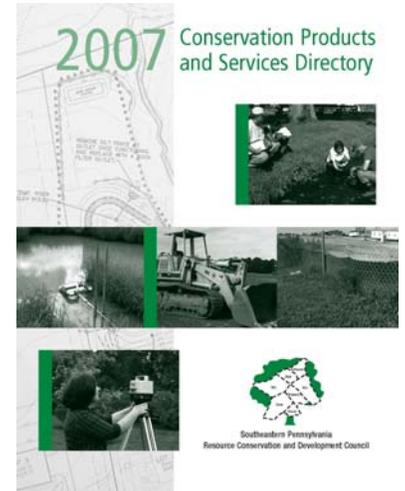
Southeastern PA RC&D Council, in cooperation with the regional County Conservation Districts, revised and updated the Conservation Services and Products (CS&P) Directory. People and businesses in the region are always looking for sources of Best Management Practice installation materials, environmental consultants, engineering firms, etc. The CS&P Directory will serve as a reference for locating the products and services needed to complete construction on environmental projects.

The CS&P Directory contains over 100 listings of contractors, consultants, engineering firms, government agencies, and suppliers who can provide the professional services needed to protect and restore the region's natural resources. It also includes contact information for conservation districts and state and federal environmental agencies. The CS&P Directory is now considered one of the most complete sources of environmental information for the region.

The project was funded by paid advertisements. Copies of the Directory, which is projected to reach more than 3,500 residents, engineers, and municipalities, were provided to county conservation districts. The Directory will be handed out on jobsites, during office visits, and by requests through the mail.

Individual copies of the directory can be purchased at the Southeastern PA RC&D Council office by calling 215-453-9527 ext. 5. It can also be downloaded from the SEPA RC&D Council website at www.separcd.org.

The Directory has been so well received that companies are already inquiring about being included in the next issue of the directory.



Highlights of Other SEPA RC&D Projects

No-Till Vegetable Transplanter-The Council makes available equipment for farmers interested in planting their vegetable crops by the no-tillage method.

Eastern Delaware County COG- The Council is leading an effort in which several small, older, urbanized municipalities are working in partnership to address state and federal stormwater regulations.

Rural Fire Protection- The Council is working with local fire companies and municipalities to install specialized (dry) fire hydrants in areas where public water systems do not exist.

Time and The River- The Council is supporting a workshop for art students and the creation of a painting of the Schuylkill River.



Serving:
Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware,
Lehigh, Montgomery, and
Northampton Counties



Southeastern PA RC&D Council

1000 East Walnut Street, Suite 704, Perkasie, PA 18944 * Phone: 215-453-9527 ext.5

www.separcd.org

Southern Alleghenies RC&D Council



Raystown Riparian Vegetation Conservation Plan

SA RC&D Council Area-Wide Project

The Raystown Riparian Vegetation Conservation Plan is an area-wide project of the Southern Alleghenies RC&D Council and the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy, in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Natural Biodiversity and the Juniata Clean Water Partnership. The purpose of the project is to develop a watershed-based action plan for invasive species control in the 964 sq. mile Raystown Branch of the Juniata River by compiling information from involved partners and field study into a set of recommendations for invasive plant control. The prioritized action plan will address best management and control practices, early detection, and rapid response systems to prevent alien plant species from becoming established in the study area and will include known invasive species locations, recommended methods of control, potential sources of funding for implementation of controls, and integrated pest management methods.



Landowners in the watershed who are currently participating in the Conservation Reserve Program

(CRP), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), or the Conservation Securities Program (CSP) will be contacted by Natural Biodiversity staff to request volunteer participation in the assessment portion of the project.



Individual management plans will be prepared for participating landowners that will assist them in future decision-making. The Raystown Riparian Vegetation Conservation Plan was approved as an area-wide RC&D project in July, 2004. The project was funded with a Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI) grant received from NRCS in June, 2006. An advisory committee was formed later in the year to provide input from many of the partners and sponsoring organizations, and will continue to meet throughout the course of the project. The completed plan will emphasize education, outreach, and citizen input through a series of organized public meetings that will enhance field data collected throughout the watershed and will be completed by the end of September, 2007.

