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UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Nancy Dyer is an AmeriCorps member who is performing one year of national service working on the Dry Fire Hydrant Program in the Twin Valley RC&D office in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Ms. Dyer is coordinating the installation of approximately 35 dry hydrants in 18 parishes throughout Louisiana. She is part of the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)/AmeriCorps team.

AmeriCorps is President Clinton's national service program, passed with bipartisan support from Congress, that engages 20,000 Americans of diverse backgrounds in performing service that meets critical community needs in return for an educational award, which may be used to pay for college, job training, or graduate school, or to pay back student loans. The majority of AmeriCorps Members are working in partnerships with states, local governments, and non-profit organizations.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is running three types of AmeriCorps teams in 38 states, composed of approximately 1,200 members: an Anti-Hunger Team, a Public Lands and Environment Team, and a Rural Development Team. Many of the AmeriCorps projects are sponsored by community-based organizations and all projects are designed to get things done, while boosting community, opportunity, and responsibility.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project

Louisiana

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Background

In many rural areas, the lack of an established water system and domestic fire hydrants can impair a fire department's ability to do its job quickly and efficiently. Many fire departments have chosen to develop a water hauling or "shuttle" procedure. Tanker trucks are used to carry large amounts of water to the fire scene to deliver a continuous supply of water. The success of this system is relative to the distance the trucks must travel to refill. A dry hydrant system provides a solution to the problem of distant fill-up points.

USDA/AmeriCorps members are working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Louisiana to plan, survey, and coordinate the installation of over 2,000 dry fire hydrants in rural areas through the Louisiana Statewide Dry Fire Hydrant Program.

Louisiana Statewide Dry Fire Hydrant Program

Over 2,000 dry fire hydrants are being installed across Louisiana to help improve rural fire protection and rural road maintenance through the Louisiana Statewide Dry Hydrant (SWDH) program. The SWDH program was funded through a \$996,984 grant to Trailblazer Resource Conservation and Development, Inc., from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources using oil overcharge funds from the Stripper Will Settlement as approved by the U.S. Department of Energy. Local units of government and local volunteer fire departments will provide in-kind matching funds in the form of equipment and labor for installations. Materials for dry hydrants average \$1,000-\$1,500 per hydrant.

What is a Dry Hydrant?

A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe system permanently installed in existing bodies of water (lakes, ponds, streams, etc.) to provide a means of suctioning water into a tank truck. One end of the dry hydrant protrudes out of the ground to give tanker trucks a hose connection. The other end is composed of a strainer submerged in the pond or stream to draw water directly through the system. The dry hydrant system gives tanker trucks access to ponds and streams from the main road and ends the necessity of going all the way back to the starting point for a refill.

Water Shuttle

In a water hauling operation, the time it takes to fill the tanker, the distance the tanker has to travel to the fire, and the time it takes to discharge the water from the tanker are critical elements in rural fire protection. Time saved on any one of the above points will increase the amount of water that can be hauled to the fire. Dry hydrants, properly located, can substantially reduce travel time from a water source to the fire.

Some departments are using the system in the following manner: when a fire alarm is received, equipment is dispatched on a pre-planned basis determined by such things as fire flow needs, hazards involved, water supply available, etc. One tanker and one pumper respond to the fire. The pumper begins the fire attack with water from its booster tank. The

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first responding tanker may act as a "nurse" tanker, or may set up a portable drop tank and begin discharging its load of water into the drop tank. The water in the tanker can be transferred to the portable drop tank at a rate of approximately 1,000 gallons per minute. As soon as the tanker is empty, it immediately heads to the water supply. In the meantime, another fire department pumper has responded to the water supply, connected to the dry hydrant, and primed its pump. When the empty tanker arrives at the water supply, the pumper is ready to fill the tanker. The refilled tanker returns to the fire site, discharges its water, and the cycle is repeated.

Expected Benefits

Saves Lives and Property

The most important benefit of the installation of dry hydrants in rural areas is the increased capability of firefighters to save lives and property. Eight structures have been directly saved because a dry hydrant was near the fire or because no pressurized hydrants were in the area. Ten structures were indirectly saved when grass fires and forest fires were contained with the use of dry hydrants.

During a hard freeze in February 1996, Concordia Parish (Vidalia and Ferriday, Louisiana) lost electricity so pressurized hydrants were not accessible for fire protection. Dry hydrants were used for the three fires encountered throughout the power failure. The Concordia Parish Fire District was thankful for the use of the dry hydrants, as well as neighboring fire districts.

In DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, dry hydrants were used to save two saw mills.

In Iberia Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a structure fire.

In February 1996, Ward 4 Fire Protection District in Jackson Parish, Louisiana, used water drawn from a dry hydrant to extinguish an approximately ten-acre grass fire, which was endangering a nearby dwelling. Due to the proximity of the hydrant to the fire, the fire did not harm the building.

In April 1997, Ward 4 Fire Protection District in Jackson Parish, Louisiana, got another chance to utilize their dry hydrants to extinguish a woods fire. They were able to save three homes from destruction.

In Beauregard Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a forest fire that was threatening to endanger surrounding homes.

In Vermilion Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a barn fire which was located near two houses, a barn, and a greenhouse.

In DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a house fire.

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In Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant is used on a continuous basis for training area volunteer firefighters.

Numerous brush fires and woods fires throughout Louisiana were contained with the use of dry hydrants before the fires caused destruction to surrounding homes and buildings.

It is estimated that during a recent six-month period, property valued at an estimated \$730,000 was saved by containing fires with the use of dry hydrants. By the year 2000, it is projected that property valued at over \$5 million will have been saved because of the use of dry hydrants.

Decrease in Fire Classification Rating

Fire insurance premiums for each area are based on a classification determined by the Property Insurance Association of Louisiana (PIAL). The classification PAIL assigns depends on each area's ability to fight fires. Areas with no fire departments are given a class 10 rating. As the fire-fighting capability increases, the rating decreases. Higher training levels and better equipment are among the ways this can be accomplished. For example, if a fire department can demonstrate the ability to pump 250 gallons of water per minute for two hours at a fire scene, the area's fire classification rating could potentially decrease to a six or seven. Dry fire hydrants play an important role in such a demonstration in rural areas.

Based on information collected through interviews of fire chiefs of volunteer fire departments participating in the dry fire hydrants program in rural Louisiana, the installations of dry fire hydrants are a contributing factor in affecting the district's fire classification rating in one of two ways, either (1) the fire rating will drop one or two points, or (2) the fire rating will be maintained at the current level and will not go up a point. This decrease in fire classification rating or maintenance of a rating significantly influences the insurance premiums of homeowners in these rural communities.

It is important to note that most major insurance companies will not issue fire insurance coverage for homes located in fire classification 10 or 9 areas. Therefore, it is reasonable to predict that the installation of dry fire hydrants in rural Louisiana will contribute significantly to the ability of homeowners to acquire affordable fire insurance.

Insurance Premium Savings

In Jackson Parish, Louisiana, the Quitman Fire Protection District successfully conducted a water shuttle demonstration using a dry hydrant for PIAL. This shuttle enabled the district to improve their property insurance rating from a 9 to an 8, leading to a **21% drop in commercial insurance premiums.**

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Louisiana**

In Natchitoches Parish Fire District 7, dry fire hydrants are contributing to a fire insurance rating reduction from a class 10 to a class 7. A homeowner in Fire District 7 with a brick house worth \$100,000 can expect the insurance premium with a class 10 fire rating to be \$1,940/year. The premium for the same house with a class 7 rating is significantly reduced to \$1,086/year. This is a savings of \$854/year for the homeowner. **This is a 44% reduction from the original premium.**

The following table demonstrates the money saved or lost and the percentage change in rural homeowners' insurance premiums when fire classification ratings change:

Premium Change as a Result of Fire Classification Rating Change

Table data based on fire classification ratings/premiums for a \$50,000 house in Lecompte, Rapides Parish, Louisiana (see Appendix A).

	Present Fire Classification Rating/Premium			
Future Fire Classification Rating/Premium	10 \$1,059.00	9 \$797.00	8 \$622.00	7 \$523.00
10 \$1,059.00	0	\$262 (+ 33%)	\$437 (+ 70%)	\$536 (+ 102%)
9 \$797.00	-\$262 (-25%)	0	\$175 (+ 28%)	\$274 (+ 52%)
8 \$622.00	-\$437 (-41%)	-\$175 (-22%)	0	\$99 (+ 19%)
7 \$523.00	-\$536 (-51%)	-\$274 (-34%)	-\$99 (-16%)	0

Based on the above table, the prediction can be made that when the Lecompte Volunteer Fire Department receives a fire rating reduction from a 9 to an 8, the rural homeowner of a \$50,000 home will save \$175 a year or 22 percent on their homeowners' insurance. Yet, if that fire rating was to increase from an 8 to a 9, the homeowner would see a \$175 or 28 percent increase in their homeowners insurance premium (see Appendix A).

Projected Savings

Population data was collected on the number of rural homeowners living in all parishes in Louisiana from 1990 U.S. Census information. Figures were compiled for the number of rural homeowners in the parishes participating in the dry fire hydrants program. The results indicated that 638,042 homeowners will reap significant financial benefits because of the installation of dry hydrants in their communities. As stated previously, fire chiefs estimate at least a one point drop in their fire rating with the installation of dry hydrants as a contributing factor. Based on the table above, if 638,042 rural Louisiana homeowners live in a fire district that receives a one point rate decrease from a 9 to an 8, they could save \$111,657,350 in one year on insurance premium costs (the value of the homes, number of points changed in fire classification ratings, and insurance premium rates will vary from fire district to fire district).

Other Benefits

Other benefits of dry fire hydrants include conservation of limited water storage for drinking water and the use of natural, unprocessed water for road maintenance.

Dry Hydrants. . . "Worth Their Weight in Gold"

Following is a letter submitted to the editor of a local newspaper from D. J. Brown, Chief, District 8, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana

Dry hydrants are worth their weight in gold. We found out in May of 1996. One of the first dry hydrants we installed was on a spring-fed pond on Highway 509, about 2.5 miles from the Broadway Saw Mill. Little did we know that we would use these dry hydrants two times in the next three weeks.

The first fire call came in the second week of May, one week after we had installed our dry hydrant. When we arrived at the scene, the sawmill was over half involved in fire. We knew that this was going to be a water shuttle fire, so we sent 812, our LDH pumper straight to the Highway 509 dry fire hydrant to set up. But this time, unlike before, with other structure fires, we only sent the driver instead of the driver and at least five other firefighters.