To improve the quality of life and preserve the heritage of Pennsylvania's citizens and future generations by: conserving land containing significant natural, cultural and recreational resources; restoring and enhancing resources; and assisting public and private organizations with conservation projects.

Southern Alleghenies Regional Bioenergy Initiative

SA RC&D Council Area-wide Project

The Southern Alleghenies Regional Bioenergy Initiative is a project to evaluate the feasibility, and prepare a plan for the development, of a sustainable bioenergy production facility, utilizing best available technologies, for the efficient conversion of locally produced biomass and surplus animal manure into energy and marketable by-products. The second phase of the project will include a detailed assessment of regional soil fertility needs, preparation of a plan for the transfer of excess nutrients from surrounding areas, and the utilization of these organic sources of nutrients to produce sustainable biomass crops for renewable energy. The project was officially adopted as an area-wide RC&D project in July, 2005.



This project supports Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy through the development of a viable alternative for nutrient transfer, within the Southern Alleghenies Region, from areas of excess concentration to areas in need of additional nutrients such as reclaimed strip mine lands and low-fertility pasture and crop land. In 2006 the Southern Alleghenies RC&D and Conservancy received a \$99,300 Rural Business Enterprise Grant from the USDA Rural Development Agency to assess the feasibility of establishing biomass energy production facilities in the region. A regional advisory committee was formed, and a request for proposals was sent out



with Resource Systems Group selected as the first phase project consultant. The feasibility study final report will be completed in the Summer, 2007.



Flight 93 National Memorial Corridor Study *(Somerset County)*

The Flight 93 National Memorial Corridor Study project is funded with grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. The purpose of the study is to assist local government officials to plan and prepare for growth and development anticipated in the transportation corridor that will be used by the estimated 250,000 to 500,000 visitors to the Flight 93 National Memorial National Park site when it is completed. The project was approved as an RC&D Council project in October, 2006 and will be completed by the Fall, 2007.

The Somerset County Planning Commission initiated the study, on behalf of the County Board of Commissioners, and retained Lardner/ Klein Landscape Architects and the Pennsylvania Environmental Council to conduct the study. An advisory committee has been formed with key stakeholders inside and outside the study area. The committee will meet on a bi-monthly basis to brainstorm ideas and issues, develop a vision for the corridor, and review draft recommendations. A series of public meetings will be held during the study to make sure the plan is headed in the right direction and to provide opportunities for comments on the draft recommendations.

Counties Served: Bedford, Blair, Cambria,
Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset

Southern Alleghenies RC&D Council

702 West Pitt Street, Suite 7, Bedford, PA 15522-8800 * Phone: 814-623-7900 ext. 5
saconservancy.org



2006 PA Resource Conservation Development Councils' Accomplishments

2006 Totals

Projects Approved 86 Projects Completed 138 Active Projects 254

RC&D Project Benefits

Information and Education

Workshops, Tours, Seminars Held	610
Research and Legislative Education Events	20
Community Events Held	141
Trainings Sessions Held	275
Participants	542,341
School Curriculum and Programs Created	52
Information Media Produced	45,792
Information Media Distributed	330,580
Watershed or Area-wide Conservation Plans Developed (air)	34
Watershed or Area-wide Conservation Plans Developed (water)	2,337,160
Study/Plans Completed	2

Natural Resource

Land Treated	26,024
Land Preserved or Protected	77,017
Urban Land Protected	10
Urban Land Protected (homes)	1
Greenhouse Gas Reduced	1,697
Soil Saved	162,662
Nutrients Reduced	21
Invasive Species Managed (acres)	1,898
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protected/Improved/Created	1,202
Hunting and Fishing Days Increased	161
Water Bodies Created/Improved (units)	27
Water Bodies Created/Improved (acres)	156
River and Streams Improved	49
Surface Water Conserved	77,016
Ground Water Conserved/Improved/Recharged	385,544
Animal Agriculture Operations Assisted	317
Flood Control Structures Constructed	1
Drainage Systems Constructed	4
Shoreline Protected	5,460
Alternative Energy Systems (units)	27
Alternative Energy Systems (power)	1,200
Alternative Energy Systems (volume)	28,000,000