What was the difference? Simply this: a six-inch dry hydrant. That's right! Instead of having to hook up 30 feet of heavy hard suction pipe, have three firefighters put it in the pond, find a bucket to tie the end of the strainer to keep it from dragging bottom, pull the hard suction pipe back to the pumper to hook up and prime, and finally start to pump, now all we have to do is put our pumper 8 feet from the hydrant end, hook up just one section of pipe, prime, and pump, pump, pump!

The second fire was at the same location, two weeks later. A large wood scrap ship pile was fully involved, and the wind was forcing it back towards the mill. Again, we sent our 812 pumper straight to the dry hydrant, and within 5 minutes it was primed and ready to pump. The first fire we pumped 40,000 gallons of water, the second fire

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we pumped 70,000 gallons of water.

In May we needed to test our 1250 pumpers, so again we went to a newly installed dry hydrant and tested our trucks. Both trucks we tested pumped over 1,350 gallons per minute each.

Another advantage I noticed was the ability of a dry hydrant to out-perform the rural town hydrant systems. Take for example in my hometown, the hydrant system was installed sometime in the 1950's. It only has a four-inch supply line and several miles of pipe. For us this meant that our water supply was limited to 200 to 400 gallons per minute, and that our pressure would be between 20 and 40 psi. The psi is supplied by a pump at the water tank which means that should you lose power, then the hydrant system would have very little pressure. With a dry hydrant you don't need any electricity, a one-man set up is all that is required, there is little or no friction loss, and only 20 to 100 feet of hard suction pipe is needed.

The dry hydrant is truly a multi-purpose hydrant. This is why we at Fire District 8 say that dry hydrants are WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD!!

Building Community

Police juries and volunteer fire departments work with USDA/AmeriCorps members to plan, survey and install dry fire hydrants. This local volunteer effort is reflected by 40,919 hours of community time donated to this effort at a value of \$1,529,002.40.

Progress Report of Dry Hydrant Installations by Parish

Following is a progress report of dry hydrant installations in Louisiana:

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Acadia Parish	52			20
		Acadia Fire District 1	6	
		Acadia Fire District 8	2	
		Acadia Fire Protection District 3	3	
		Acadia Parish Fire District 5	4	
		Eunice Fire Department	2	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Fire Protection District 6	3	
Allen Parish	35			34
		Elton Volunteer Fire Department	8	
		Oberlin Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Elizabeth Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Fire Protection District 4	1	
		Oakdale Fire Department	7	
		Allen Fire Protection District 2, Ward 3	12	
		Grant Volunteer Fire Department	3	
Ascension Parish	35			0
Assumption Parish	35			0
Avoyelles Parish	35			6
		Avoyelles Fire Protection District 2, Subdistrict 8	6	
Beauregard Parish	35			35
		Beauregard Fire District 1	6	
		Beauregard Fire District 2	3	
		Beauregard Fire District 3	7	
		Beauregard Fire District 3A	5	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Beauregard Fire District 4	8	
		Merryville Volunteer Fire Department	6	
Bienville Parish	10			10
		Bienville Fire District 6	5	
		Bienville Ward 1 & 2 Fire District	2	
		Bienville Ward 7 Fire Protection District	3	
Bossier Parish	10			9
		Benton Fire District 4	2	
		Bossier Fire District 2	2	
		Bossier Fire District 6	3	
		East Central Bossier Fire Protection District 1	2	
Caddo Parish	48			42
		Caddo Parish Fire District 2	10	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 3	1	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 4	9	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 6	3	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 7	8	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 8	11	
Calcasieu Parish	35			35

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Carlyss Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		DeQuincy Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Hayes Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Houston River Volunteer Fire Department	5	
		Iowa Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Lake Charles Fire Department	6	
		Starks Volunteer Fire Department	8	
		Vinton Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Westlake Volunteer Fire Department	5	
Caldwell Parish	35			30
		Caldwell Parish Rural Fire Protection District	30	
Cameron Parish	35			34
		Cameron Fire District 1	4	
		Cameron Fire District 7	3	
		Cameron Fire District 9	9	
		Cameron Fire District 11	3	
		Cameron Fire District 14	11	
		Klondike Volunteer Fire Department	4	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Catahoula Parish	35			10
		Maitland Volunteer Fire Department	7	
		Manifest Volunteer Fire Department	3	
Claiborne Parish	10			1
		Claiborne Fire Protection District 4	1	
Concordia Parish	35			1
		Concordia Parish Rural Fire Protection District	1	
DeSoto Parish	58			45
		DeSoto Fire District 1	12	
		DeSoto Fire District 2	5	
		DeSoto Fire District 3	2	
		DeSoto Fire District 5	7	
		DeSoto Fire District 8	19	
East Baton Rouge Parish	35			0
East Carroll Parish	12			0
East Feliciana Parish	35			0

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Evangeline Parish	30			17
		Mamou Fire Protection District 1	4	
		Pine Prairie Area Fire Protection District	7	
		Ville Platte Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Ward 5 Fire Protection District	4	
Franklin Parish	59			15
		Liddieville Volunteer Fire Department	6	
		Fort Necessity Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Turkey Creek Volunteer Fire Department	5	
Grant Parish	43			20
		District 5 VFD	5	
		Grant Fire District 1	4	
		Grant Fire District 3	3	
		Grant Fire District 7	5	
		Tullos Volunteer Fire Department	3	
Iberia Parish	35			35
		Iberia Parish Fire District 1	35	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Iberville Parish	35			0
Jackson Parish	18			10
		Hodge Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Jackson Fire District 6	1	
		Quitman Fire Protection District 1	1	
		Ward 4 Fire Protection District	6	
Jefferson Parish	4			4
		Jefferson Fire Districts 1 & 2	4	
Jefferson Davis Parish	35			35
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 1	1	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 2	8	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 3	2	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 4	10	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 5	3	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 6	9	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 7	2	
Lafayette Parish	27			8
		Carencro Fire Department	1	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Duson Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Judice Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Milton Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department	1	
Lafourche Parish	37			17
		Lafourche Fire District 1	7	
		Lafourche Fire District 2	4	
		Lafourche Fire District 6	3	
		Lafourche Fire District 7	3	
LaSalle Parish	0			0
Lincoln Parish	10			0
Livingston Parish	35			18
		Livingston Fire District 1	9	
		Livingston Parish Fire District 8	2	
		Livingston Parish Fire District 10	2	
		Livingston Parish Fire District 11	4	
		Livingston Volunteer Fire Department	1	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Madison Parish	35			35
		Madison Parish Rural Fire Protection District	35	
Morehouse Parish	12			0
Natchitoches Parish	29			22
		Natchitoches Fire District 1	3	
		Natchitoches Fire District 2	3	
		Natchitoches Fire District 3	1	
		Natchitoches Fire District 6	5	
		Natchitoches Fire District 7	4	
		Natchitoches Fire District 8	3	
		Natchitoches Fire District 9	3	
Orleans Parish	52			0
Ouachita Parish	35			0
Plaquemines Parish	35			0
Pointe Coupee Parish	35			1
		Pointe Coupee Fire District 1	1	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Rapides Parish	62			39
		Rapides Fire Protection District 2	6	
		Rapides Fire District 3	7	
		Rapides Fire District 4	2	
		Rapides Fire District 5	4	
		Rapides Fire District 6	9	
		Rapides Fire District 10	5	
		Rapides Fire District 14	6	
Red River Parish	25			12
		Red River Fire Protection District	12	
Richland Parish	57			13
		Delhi Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Mangham Fire Protection District 4	4	
		Rayville Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Start-Girard Fire Protection District	7	
Sabine Parish	52			44
		Sabine Fire District 1, Wards 1 & 2	15	
		Sabine Fire District 1, Wards 3 & 4	14	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		North Sabine Fire Protection District	15	
St. Bernard Parish	35			7
		St. Bernard Parish Fire Department	7	
St. Charles Parish	0			0
St. James Parish	10			0
St. Helena Parish	35			0
St. John the Baptist Parish	13			0
St. Landry Parish	35			1
		Leonville Volunteer Fire Department	1	
St. Martin Parish	55			38
		Arnaudville Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Belle River Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Breaux Bridge Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Butte LaRose Volunteer Fire Department	2	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Cade Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Catahoula Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Cecilia Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Coteau Holmes Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Henderson Fire Service Area	3	
		Parks Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		St. Martinville Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Stephensville Volunteer Fire Department	3	
St. Mary Parish	39			15
		St. Mary Fire District 4	2	
		St. Mary Fire District 5	4	
		St. Mary Fire District 9	0	
		St. Mary Fire District 11	7	
		St. Mary Fire District 12	2	
St. Tammany Parish	35			8
		St. Tammany Fire District 1	8	
Tangipahoa Parish	35			0

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Tensas Parish	35			6
		Tensas Parish Rural Fire Protection District	6	
Terrebonne Parish	35			19
		Terrebonne Fire District 1, 2, & 3, Zone B	6	
		Terrebonne Fire District 9	13	
Union Parish	10			7
		Bernice Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Sardis Ward 4 Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Spencer/West Sterlington Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Ward 5 Volunteer Fire Department	2	
Vermillion Parish	59			40
		Vermillion Fire District 1	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 3	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 4	4	
		Vermillion Fire District 5	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 6	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 7	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 9	4	
		Vermillion Fire District 11	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 12	3	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Vermillion Fire District 13	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 14	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 15	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 16	2	
Vernon Parish	35			29
		Vernon Parish Fire District 1	29	
Washington Parish	35		0	
Webster Parish	10			7
		Webster/Evergreen Fire Protection District	1	
		Webster Fire District 2	2	
		Webster Fire District 4	2	
		Webster Fire District 11	2	
West Baton Rouge Parish	0			0
West Carroll Parish	35			4
		West Carroll Ward 2 Fire Protection District	4	
West Feliciana Parish	0			0
Winn Parish	12			10

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Winnfield Fire Department	10	

As of August 30, 1996:

Total Planned Hydrants: 1,975

Total Installed Hydrants: 848

Some parishes have declined dry hydrants. All parishes will have an opportunity to requested the declined hydrants to supplement the hydrants installed in their parishes.

This report was prepared by the following USDA/AmeriCorps members:

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Nancy Dyer, Twin Valley RC&D, Natchitoches, Louisiana
Donna Haydel, Imperial Calcasieu RC&D, Jennings, Louisiana
Robin Torrence, Capital RC&D, Denham Springs, Louisiana*

Insurance premium information provided by Pat Harvey, Allstate Insurance Company agent, Alexandria, Louisiana.

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY
PROPERTY INSURANCE QUOTATION
AUGUST 13, 1996

ESPECIALLY PREPARED FOR:

NANCY DYER
A
LECOMPTE LA 71423

PREPARED BY:

PAT HARVEY
AGENT
1335 PETERMAN DR
ALEXANDRIA LA 71301
318 442 3496
318 442 3497

LOUISIANA
DELUXE HOMEBOWNERS

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss your property insurance needs. I look forward to offering you the service and value that is the standard of Allstate Insurance. I am sure you will see that this quote can affordably enhance your insurance program.

TERRITORY ZONE 034 Town Class 0010

Policy Coverages:	Amount	Premium
Dwelling	50,000	1,059.00
Other Structures Protection	5,000	
Replacement Cost Guarantee		
Dwelling/Attached Structures		
Personal Property Protection	25,000	
Additional Living Expense	Up to 12 Months	
Family Liability (each occurrence)	100,000	
Guest Medical (each person)	1,000	
Deductibles Applicable	500	

New/Renovated Building Discount

Total Annual Premium 1,059.00

This quote is not a contract, or binder of coverage. All coverages are subject to the terms and conditions contained in the policy and endorsements. The premiums shown are for a 12 month policy period. If you have questions, please contact me at the number listed above.

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY
PROPERTY INSURANCE QUOTATION
AUGUST 13, 1996

ESPECIALLY PREPARED FOR:

NANCY DYER
MAIN ST
LECOMPTE LA 71346

PREPARED BY:

PAT HARVEY
AGENT
1335 PETERMAN DR
ALEXANDRIA LA 71301
318 442 3496
318 442 3497

LOUISIANA
DELUXE HOMEOWNERS

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss your property insurance needs. I look forward to offering you the service and value that is the standard of Allstate Insurance. I am sure you will see that this quote can affordably enhance your insurance program.

TERRITORY ZONE 034 Town Class 0009

Policy Coverages:	Amount	Premium
Dwelling	50,000	797.00
Other Structures Protection	5,000	
Replacement Cost Guarantee		
Dwelling/Attached Structures		
Personal Property Protection	25,000	
Additional Living Expense	Up to 12 Months	
Family Liability (each occurrence)	100,000	
Guest Medical (each person)	1,000	
Deductibles Applicable	500	

New/Renovated Building Discount

Total Annual Premium 797.00

This quote is not a contract, or binder of coverage. All coverages are subject to the terms and conditions contained in the policy and endorsements. The premiums shown are for a 12 month policy period. If you have questions, please contact me at the number listed above.

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY
PROPERTY INSURANCE QUOTATION
AUGUST 13, 1996

ESPECIALLY PREPARED FOR:

NANCY DYER
A
LECOMPTE LA 71423

PREPARED BY:

PAT HARVEY
AGENT
1335 PETERMAN DR
ALEXANDRIA LA 71301
318 442 3496
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Thank you for the opportunity to discuss your property insurance needs. I look forward to offering you the service and value that is the standard of Allstate Insurance. I am sure you will see that this quote can affordably enhance your insurance program.

TERRITORY ZONE 034 Town Class 0008

Policy Coverages:	Amount	Premium
Dwelling	50,000	622.00
Other Structures Protection	5,000	
Replacement Cost Guarantee		
Dwelling/Attached Structures		
Personal Property Protection	25,000	
Additional Living Expense	Up to 12 Months	
Family Liability (each occurrence)	100,000	
Guest Medical (each person)	1,000	
Deductibles Applicable	500	

New/Renovated Building Discount

Total Annual Premium 622.00

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TERRITORY ZONE 034 Town Class 0007

Policy Coverages:	Amount	Premium
Dwelling	50,000	523.00
Other Structures Protection	5,000	
Replacement Cost Guarantee		
Dwelling/Attached Structures		
Personal Property Protection	25,000	
Additional Living Expense	Up to 12 Months	
Family Liability (each occurrence)	100,000	
Guest Medical (each person)	1,000	
Deductibles Applicable	500	

New/Renovated Building Discount

Total Annual Premium 523.00

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Release No. 0523.96

Tom Amontree (202) 720-4623
Joel Berg (202) 720-5746

USDA AMERICORPS RURAL FIRE PROJECTS SAVE PROPERTY AND MONEY

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30, 1996 --Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced today that rural fire protection projects implemented by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's AmeriCorps national service program have protected property from destruction and will save rural homeowners in four states an estimated \$48 million in one year.

Given that the total governmental cost for the AmeriCorps fire protection projects--including construction materials and education awards for the AmeriCorps members--was \$1.7 million, the projects will return \$27 to rural homeowners yearly for every dollar spent on the program by the government. The attached chart shows the economic benefits of "dry fire hydrant" projects implemented by USDA's AmeriCorps program in Arkansas, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Vermont.

Dry fire hydrants are special hooks-ups that allow rural fire departments to obtain water for fire fighting in areas that do not have existing water mains that can provide adequate pressure. The installation of such dry fire hydrants has saved homes and commercial properties from destruction and is helping an estimated 312,000 rural homeowners reduce their insurance rates. Some homeowners will have their rates reduced by up to \$250 yearly. The rates are lowered by insurance companies as a result of an improvement in fire classification ratings in the counties or fire districts in which the dry fire hydrants are installed.

"This is another example of how USDA's AmeriCorps program meets critical local needs while promoting community, opportunity, and responsibility, but that the program is putting dollars directly back into the pockets of homeowners," Glickman said. "This program has already saved property -- and possibly lives -- at the same time it has helped families reduce their insurance payments. It is precisely because of success stories such as this that the President has been winning increasing bi-partisan support for his AmeriCorps program."

The AmeriCorps dry fire hydrant projects are jointly sponsored by Resource Conservation and Development Councils, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Corporation for National Service, and local fire departments. AmeriCorps, President Clinton's national service program passed with bipartisan support by Congress, engages over 20,000 Americans of diverse backgrounds in performing service that meets critical community needs in return for an award which may be used for post-secondary education.

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USDA AMERICORPS DRY FIRE HYDRANT PROJECTS
STATE-BY-STATE RESULTS
As of September 1996

	Arkansas	Louisiana	South Carolina	Vermont	TOTAL
# of dry fire hydrant installations performed and/or coordinated by AmeriCorps/USDA	30	848*	99	44	1,021
Total federal/state cost of program	\$44,05	\$1,523,024**	\$113,200	\$60,000	\$1,740,274
# of structures directly or indirectly saved from damage by dry fire hydrants	0	10	1	4	15
Estimated value of the structures saved	N/A	\$730,000	\$75,000	\$400,000	\$1,205,000
Estimated number of homeowners to obtain lower insurance rate	2,250	300,000	9,000	1,600	312,850
Average yearly insurance rate reduction for homeowners	\$200	\$150	\$250	\$76	\$169
Total estimated yearly savings for homeowners	\$450,000	\$45,000,000	\$2,250,000	\$121,600	\$47,821,600
Number of dollars returned to homeowners for each dollar spent by the government	\$9.22	\$29.03	\$19.54	\$7.69	\$27.17

*1,167 additional dry fire hydrants are planned for installation next year in Louisiana.

** The cost of the Louisiana program covers the installation of the total 2,015 dry fire hydrants.

NEWS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of Communications News Room 460-A
Washington, DC 20250-1300
Internet: News @usda.gov Phone: 202-720-9035
World Wide Web Home Page: <http://www.usda.gov>

Release No. 0523.96

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"This is another example of how USDA's AmeriCorps program meets critical local needs while promoting community, opportunity, and responsibility, but that the program is putting dollars directly back into the pockets of homeowners," Glickman said. "This program has already saved property -- and possibly lives -- at the same time it has helped families reduce their insurance payments. It is precisely because of success stories such as this that the President has been winning increasing bi-partisan support for his AmeriCorps program."

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USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project

Louisiana

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Background

In many rural areas, the lack of an established water system and domestic fire hydrants can impair a fire department's ability to do its job quickly and efficiently. Many fire departments have chosen to develop a water hauling or "shuttle" procedure. Tanker trucks are used to carry large amounts of water to the fire scene to deliver a continuous supply of water. The success of this system is relative to the distance the trucks must travel to refill. A dry hydrant system provides a solution to the problem of distant fill-up points.

USDA/AmeriCorps members are working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Louisiana to plan, survey, and coordinate the installation of over 2,000 dry fire hydrants in rural areas through the Louisiana Statewide Dry Fire Hydrant Program.

Louisiana Statewide Dry Fire Hydrant Program

Over 2,000 dry fire hydrants are being installed across Louisiana to help improve rural fire protection and rural road maintenance through the Louisiana Statewide Dry Hydrant (SWDH) program. The SWDH program was funded through a \$996,984 grant to Trailblazer Resource Conservation and Development, Inc., from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources using oil overcharge funds from the Stripper Will Settlement as approved by the U.S. Department of Energy. Local units of government and local volunteer fire departments will provide in-kind matching funds in the form of equipment and labor for installations. Materials for dry hydrants average \$1,000-\$1,500 per hydrant.

What is a Dry Hydrant?

A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe system permanently installed in existing bodies of water (lakes, ponds, streams, etc.) to provide a means of suctioning water into a tank truck. One end of the dry hydrant protrudes out of the ground to give tanker trucks a hose connection. The other end is composed of a strainer submerged in the pond or stream to draw water directly through the system. The dry hydrant system gives tanker trucks access to ponds and streams from the main road and ends the necessity of going all the way back to the starting point for a refill.

Water Shuttle

In a water hauling operation, the time it takes to fill the tanker, the distance the tanker has to travel to the fire, and the time it takes to discharge the water from the tanker are critical elements in rural fire protection. Time saved on any one of the above points will increase the amount of water that can be hauled to the fire. Dry hydrants, properly located, can substantially reduce travel time from a water source to the fire.

Some departments are using the system in the following manner: when a fire alarm is received, equipment is dispatched on a pre-planned basis determined by such things as fire flow needs, hazards involved, water supply available, etc. One tanker and one pumper respond to the fire. The pumper begins the fire attack with water from its booster tank. The

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project Louisiana

first responding tanker may act as a "nurse" tanker, or may set up a portable drop tank and begin discharging its load of water into the drop tank. The water in the tanker can be transferred to the portable drop tank at a rate of approximately 1,000 gallons per minute. As soon as the tanker is empty, it immediately heads to the water supply. In the meantime, another fire department pumper has responded to the water supply, connected to the dry hydrant, and primed its pump. When the empty tanker arrives at the water supply, the pumper is ready to fill the tanker. The refilled tanker returns to the fire site, discharges its water, and the cycle is repeated.

Expected Benefits

Saves Lives and Property

The most important benefit of the installation of dry hydrants in rural areas is the increased capability of firefighters to save lives and property. Eight structures have been directly saved because a dry hydrant was near the fire or because no pressurized hydrants were in the area. Ten structures were indirectly saved when grass fires and forest fires were contained with the use of dry hydrants.

During a hard freeze in February 1996, Concordia Parish (Vidalia and Ferriday, Louisiana) lost electricity so pressurized hydrants were not accessible for fire protection. Dry hydrants were used for the three fires encountered throughout the power failure. The Concordia Parish Fire District was thankful for the use of the dry hydrants, as well as neighboring fire districts.

In DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, dry hydrants were used to save two saw mills.

In Iberia Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a structure fire.

In February 1996, Ward 4 Fire Protection District in Jackson Parish, Louisiana, used water drawn from a dry hydrant to extinguish an approximately ten-acre grass fire, which was endangering a nearby dwelling. Due to the proximity of the hydrant to the fire, the fire did not harm the building.

In April 1997, Ward 4 Fire Protection District in Jackson Parish, Louisiana, got another chance to utilize their dry hydrants to extinguish a woods fire. They were able to save three homes from destruction.

In Beauregard Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a forest fire that was threatening to endanger surrounding homes.

In Vermilion Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a barn fire which was located near two houses, a barn, and a greenhouse.

In DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a house fire.

In Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant is used on a continuous basis for training area volunteer firefighters.

Numerous brush fires and woods fires throughout Louisiana were contained with the use of dry hydrants before the fires caused destruction to surrounding homes and buildings.

It is estimated that during a recent six-month period, property valued at an estimated \$730,000 was saved by containing fires with the use of dry hydrants. By the year 2000, it is projected that property valued at over \$5 million will have been saved because of the use of dry hydrants.

Decrease in Fire Classification Rating

Fire insurance premiums for each area are based on a classification determined by the Property Insurance Association of Louisiana (PIAL). The classification PIAL assigns depends on each area's ability to fight fires. Areas with no fire departments are given a class 10 rating. As the fire-fighting capability increases, the rating decreases. Higher training levels and better equipment are among the ways this can be accomplished. For example, if a fire department can demonstrate the ability to pump 250 gallons of water per minute for two hours at a fire scene, the area's fire classification rating could potentially decrease to a six or seven. Dry fire hydrants play an important role in such a demonstration in rural areas.

Based on information collected through interviews of fire chiefs of volunteer fire departments participating in the dry fire hydrants program in rural Louisiana, the installations of dry fire hydrants are a contributing factor in affecting the district's fire classification rating in one of two ways, either (1) the fire rating will drop one or two points, or (2) the fire rating will be maintained at the current level and will not go up a point. This decrease in fire classification rating or maintenance of a rating significantly influences the insurance premiums of homeowners in these rural communities.

It is important to note that most major insurance companies will not issue fire insurance coverage for homes located in fire classification 10 or 9 areas. Therefore, it is reasonable to predict that the installation of dry fire hydrants in rural Louisiana will contribute significantly to the ability of homeowners to acquire affordable fire insurance.

Insurance Premium Savings

In Jackson Parish, Louisiana, the Quitman Fire Protection District successfully conducted a water shuttle demonstration using a dry hydrant for PIAL. This shuttle enabled the district to improve their property insurance rating from a 9 to an 8, leading to a **21% drop in commercial insurance**

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

premiums.

In Natchitoches Parish Fire District 7, dry fire hydrants are contributing to a fire insurance rating reduction from a class 10 to a class 7. A homeowner in Fire District 7 with a brick house worth \$100,000 can expect the insurance premium with a class 10 fire rating to be \$1,940/year. The premium for the same house with a class 7 rating is significantly reduced to \$1,086/year. This is a savings of \$854/year for the homeowner. **This is a 44% reduction from the original premium.**

The following table demonstrates the money saved or lost and the percentage change in rural homeowners' insurance premiums when fire classification ratings change:

Premium Change as a Result of Fire Classification Rating Change

Table data based on fire classification ratings/premiums for a \$50,000 house in Lecompte, Rapides Parish, Louisiana (see Appendix A).

Present Fire Classification Rating/Premium				
Future Fire Classification Rating/Premium	10 \$1,059.00	9 \$797.00	8 \$622.00	7 \$523.00
10 \$1,059.00	0	\$262 (+33%)	\$437 (+70%)	\$536 (+102%)
9 \$797.00	-\$262 (-25%)	0	\$175 (+28%)	\$274 (+52%)
8 \$622.00	-\$437 (-41%)	-\$175 (-22%)	0	\$99 (+19%)
7 \$523.00	-\$536 (-51%)	-\$274 (-34%)	-\$99 (-16%)	0

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project Louisiana

Based on the above table, the prediction can be made that when the Lecompte Volunteer Fire Department receives a fire rating reduction from a 9 to an 8, the rural homeowner of a \$50,000 home will save \$175 a year or 22 percent on their homeowners' insurance. Yet, if that fire rating was to increase from an 8 to a 9, the homeowner would see a \$175 or 28 percent increase in their homeowners insurance premium (see Appendix A).

Projected Savings

Population data was collected on the number of rural homeowners living in all parishes in Louisiana from 1990 U.S. Census information. Figures were compiled for the number of rural homeowners in the parishes participating in the dry fire hydrants program. The results indicated that 638,042 homeowners will reap significant financial benefits because of the installation of dry hydrants in their communities. As stated previously, fire chiefs estimate at least a one point drop in their fire rating with the installation of dry hydrants as a contributing factor. Based on the table above, if 638,042 rural Louisiana homeowners live in a fire district that receives a one point rate decrease from a 9 to an 8, they could save \$111,657,350 in one year on insurance premium costs (the value of the homes, number of points changed in fire classification ratings, and insurance premium rates will vary from fire district to fire district).

Other Benefits

Other benefits of dry fire hydrants include conservation of limited water storage for drinking water and the use of natural, unprocessed water for road maintenance.

Dry Hydrants. . . "Worth Their Weight in Gold"

Following is a letter submitted to the editor of a local newspaper from D. J. Brown, Chief, District 8, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana

Dry hydrants are worth their weight in gold. We found out in May of 1996. One of the first dry hydrants we installed was on a spring-fed pond on Highway 509, about 2.5 miles from the Broadway Saw Mill. Little did we know that we would use these dry hydrants two times in the next three weeks.

The first fire call came in the second week of May, one week after we had installed our dry hydrant. When we arrived at the scene, the sawmill was over half involved in fire. We knew that this was going to be a water shuttle fire, so we sent 812, our LDH pumper straight to the Highway 509 dry fire hydrant to set up. But this time, unlike before, with other structure fires, we only sent the driver instead of the driver and at least five other firefighters.

What was the difference? Simply this: a six-inch dry hydrant. That's right! Instead of having to hook up 30 feet of heavy hard suction pipe, have three firefighters put it in the pond, find a bucket to tie the end of the strainer to keep it from dragging bottom, pull the hard suction pipe back to the pumper to hook up and prime, and finally start to

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project Louisiana

pump, now all we have to do is put our pumper 8 feet from the hydrant end, hook up just one section of pipe, prime, and pump, pump, pump!

The second fire was at the same location, two weeks later. A large wood scrap ship pile was fully involved, and the wind was forcing it back towards the mill. Again, we sent our 812 pumper straight to the dry hydrant, and within 5 minutes it was primed and ready to pump. The first fire we pumped 40,000 gallons of water, the second fire we pumped 70,000 gallons of water.

In May we needed to test our 1250 pumpers, so again we went to a newly installed dry hydrant and tested our trucks. Both trucks we tested pumped over 1,350 gallons per minute each.

Another advantage I noticed was the ability of a dry hydrant to out-perform the rural town hydrant systems. Take for example in my hometown, the hydrant system was installed sometime in the 1950's. It only has a four-inch supply line and several miles of pipe. For us this meant that our water supply was limited to 200 to 400 gallons per minute, and that our pressure would be between 20 and 40 psi. The psi is supplied by a pump at the water tank which means that should you lose power, then the hydrant system would have very little pressure. With a dry hydrant you don't need any electricity, a one-man set up is all that is required, there is little or no friction loss, and only 20 to 100 feet of hard suction pipe is needed.

The dry hydrant is truly a multi-purpose hydrant. This is why we at Fire District 8 say that dry hydrants are WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD!!

Building Community

Police juries and volunteer fire departments work with USDA/AmeriCorps members to plan, survey and install dry fire hydrants. This local volunteer effort is reflected by 40,919 hours of community time donated to this effort at a value of \$1,529,002.40.

Progress Report of Dry Hydrant Installations by Parish

Following is a progress report of dry hydrant installations in Louisiana:

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Acadia Parish	52			20
		Acadia Fire District 1	6	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Acadia Fire District 8	2	
		Acadia Fire Protection District 3	3	
		Acadia Parish Fire District 5	4	
		Eunice Fire Department	2	
		Fire Protection District 6	3	
Allen Parish	35			34
		Elton Volunteer Fire Department	8	
		Oberlin Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Elizabeth Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Fire Protection District 4	1	
		Oakdale Fire Department	7	
		Allen Fire Protection District 2, Ward 3	12	
		Grant Volunteer Fire Department	3	
Ascension Parish	35			0
Assumption Parish	35			0
Avoyelles Parish	35			6
		Avoyelles Fire Protection District 2, Subdistrict 8	6	

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Beauregard Parish	35			35
		Beauregard Fire District 1	6	
		Beauregard Fire District 2	3	
		Beauregard Fire District 3	7	
		Beauregard Fire District 3A	5	
		Beauregard Fire District 4	8	
		Merryville Volunteer Fire Department	6	
Bienville Parish	10			10
		Bienville Fire District 6	5	
		Bienville Ward 1 & 2 Fire District	2	
		Bienville Ward 7 Fire Protection District	3	
Bossier Parish	10			9
		Benton Fire District 4	2	
		Bossier Fire District 2	2	
		Bossier Fire District 6	3	
		East Central Bossier Fire Protection District 1	2	
Caddo Parish	48			42
		Caddo Parish Fire District 2	10	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 3	1	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 4	9	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Caddo Parish Fire District 6	3	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 7	8	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 8	11	
Calcasieu Parish	35			35
		Carlyss Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		DeQuincy Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Hayes Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Houston River Volunteer Fire Department	5	
		Iowa Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Lake Charles Fire Department	6	
		Starks Volunteer Fire Department	8	
		Vinton Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Westlake Volunteer Fire Department	5	
Caldwell Parish	35			30
		Caldwell Parish Rural Fire Protection District	30	
Cameron Parish	35			34
		Cameron Fire District 1	4	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Cameron Fire District 7	3	
		Cameron Fire District 9	9	
		Cameron Fire District 11	3	
		Cameron Fire District 14	11	
		Klondike Volunteer Fire Department	4	
Catahoula Parish	35			10
		Maitland Volunteer Fire Department	7	
		Manifest Volunteer Fire Department	3	
Claiborne Parish	10			1
		Claiborne Fire Protection District 4	1	
Concordia Parish	35			1
		Concordia Parish Rural Fire Protection District	1	
DeSoto Parish	58			45
		DeSoto Fire District 1	12	
		DeSoto Fire District 2	5	
		DeSoto Fire District 3	2	
		DeSoto Fire District 5	7	
		DeSoto Fire District 8	19	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
East Baton Rouge Parish	35			0
East Carroll Parish	12			0
East Feliciana Parish	35			0
Evangeline Parish	30			17
		Mamou Fire Protection District 1	4	
		Pine Prairie Area Fire Protection District	7	
		Ville Platte Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Ward 5 Fire Protection District	4	
Franklin Parish	59			15
		Liddieville Volunteer Fire Department	6	
		Fort Necessity Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Turkey Creek Volunteer Fire Department	5	
Grant Parish	43			20
		District 5 VFD	5	
		Grant Fire District 1	4	
		Grant Fire District 3	3	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Grant Fire District 7	5	
		Tullos Volunteer Fire Department	3	
Iberia Parish	35			35
		Iberia Parish Fire District 1	35	
Iberville Parish	35			0
Jackson Parish	18			10
		Hodge Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Jackson Fire District 6	1	
		Quitman Fire Protection District 1	1	
		Ward 4 Fire Protection District	6	
Jefferson Parish	4			4
		Jefferson Fire Districts 1 & 2	4	
Jefferson Davis Parish	35			35
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 1	1	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 2	8	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 3	2	