Community Development

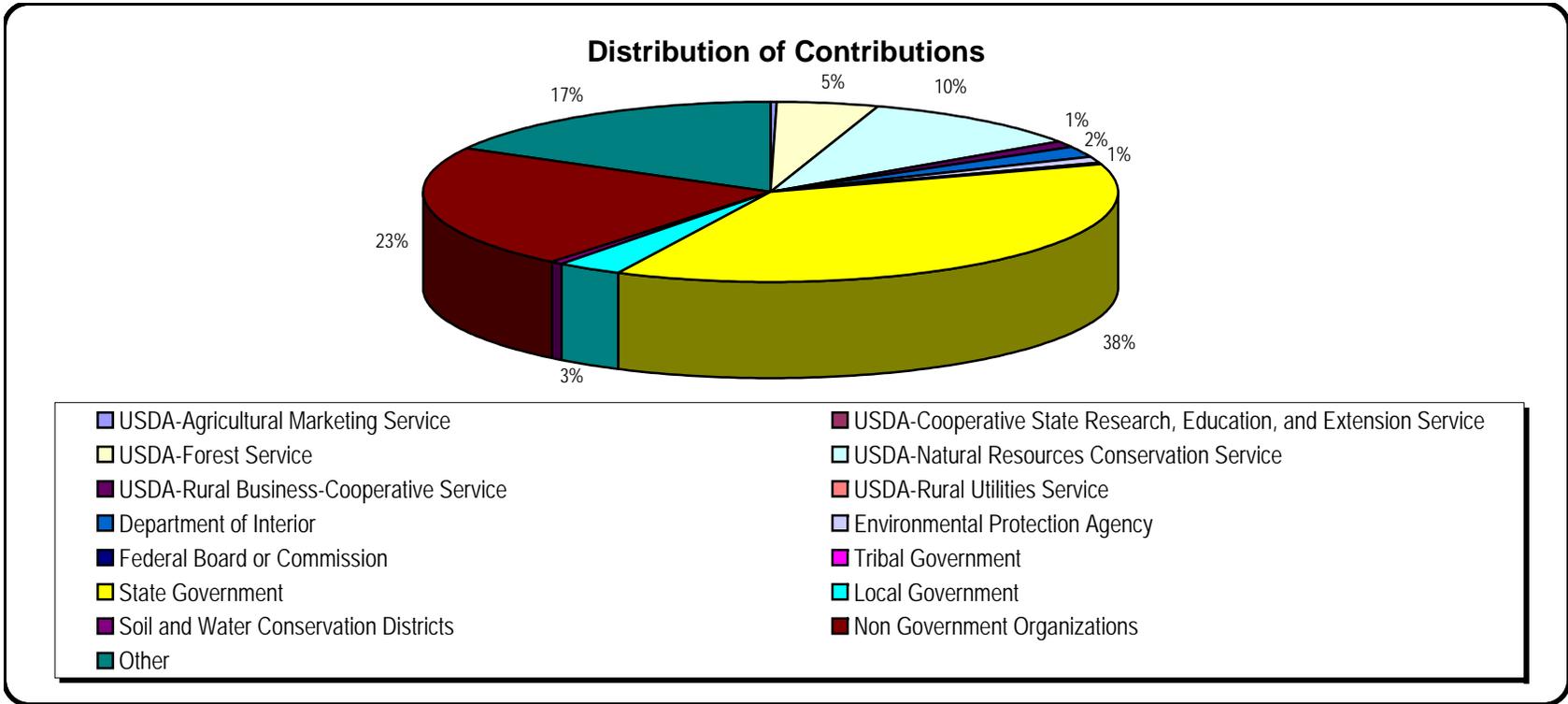
Businesses Created/Expanded/Retained	148
Businesses Financed (units)	86
Businesses Financed (monetary)	\$494,458.00
Ag-Value Added Products	55
Ag-Farm to Market	19
Ag-Livestock/Poultry	113
Ag-Certified Organic	6
Forestry-Special Forest Product (area)	960
Forestry-Special Forest Product (farms)	1
Jobs Created/Retained-Farm	609
Seasonal Jobs Created-Farm	13
Jobs Created/Retained-Non Farm	267
Seasonal Jobs Created-Non Farm	432
Cooperatives/Associations Formed	5
Businesses Benefitting from New Technology	259
People Benefitting from New Technology	182,239
Recreation Area Established/Improved/Retained (area)	2,435
Recreation Facilities Created/Improved/Retained (units)	3
Tourism Area	22
Visitor Days Increased	199,715
Historic Sites Preserved (units)	2
Historic Sites Preserved (acres)	2
Cultural Heritage Preserved (units)	14
Cultural Heritage Preserved (area)	8
Museums Created/Retained	4
Public Facilities Improved/Repaired/Constructed	49
Service Provided-Grant administration	59
Service Provided-Rural Fire Protections	87
Service Provided-Emergency Preparedness	128
Service Provided-Healthcare	8
Solid Waste Collection Started/Improved	1
Solid Waste Reduced	1
Recycling Retained/Expanded	18
Non Traditional Wastewater Systems Constructed	4
Citizens Served	2,948,656

2006 PA Resource Conservation Development Councils' Accomplishments

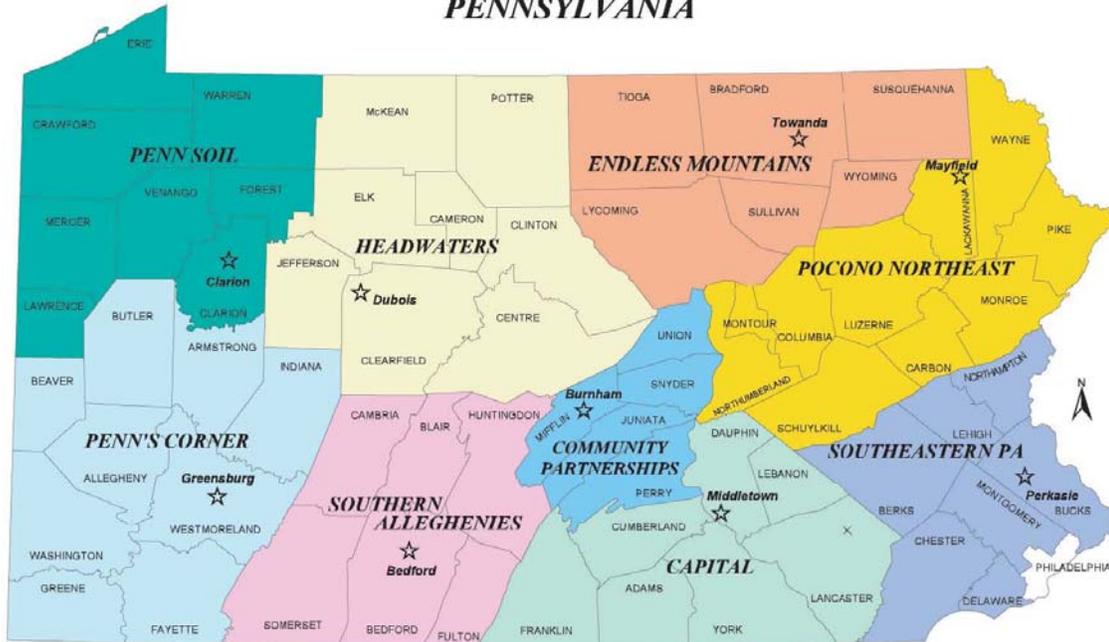
RC&D Contributions by Source

USDA-Agricultural Marketing Service	\$20,000
USDA-Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service	\$6,800
USDA-Forest Service	\$432,350
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service	\$931,749
USDA-Rural Business-Cooperative Service	\$99,300
USDA-Rural Utilities Service	\$2,400
Department of Interior	\$170,119
Environmental Protection Agency	\$116,315
Federal Board or Commission	\$16,250
Tribal Government	\$7,400
State Government	\$3,331,854
Local Government	\$279,758
Soil and Water Conservation Districts	\$43,689
Non Government Organizations	\$1,994,048
Other	<u>\$1,530,806</u>
Total	\$8,982,838

PA RC&D's have leveraged \$8 for every \$1 of RC&D Program Funds



**RESOURCE CONSERVATION and DEVELOPMENT AREAS
PENNSYLVANIA**



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