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 4	10	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 5	3	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 6	9	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 7	2	
Lafayette Parish	27			8
		Carencro Fire Department	1	
		Duson Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Judice Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Milton Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department	1	
Lafourche Parish	37			17
		Lafourche Fire District 1	7	
		Lafourche Fire District 2	4	
		Lafourche Fire District 6	3	
		Lafourche Fire District 7	3	
LaSalle Parish	0			0
Lincoln Parish	10			0

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Livingston Parish	35			18
		Livingston Fire District 1	9	
		Livingston Parish Fire District 8	2	
		Livingston Parish Fire District 10	2	
		Livingston Parish Fire District 11	4	
		Livingston Volunteer Fire Department	1	
Madison Parish	35			35
		Madison Parish Rural Fire Protection District	35	
Morehouse Parish	12			0
Natchitoches Parish	29			22
		Natchitoches Fire District 1	3	
		Natchitoches Fire District 2	3	
		Natchitoches Fire District 3	1	
		Natchitoches Fire District 6	5	
		Natchitoches Fire District 7	4	
		Natchitoches Fire District 8	3	
		Natchitoches Fire District 9	3	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Orleans Parish	52			0
Ouachita Parish	35			0
Plaquemines Parish	35			0
Pointe Coupee Parish	35			1
		Pointe Coupee Fire District 1	1	
Rapides Parish	62			39
		Rapides Fire Protection District 2	6	
		Rapides Fire District 3	7	
		Rapides Fire District 4	2	
		Rapides Fire District 5	4	
		Rapides Fire District 6	9	
		Rapides Fire District 10	5	
		Rapides Fire District 14	6	
Red River Parish	25			12
		Red River Fire Protection District	12	
Richland Parish	57			13
		Delhi Volunteer Fire Department	1	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Mangham Fire Protection District 4	4	
		Rayville Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Start-Girard Fire Protection District	7	
Sabine Parish	52			44
		Sabine Fire District 1, Wards 1 & 2	15	
		Sabine Fire District 1, Wards 3 & 4	14	
		North Sabine Fire Protection District	15	
St. Bernard Parish	35			7
		St. Bernard Parish Fire Department	7	
St. Charles Parish	0			0
St. James Parish	10			0
St. Helena Parish	35			0
St. John the Baptist Parish	13			0
St. Landry Parish	35			1

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Leonville Volunteer Fire Department	1	
St. Martin Parish	55			38
		Arnaudville Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Belle River Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Breaux Bridge Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Butte LaRose Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Cade Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Catahoula Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Cecilia Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Coteau Holmes Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Henderson Fire Service Area	3	
		Parks Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		St. Martinville Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Stephensville Volunteer Fire Department	3	
St. Mary Parish	39			15
		St. Mary Fire District 4	2	
		St. Mary Fire District 5	4	

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		St. Mary Fire District 9	0	
		St. Mary Fire District 11	7	
		St. Mary Fire District 12	2	
St. Tammany Parish	35			8
		St. Tammany Fire District 1	8	
Tangipahoa Parish	35			0
Tensas Parish	35			6
		Tensas Parish Rural Fire Protection District	6	
Terrebonne Parish	35			19
		Terrebonne Fire District 1, 2, & 3, Zone B	6	
		Terrebonne Fire District 9	13	
Union Parish	10			7
		Bernice Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Sardis Ward 4 Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Spencer/West Sterlington Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Ward 5 Volunteer Fire Department	2	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Vermillion Parish	59			40
		Vermillion Fire District 1	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 3	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 4	4	
		Vermillion Fire District 5	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 6	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 7	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 9	4	
		Vermillion Fire District 11	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 12	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 13	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 14	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 15	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 16	2	
Vernon Parish	35			29
		Vernon Parish Fire District 1	29	
Washington Parish	35		0	
Webster Parish	10			7
		Webster/Evergreen Fire Protection District	1	
		Webster Fire District 2	2	
		Webster Fire District 4	2	
		Webster Fire District 11	2	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
West Baton Rouge Parish	0			0
West Carroll Parish	35			4
		West Carroll Ward 2 Fire Protection District	4	
West Feliciana Parish	0			0
Winn Parish	12			10
		Winnfield Fire Department	10	

As of August 30, 1996:

Total Planned Hydrants: 1,975

Total Installed Hydrants: 848

Some parishes have declined dry hydrants. All parishes will have an opportunity to requested the declined hydrants to supplement the hydrants installed in their parishes.

This report was prepared by the following USDA/AmeriCorps members:

*Tom Morton, Trailblazer RC&D, Ruston, Louisiana
Nancy Dyer, Twin Valley RC&D, Natchitoches, Louisiana
Donna Haydel, Imperial Calcasieu RC&D, Jennings, Louisiana
Robin Torrence, Capital RC&D, Denham Springs, Louisiana*

*Insurance premium information provided by Pat Harvey, Allstate Insurance Company
agent, Alexandria, Louisiana.*

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NEWS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture

Volume 50 No. 7

August-September 1991



Pinching a sample of soil—and not getting in trouble for it—was all part of “Family Farming in the Heartland”...page 3.

Two words that may affect your retirement checks...(page 1)

What that rural area needs is a “dry hydrant”...(page 1)

We’re helping fight a scourge of the Great Lakes...(page 2)

The “Family Farm” comes to the nation’s capital...(page 3)

DRY FIRE HYDRANT INFORMATION REQUEST

FROM: ARKANSAS
BY: BRUCE LEGGITT
TO: HOLLY MARTIEN

How many dry fire hydrant installations were coordinated/performed by your Americorps members? 30

How many rural homeowners reside in counties/fire districts where dry hydrant installations have been coordinated or performed by your Americorps members? 5 counties and 7 districts; 600 homeowners

Has there been a drop in fire classification ratings for homeowners in the counties? One district has been reclassified by ISO affecting @ 50 homes. Rating was reduced from a 9 to a 7. Savings equal approximately \$350 per household. $\$350 \times 50 = \$17,500$ annual savings.

Is there a projected drop in fire classification ratings for homeowners in the counties where hydrants have been coordinated. Each of the six districts have requested an ISO evaluation. These districts are currently 8's and 9's. All districts are optimistic their ratings will be reduced to seven.

Fire insurance premiums decrease. See above.

Structures saved- zero

Estimated Value-n/a

Rural Homeowners Reap Benefits of Dry Fire Hydrants

Secretary Glickman Praises USDA AmeriCorps Members and RC&D Councils

"Millions of dollars will be saved by rural homeowners across the nation because USDA AmeriCorps members are working with Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) councils to implement dry fire hydrant programs," U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Dan Glickman announced Friday.

"USDA AmeriCorps members, working through RC&D councils in Louisiana, Arkansas, Vermont, and South Carolina, have improved the quality of life for many rural residents by coordinating the installation of dry fire hydrants."

"In many rural areas, the lack of an established water system and domestic fire hydrants can keep a fire department from doing its job quickly and efficiently. Dry fire hydrants provide easy access to water in rural areas. Dry fire hydrants are non-pressurized pipe systems permanently installed in lakes, ponds, or streams to provide a means of suctioning water into a tank truck. Tanker trucks are then used by fire departments to carry water to the fire scene to deliver a continuous supply of water."

"In Louisiana during a recent six-month period, property valued at an estimated \$730,000 was saved by containing fires using dry fire hydrants," stated Glickman, "and in Vermont, dry fire hydrants have saved structures valued at \$140,000."

"Not only will the dry fire hydrants provide easy access to water for fire protection to save lives and property, the possibility of a fire classification rating drop for homeowners could mean a decrease in fire insurance premiums. Savings in fire insurance premiums have already been realized by many homeowners in Louisiana, Vermont, and Arkansas."

"In Arkansas, for example, 50 homeowners reaped the benefits of a fire classification rating drop by saving an average of \$350 per household---that's an annual savings of \$17,500 for that community alone." Glickman further stated, "Vermont households in fire districts installing dry fire hydrants are realizing a reduction of 18 percent in fire insurance premium rates, and Louisiana residents in Natchitoches Parish Fire District 7 are benefiting from a 44 percent reduction in fire insurance rates."

"This is only the beginning of the success of the dry fire hydrant program," stated Glickman. "In the next four years, it is predicted that rural homeowners will realize over \$2.5 million in property savings and \$200 million in fire insurance premium savings---not to mention the lives that could be saved."

"USDA AmeriCorps members and RC&D councils working with dry fire hydrant projects are commended for helping communities enhance safety, save money, and improve the quality of life for their citizens."

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Projects

The Secretary of Agriculture is planning to make an announcement on the success of the dry fire hydrant installation efforts of USDA AmeriCorps members. Joel Berg, Director of National Service for USDA, has asked me to assemble information from each state participating in dry fire hydrant projects. He is tentatively planning to make the announcement on the dry hydrant program for the Secretary on September 27.

Please complete the information requested below and return this to me by fax by Tuesday, September 24, 1996.

TO: Holly Martien
Administrative Program Specialist
USDA, NRCS, Louisiana

FAX: (318) 473-7882
Telephone: (318) 473-7753

FROM:

Dennis Borchardt

George D. Aiken RC&D Council - Vermont
Dry Fire Hydrant Information Request

Holly please call if you have?
(802) 28-9526

Information Request	Reply
How many dry fire hydrant installations were coordinated/performed by your AmeriCorps members?	44
How many rural homeowners reside in counties/fire districts where dry fire hydrant installations have been coordinated or performed by your AmeriCorps members? (This information can be obtained from 1990 U.S. Census data which is available in USDA Rural Development state offices)	43,607
Has there been a drop in fire classification ratings for homeowners in the counties/fire districts where dry fire hydrant installations have been coordinated or performed by your AmeriCorps members? If so, what was the rating drop from? to?	Yes 1 Community 10 to 9
Is there a projected drop in fire classification ratings for homeowners in the counties/fire districts where dry fire hydrants have been coordinated/installed by your AmeriCorps members?	Yes
For those areas projecting/receiving a fire classification rating decrease, has there been a projected/actual decrease in fire insurance premium rates? What is the projected/actual savings in fire insurance premiums per year for these homeowners? (Indicate Projected or Actual)	Actual - Ave. reduction of 18% for all policies.
Have structures been saved because of dry fire hydrants installed by AmeriCorps members?	Yes
If structures have been saved, what is the estimated value of the property saved?	140,000

Note: The Team also assisted 17 communities/fire depts. in 1995 to completed comprehensive Fire Suppression Water Supply Plans AND we are projecting 25 Plans in 1996.

ARKANSAS
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
RURAL FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION:

The 1992 general assembly of the state of Arkansas appropriated \$2.2 million dollars for the state association of RC&D Councils. These funds were to be used to implement the RC&D Rural Fire Protection Program in the state of Arkansas. The program is a spin off of the 1988 RC&D Dry Hydrant Program, in which then Governor Bill Clinton authorized \$650,000 in energy funds to be used to install over 1,100 dry hydrants state wide in Arkansas. The success of that program led to this action of the state legislature and Governor Jim Guy Tucker.

The program calls for county wide rural fire protection plans to be developed in each of Arkansas 75 counties. These plans are aimed at making rural departments more efficient and provides each department with a road map to reducing their ISO ratings. These ISO ratings determine the efficiency of a department which in turn result in reduced home owners fire insurance premiums as a departments rating is reduced. Once a rural department becomes part of the planning process they will become eligible for dollars for works of improvement through the fire protection program. Funds for works of improvement will be primarily directed to water supply and delivery. A departments water supply points and the ability of that department to deliver water to a fire accounts for 45% of that departments ISO rating.

AMERICORPS PARTICIPATION:

AmeriCorps Rural Development Team Members are playing a critical role in the development of these rural fire protection plans. AmeriCorps members are in the process of visiting each of the 950 rural fire departments in Arkansas to make them aware of the program and to explain the criteria for participating in the program. AmeriCorps members are holding public

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

of pages ► 2

To <i>Holly</i>	From <i>Lee</i>
Dept./Agency	Phone #
Fax # <i>318-423-7682</i>	Fax #

NSN 7540-01-317-7368

5099-101

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

meetings which include county and city officials, volunteer fire fighters, and local residence to explain the concept and procedures for developing a county wide rural fire protection plan. As of this print all of the counties within the state have elected to participate in the planning process. AmeriCorps members are now ensuring that each of the departments within each county participate in the program.

In addition to the old dry hydrant program AmeriCorps members have coordinated the location and installation of 30 dry hydrants recently installed within the Central Arkansas RC&D area. These hydrants resulted in the Hilltop Rural Volunteer Fire Department success in reducing their ISO rating from nine to seven. This resulted in a 40% savings on fire insurance premiums for the 450 home owners within their district. The average savings per home was approximately \$200 per year which resulted in a total savings of \$90,000 per year. This savings is from one district. When you look at Arkansas' 700 rural departments with an ISO rating of nine and ten this could result in a state wide savings of nearly \$70,000,000 in home owners fire insurance premiums.

AmeriCorps would be involved every step of the way in reaching this goal. AmeriCorps members will play a strategic part in coordinating hundreds of volunteers in developing the plan and implementing the works of improvement for rural fire departments.

DRY HYDRANT RESULTS:

Of the 1,100 dry hydrants installed in 1988 through 1990, over 50% have been used by rural fire departments. Approximately 60% of the use has been in the form of training. The remaining 40% has been used in some form of an emergency. Those emergencies in addition to structural fires include brush and timber fires, toxic spills, and highway fires. At any rate the only method of water extraction recognized by ISO besides pressurized hydrants are dry hydrants. Pressurized hydrants must be located on at least a 6 inch water line before ISO recognizes it as a water supply point.



September 5, 1996

From: Joel Berg 
To: Keith Collins
Subject: **Verifying the Economic Impact of an USDA AmeriCorps Project**

USDA AmeriCorps Members in Louisiana, Arkansas, Vermont, South Carolina, New Hampshire, and Arkansas have been working to site and install "dry fire hydrants" that improve fire protection in rural areas.

According to the attached report from the NRCS AmeriCorps Project Manager in Louisiana, the project in Louisiana helped directly save eight structures, including two saw mills in Desoto Parish; the project helped indirectly save ten structures, including three homes in Jackson Parish and one home in DeSoto Parish. It is estimated that property saved is valued at \$730,000; by the year 2000, the dry fire hydrants will save an estimated \$5 million in property damage. It is estimated that the project will benefit an estimated 638,042 rural landowners in Louisiana, helping save an estimated \$111.675 million in home insurance costs in one year. (Explanation on page 5)

THUS, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THIS ONE USDA AMERICORPS PROJECT IN LOUISIANA WILL HELP SAVE RURAL HOMEOWNERS AN ESTIMATED \$112 MILLION IN ONE YEAR. GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE TOTAL FEDERAL SPENDING ON THIS AMERICORPS PROJECT IS LESS THAN \$150,000, EACH DOLLAR IN FEDERAL SPENDING PRODUCED \$746 DOLLARS IN DIRECT BENEFIT TO TAXPAYERS.

We are working on a press release in which the Secretary will announce the results of this project, but, before we do, we want to make absolutely sure the economic methodology of this report is valid. I would greatly appreciate it if you could assign a member of your staff to review this or suggest which division of ERS might be best suited to review this.

I can be reached at 720-5746 if you have any questions or suggestions.

NEWS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of Communications News Room 460-A
Washington, DC 20250-1300
Internet: News @usda.gov Phone: 202-720-9035
World Wide Web Home Page: <http://www.usda.gov>

Release No. 0489.96

Tom Amontree (202) 720-4623
Sarah McCourt (202) 720-7173

GLICKMAN HIGHLIGHTS PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AT COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAY IN SOUTH BRONX

SOUTH BRONX, New York, September 12, 1996--Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman and Under Secretary Jim Lyons joined community residents, volunteers and corporate officials, including Viacom Chair and CEO Sumner Redstone, for a community cleanup effort in the South Bronx. The South Bronx is one of a number of sites identified in New York City to receive financial and technical assistance for environmental improvement projects through the Department of Agriculture's Urban Resources Partnership.

"We know the community spirit exists across the country for cleaner, safer places for people to work and play," said Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman. "The Urban Resources Partnership, begun under the Clinton Administration, is an opportunity for the federal government to connect with urban communities and help residents identify and achieve their goals for an enhanced quality of life. It provides them with financial and technical assistance necessary to help them work to protect and restore their environment."

"The Urban Resources Partnership combines the imagination and initiative of community residents and the support of local businesses and organizations with the expertise of federal agency staff and public funding to create a climate where everyone wins. The communities we've selected for the URP program have tremendous resources right in their own backyards. We're just trying to give that helping hand to make it that much easier," said Under Secretary Jim Lyons.

The West Farms community is one of 19 environmental education and enhancement in New York City, which is one of eight sites to receive funding under the Urban Resources Partnership. To date, the West Farms community has received \$183,000 for their Zooway Project, a pedestrian walkway and greenspace network between the entrance to the Bronx Zoo and the local subway station.

The Urban Resources Partnership, which began in 1994, is a collaborative effort among seven federal agencies that provides funding and technical assistance to community-based groups participating in a wide array of natural resource projects. Federal agencies participating in the URP program include the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Forest Service and Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service; the Department of the Interior's National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service; the Department of Housing and Urban Development; and the Environmental Protection Agency.

-more-

Other URP sites are located in Atlanta, Chicago, Denver, East St. Louis, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Seattle.

#

NOTE: USDA news releases and media advisories are available on the Internet. Access the USDA Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.usda.gov>



FAX TRANSMITTAL

Date: 9/6/96Number of Pages (including this page): 4TO: Joel Berg/Dee DiFioreFAX No.: 202-720-4614FROM: Billy Martien

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302

Phone: 318-473-7753

For information on the transmittal of this message, please call (318) 473-776

NRCS Louisiana's FAX number is (318) 473-7771 or (318) 473-7682.

COMMENTS:

Costs/Benefits Information
Dry Hydrant Program
Louisiana

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project - Louisiana

Cost of Dry Fire Hydrant Program

Item	Amount	Comments
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Grant to Trailblazer RC&D Council	\$996,984.00	Funded using oil overcharge funds from the Stripper Will Settlement as approved by the U.S. Department of Energy
USDA/NRCS Administrative Support - FY-95	\$68,427.78	20 percent of 5 RC&D Coordinators' salaries 2 percent of Assistant State Conservationist/Programs salary 50 percent of Administrative Program Specialist salary.
USDA/NRCS Administrative Support - FY-96	\$69,702.18	20 percent of 5 RC&D Coordinators' salaries 2 percent of Assistant State Conservationist/Programs salary 2 percent Assistant State Conservationist/Water Resources salary 50 percent of Administrative Program Specialist salary.
USDA/NRCS Administrative Support FY-97	\$69,702.18	20 percent of 5 RC&D Coordinators' salaries 2 percent of Assistant State Conservationist/Programs salary 2 percent Assistant State Conservationist/Water Resources salary 50 percent of Administrative Program Specialist salary.
USDA/NRCS Technical Support, FY-95, FY-96, FY-97	\$90,675.00	2,015 Hydrants Planned 3 hours per hydrant planning/surveying/installation support from District Conservationist/Technician. Average salary - \$15/hour
USDA/AmeriCorps Member Stipend/Health Care Premium - FY-95 - NRCS	\$55,854.70	Lantz-12,811.36; Torrence-13,842.42; Beggan-12,000; Norsworthy-12,352.92 Health Care - \$101 x 4 members x 12 months
Education Award FY-95 Corporation for National Service	\$18,900.00	Lantz, Torrence, Beggan, Norsworthy 4 members x 4,725
USDA/AmeriCorps Member Stipends/Health Care Premiums - FY-96 - NRCS	\$63,282.23	Dyer-13,600; Haydel-13,600; Morton-12,000; Mullins-1,234.63; Murray-5,494.60; Torrence-12,000. Health Care - \$101 x 4 members x 12 months; \$101 x 1 member x 5 months
Education Award FY-96 Corporation for National Service	\$18,900.00	Dyer, Haydel, Morton, Torrence 4 members x 4,725
USDA/AmeriCorps Member Stipends/Health Care Premiums - FY-97 - NRCS	\$51,696.00	Projected: 4 members x 12,000 Health Care - \$77 x 4 members x 12 months
Projected Education Award Corporation for National Service	\$18,900.00	Projected: 4 members x 4,725
Total Cost of Dry Fire Hydrant Program	\$1,523,024.07	

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project - Louisiana
Projected Benefits of the Dry Fire Hydrant Program through 2000 (4 Years)

Item	Amount	Comments
Property Savings	\$5,840,000.00	Estimated \$1,480,000.00 Savings Per Year During a six-month period in 1996, property valued at an estimated \$730,000 was saved by containing fires with the use of dry hydrants.
Insurance Premium Savings	\$446,629,400.00	Estimated 638,042 rural homeowners will benefit from a fire classification rating change or maintenance of fire classification. One point decrease from a 9 to an 8 in a fire district in Rapides Parish, \$50,000 value home-owners will save \$175/year 638,042 homeowners x \$175/year x 4 years NOTE: The value of the homes, number of points changed in fire classification ratings, and insurance premium rates will vary from fire district to fire district.
Total Projected Benefits of Dry Fire Hydrant Program	\$452,469,400.00	

Summary

Item	Amount
Projected Benefits of Dry Hydrant Program	\$452,469,400.00
Cost of Dry Hydrant Program	\$1,523,024.07
Projected Value Gained From Dry Hydrant Program in 4 Years	\$450,946,375.93

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project - Louisiana

These statistics do not include the projected number of lives that could be saved because of the use of dry fire hydrants.

It is also projected that there will be an energy savings through decreased use of water from utility systems for road maintenance. The nine-parish Trailblazer Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council area reports a projected savings of over one-half million gallons of fuel annually from a reduction in fire protection-related fuel consumption and in savings related to road maintenance.

Also, RC&D councils, police juries, and volunteer fire departments work with USDA/AmeriCorps members to plan, survey and install dry fire hydrants. This local volunteer effort is reflected by 40,919 hours of community time donated to this effort at a value of \$1,529,002.40.

USDA/AmeriCorps**FAX****L o u i s i a n a**

To: Joel Berg/Dee DiFiore
Fax #: (202) 720-4614
Subject: Dry Fire Hydrant Report - Update
Date: September 4, 1996
Pages: 25, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Attached is an updated report for the USDA/AmeriCorps dry fire hydrant program in Louisiana. Included in this revised report are funding sources, hydrant costs, projected savings in insurance premiums, and projected value of property saved.

Please call me at (318) 473-7753 if you have any questions.


Holly Martien

From the desk of...

Holly L. Martien
Administrative Program Specialist
USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302

(318) 473-7753
Fax: (318) 473-7682

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project

Louisiana

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Background

In many rural areas, the lack of an established water system and domestic fire hydrants can impair a fire department's ability to do its job quickly and efficiently. Many fire departments have chosen to develop a water hauling or "shuttle" procedure. Tanker trucks are used to carry large amounts of water to the fire scene to deliver a continuous supply of water. The success of this system is relative to the distance the trucks must travel to refill. A dry hydrant system provides a solution to the problem of distant fill-up points.

USDA/AmeriCorps members are working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Louisiana to plan, survey, and coordinate the installation of over 2,000 dry fire hydrants in rural areas through the Louisiana Statewide Dry Fire Hydrant Program.

Louisiana Statewide Dry Fire Hydrant Program

Over 2,000 dry fire hydrants are being installed across Louisiana to help improve rural fire protection and rural road maintenance through the Louisiana Statewide Dry Hydrant (SWDH) program. The SWDH program was funded through a \$996,984 grant to Trailblazer Resource Conservation and Development, Inc., from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources using oil overcharge funds from the Stripper Will Settlement as approved by the U.S. Department of Energy. Local units of government and local volunteer fire departments will provide in-kind matching funds in the form of equipment and labor for installations. Materials for dry hydrants average \$1,000-\$1,500 per hydrant.

What is a Dry Hydrant?

A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe system permanently installed in existing bodies of water (lakes, ponds, streams, etc.) to provide a means of suctioning water into a tank truck. One end of the dry hydrant protrudes out of the ground to give tanker trucks a hose connection. The other end is composed of a strainer submerged in the pond or stream to draw water directly through the system. The dry hydrant system gives tanker trucks access to ponds and streams from the main road and ends the necessity of going all the way back to the starting point for a refill.

Water Shuttle

In a water hauling operation, the time it takes to fill the tanker, the distance the tanker has to travel to the fire, and the time it takes to discharge the water from the tanker are critical elements in rural fire protection. Time saved on any one of the above points will increase the amount of water that can be hauled to the fire. Dry hydrants, properly located, can substantially reduce travel time from a water source to the fire.

Some departments are using the system in the following manner: when a fire alarm is received, equipment is dispatched on a pre-planned basis determined by such things as fire flow needs, hazards involved, water supply available, etc. One tanker and one pumper respond to the fire. The pumper begins the fire attack with water from its booster tank. The

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

first responding tanker may act as a "nurse" tanker, or may set up a portable drop tank and begin discharging its load of water into the drop tank. The water in the tanker can be transferred to the portable drop tank at a rate of approximately 1,000 gallons per minute. As soon as the tanker is empty, it immediately heads to the water supply. In the meantime, another fire department pumper has responded to the water supply, connected to the dry hydrant, and primed its pump. When the empty tanker arrives at the water supply, the pumper is ready to fill the tanker. The refilled tanker returns to the fire site, discharges its water, and the cycle is repeated.

Expected Benefits***Saves Lives and Property***

The most important benefit of the installation of dry hydrants in rural areas is the increased capability of firefighters to save lives and property. Eight structures have been directly saved because a dry hydrant was near the fire or because no pressurized hydrants were in the area. Ten structures were indirectly saved when grass fires and forest fires were contained with the use of dry hydrants.

During a hard freeze in February 1996, Concordia Parish (Vidalia and Ferriday, Louisiana) lost electricity so pressurized hydrants were not accessible for fire protection. Dry hydrants were used for the three fires encountered throughout the power failure. The Concordia Parish Fire District was thankful for the use of the dry hydrants, as well as neighboring fire districts.

In DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, dry hydrants were used to save two saw mills.

In Iberia Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a structure fire.

In February 1996, Ward 4 Fire Protection District in Jackson Parish, Louisiana, used water drawn from a dry hydrant to extinguish an approximately ten-acre grass fire, which was endangering a nearby dwelling. Due to the proximity of the hydrant to the fire, the fire did not harm the building.

In April 1997, Ward 4 Fire Protection District in Jackson Parish, Louisiana, got another chance to utilize their dry hydrants to extinguish a woods fire. They were able to save three homes from destruction.

In Beauregard Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a forest fire that was threatening to endanger surrounding homes.

In Vermilion Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a barn fire which was located near two houses, a barn, and a greenhouse.

In DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant was used to contain a house fire.

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
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In Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, a dry hydrant is used on a continuous basis for training area volunteer firefighters.

Numerous brush fires and woods fires throughout Louisiana were contained with the use of dry hydrants before the fires caused destruction to surrounding homes and buildings.

It is estimated that during a recent six-month period, property valued at an estimated \$730,000 was saved by containing fires with the use of dry hydrants. By the year 2000, it is projected that property valued at over \$5 million will have been saved because of the use of dry hydrants.

Decrease in Fire Classification Rating

Fire insurance premiums for each area are based on a classification determined by the Property Insurance Association of Louisiana (PIAL). The classification PIAL assigns depends on each area's ability to fight fires. Areas with no fire departments are given a class 10 rating. As the fire-fighting capability increases, the rating decreases. Higher training levels and better equipment are among the ways this can be accomplished. For example, if a fire department can demonstrate the ability to pump 250 gallons of water per minute for two hours at a fire scene, the area's fire classification rating could potentially decrease to a six or seven. Dry fire hydrants play an important role in such a demonstration in rural areas.

Based on information collected through interviews of fire chiefs of volunteer fire departments participating in the dry fire hydrants program in rural Louisiana, the installations of dry fire hydrants are a contributing factor in affecting the district's fire classification rating in one of two ways, either (1) the fire rating will drop one or two points, or (2) the fire rating will be maintained at the current level and will not go up a point. This decrease in fire classification rating or maintenance of a rating significantly influences the insurance premiums of homeowners in these rural communities.

It is important to note that most major insurance companies will not issue fire insurance coverage for homes located in fire classification 10 or 9 areas. Therefore, it is reasonable to predict that the installation of dry fire hydrants in rural Louisiana will contribute significantly to the ability of homeowners to acquire affordable fire insurance.

Insurance Premium Savings

In Jackson Parish, Louisiana, the Quitman Fire Protection District successfully conducted a water shuttle demonstration using a dry hydrant for PIAL. This shuttle enabled the district to improve their property insurance rating from a 9 to an 8, leading to a 21% drop in commercial insurance premiums.

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In Natchitoches Parish Fire District 7, dry fire hydrants are contributing to a fire insurance rating reduction from a class 10 to a class 7. A homeowner in Fire District 7 with a brick house worth \$100,000 can expect the insurance premium with a class 10 fire rating to be \$1,940/year. The premium for the same house with a class 7 rating is significantly reduced to \$1,086/year. This is a savings of \$854/year for the homeowner. This is a 44% reduction from the original premium.

The following table demonstrates the money saved or lost and the percentage change in rural homeowners' insurance premiums when fire classification ratings change:

Premium Change as a Result of Fire Classification Rating Change

Table data based on fire classification ratings/premiums for a \$50,000 house in Lecompte, Rapides Parish, Louisiana (see Appendix A).

	Present Fire Classification Rating/Premium			
Future Fire Classification Rating/Premium	10 \$1,059.00	9 \$797.00	8 \$622.00	7 \$523.00
10 \$1,059.00	0	\$262 (+33%)	\$437 (+70%)	\$536 (+102%)
9 \$797.00	-\$262 (-25%)	0	\$175 (+28%)	\$274 (+52%)
8 \$622.00	-\$437 (-41%)	-\$175 (-22%)	0	\$99 (+19%)
7 \$523.00	-\$536 (-51%)	-\$274 (-34%)	-\$99 (-16%)	0

Based on the above table, the prediction can be made that when the Lecompte Volunteer Fire Department receives a fire rating reduction from a 9 to an 8, the rural homeowner of a \$50,000 home will save \$175 a year or 22 percent on their homeowners' insurance. Yet, if that fire rating was to increase from an 8 to a 9, the homeowner would see a \$175 or 28 percent increase in their homeowners insurance premium (see Appendix A).

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Projected Savings

Population data was collected on the number of rural homeowners living in all parishes in Louisiana from 1990 U.S. Census information. Figures were compiled for the number of rural homeowners in the parishes participating in the dry fire hydrants program. The results indicated that 638,042 homeowners will reap significant financial benefits because of the installation of dry hydrants in their communities. As stated previously, fire chiefs estimate at least a one point drop in their fire rating with the installation of dry hydrants as a contributing factor. Based on the table above, if 638,042 rural Louisiana homeowners live in a fire district that receives a one point rate decrease from a 9 to an 8, they could save \$111,657,350 in one year on insurance premium costs (the value of the homes, number of points changed in fire classification ratings, and insurance premium rates will vary from fire district to fire district).

Other Benefits

Other benefits of dry fire hydrants include conservation of limited water storage for drinking water and the use of natural, unprocessed water for road maintenance.

Dry Hydrants. . . "Worth Their Weight in Gold"

Following is a letter submitted to the editor of a local newspaper from D. J. Brown, Chief, District 8, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana

Dry hydrants are worth their weight in gold. We found out in May of 1996. One of the first dry hydrants we installed was on a spring-fed pond on Highway 509, about 2.5 miles from the Broadway Saw Mill. Little did we know that we would use these dry hydrants two times in the next three weeks.

The first fire call came in the second week of May, one week after we had installed our dry hydrant. When we arrived at the scene, the sawmill was over half involved in fire. We knew that this was going to be a water shuttle fire, so we sent 812, our LDH pumper straight to the Highway 509 dry fire hydrant to set up. But this time, unlike before, with other structure fires, we only sent the driver instead of the driver and at least five other firefighters.

What was the difference? Simply this: a six-inch dry hydrant. That's right! Instead of having to hook up 30 feet of heavy hard suction pipe, have three firefighters put it in the pond, find a bucket to tie the end of the strainer to keep it from dragging bottom, pull the hard suction pipe back to the pumper to hook up and prime, and finally start to pump, now all we have to do is put our pumper 8 feet from the hydrant end, hook up just one section of pipe, prime, and pump, pump, pump!

The second fire was at the same location, two weeks later. A large wood scrap ship pile was fully involved, and the wind was forcing it back towards the mill. Again, we sent our 812 pumper straight to the dry hydrant, and within 5 minutes it was primed and ready to pump. The first fire we pumped 40,000 gallons of water, the second fire

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we pumped 70,000 gallons of water.

In May we needed to test our 1250 pumpers, so again we went to a newly installed dry hydrant and tested our trucks. Both trucks we tested pumped over 1,350 gallons per minute each.

Another advantage I noticed was the ability of a dry hydrant to out-perform the rural town hydrant systems. Take for example in my hometown, the hydrant system was installed sometime in the 1950's. It only has a four-inch supply line and several miles of pipe. For us this meant that our water supply was limited to 200 to 400 gallons per minute, and that our pressure would be between 20 and 40 psi. The psi is supplied by a pump at the water tank which means that should you lose power, then the hydrant system would have very little pressure. With a dry hydrant you don't need any electricity, a one-man set up is all that is required, there is little or no friction loss, and only 20 to 100 feet of hard suction pipe is needed.

The dry hydrant is truly a multi-purpose hydrant. This is why we at Fire District 8 say that dry hydrants are WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD!!

Building Community

Police juries and volunteer fire departments work with USDA/AmeriCorps members to plan, survey and install dry fire hydrants. This local volunteer effort is reflected by 40,919 hours of community time donated to this effort at a value of \$1,529,002.40.

Progress Report of Dry Hydrant Installations by Parish

Following is a progress report of dry hydrant installations in Louisiana:

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Acadia Parish	52			20
		Acadia Fire District 1	6	
		Acadia Fire District 8	2	
		Acadia Fire Protection District 3	3	
		Acadia Parish Fire District 5	4	
		Eunice Fire Department	2	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Fire Protection District 6	3	
Allen Parish	35			34
		Elton Volunteer Fire Department	8	
		Oberlin Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Elizabeth Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Fire Protection District 4	1	
		Oakdale Fire Department	7	
		Allen Fire Protection District 2, Ward 3	12	
		Grant Volunteer Fire Department	3	
Ascension Parish	35			0
Assumption Parish	35			0
Avoyelles Parish	35			8
		Avoyelles Fire Protection District 2, Subdistrict 8	6	
Beauregard Parish	35			35
		Beauregard Fire District 1	6	
		Beauregard Fire District 2	3	
		Beauregard Fire District 3	7	
		Beauregard Fire District 3A	5	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Beauregard Fire District 4	8	
		Merryville Volunteer Fire Department	6	
Bienville Parish	10			10
		Bienville Fire District 6	5	
		Bienville Ward 1 & 2 Fire District	2	
		Bienville Ward 7 Fire Protection District	3	
Bossier Parish	10			9
		Benton Fire District 4	2	
		Bossier Fire District 2	2	
		Bossier Fire District 6	3	
		East Central Bossier Fire Protection District 1	2	
Caddo Parish	48			42
		Caddo Parish Fire District 2	10	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 3	1	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 4	9	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 6	3	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 7	8	
		Caddo Parish Fire District 8	11	
Calcasieu Parish	35			35

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Carlyss Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		DeQuincy Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Hayes Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Houston River Volunteer Fire Department	5	
		Iowa Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Lake Charles Fire Department	6	
		Starks Volunteer Fire Department	8	
		Vinton Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Westlake Volunteer Fire Department	5	
Caldwell Parish	35			30
		Caldwell Parish Rural Fire Protection District	30	
Cameron Parish	35			34
		Cameron Fire District 1	4	
		Cameron Fire District 7	3	
		Cameron Fire District 9	9	
		Cameron Fire District 11	3	
		Cameron Fire District 14	11	
		Klondike Volunteer Fire Department	4	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Catahoula Parish	35			10
		Maitland Volunteer Fire Department	7	
		Manifest Volunteer Fire Department	3	
Claiborne Parish	10			1
		Claiborne Fire Protection District 4	1	
Concordia Parish	35			1
		Concordia Parish Rural Fire Protection District	1	
DeSoto Parish	58			45
		DeSoto Fire District 1	12	
		DeSoto Fire District 2	5	
		DeSoto Fire District 3	2	
		DeSoto Fire District 5	7	
		DeSoto Fire District 8	19	
East Baton Rouge Parish	35			0
East Carroll Parish	12			0
East Feliciana Parish	35			0

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Evangeline Parish	30			17
		Mamou Fire Protection District 1	4	
		Pine Prairie Area Fire Protection District	7	
		Ville Platte Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Ward 5 Fire Protection District	4	
Franklin Parish	59			15
		Liddieville Volunteer Fire Department	6	
		Fort Necessity Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Turkey Creek Volunteer Fire Department	5	
Grant Parish	43			20
		District 5 VFD	5	
		Grant Fire District 1	4	
		Grant Fire District 3	3	
		Grant Fire District 7	5	
		Tullos Volunteer Fire Department	3	
Iberia Parish	35			35
		Iberia Parish Fire District 1	35	

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Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Iberville Parish	35			0
Jackson Parish	18			10
		Hodge Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Jackson Fire District 6	1	
		Quitman Fire Protection District 1	1	
		Ward 4 Fire Protection District	6	
Jefferson Parish	4			4
		Jefferson Fire Districts 1 & 2	4	
Jefferson Davis Parish	35			35
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 1	1	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 2	8	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 3	2	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 4	10	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 5	3	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 6	9	
		Jefferson Davis Fire District 7	2	
Lafayette Parish	27			8
		Carencro Fire Department	1	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Duson Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Judice Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Milton Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Youngsville Volunteer Fire Department	1	
Lafourche Parish	37			17
		Lafourche Fire District 1	7	
		Lafourche Fire District 2	4	
		Lafourche Fire District 6	3	
		Lafourche Fire District 7	3	
LaSalle Parish	0			0
Lincoln Parish	10			0
Livingston Parish	35			18
		Livingston Fire District 1	9	
		Livingston Parish Fire District 8	2	
		Livingston Parish Fire District 10	2	
		Livingston Parish Fire District 11	4	
		Livingston Volunteer Fire Department	1	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed In Parish
Madison Parish	35			35
		Madison Parish Rural Fire Protection District	35	
Morehouse Parish	12			0
Natchitoches Parish	29			22
		Natchitoches Fire District 1	3	
		Natchitoches Fire District 2	3	
		Natchitoches Fire District 3	1	
		Natchitoches Fire District 6	5	
		Natchitoches Fire District 7	4	
		Natchitoches Fire District 8	3	
		Natchitoches Fire District 9	3	
Orleans Parish	52			0
Ouachita Parish	35			0
Plaquemines Parish	35			0
Pointe Coupee Parish	35			1
		Pointe Coupee Fire District 1	1	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Rapides Parish	62			39
		Rapides Fire Protection District 2	6	
		Rapides Fire District 3	7	
		Rapides Fire District 4	2	
		Rapides Fire District 5	4	
		Rapides Fire District 6	9	
		Rapides Fire District 10	5	
		Rapides Fire District 14	6	
Red River Parish	25			12
		Red River Fire Protection District	12	
Richland Parish	57			13
		Delhi Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Mangham Fire Protection District 4	4	
		Rayville Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Start-Girard Fire Protection District	7	
Sabine Parish	52			44
		Sabine Fire District 1, Wards 1 & 2	15	
		Sabine Fire District 1, Wards 3 & 4	14	

USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		North Sabine Fire Protection District	15	
St. Bernard Parish	35			7
		St. Bernard Parish Fire Department	7	
St. Charles Parish	0			0
St. James Parish	10			0
St. Helena Parish	35			0
St. John the Baptist Parish	13			0
St. Landry Parish	35			1
		Leonville Volunteer Fire Department	1	
St. Martin Parish	55			38
		Arnaudville Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Belle River Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Breaux Bridge Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Butte LaRose Volunteer Fire Department	2	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Cade Volunteer Fire Department	2	
		Catahoula Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Cecilia Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Coteau Holmes Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		Henderson Fire Service Area	3	
		Parks Volunteer Fire Department	4	
		St. Martinville Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Stephensville Volunteer Fire Department	3	
St. Mary Parish	39			15
		St. Mary Fire District 4	2	
		St. Mary Fire District 5	4	
		St. Mary Fire District 9	0	
		St. Mary Fire District 11	7	
		St. Mary Fire District 12	2	
St. Tammany Parish	35			8
		St. Tammany Fire District 1	8	
Tangipahoa Parish	35			0

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
Tensas Parish	35			6
		Tensas Parish Rural Fire Protection District	6	
Terrebonne Parish	35			19
		Terrebonne Fire District 1, 2, & 3, Zone B	6	
		Terrebonne Fire District 9	13	
Union Parish	10			7
		Bernice Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Sardis Ward 4 Volunteer Fire Department	3	
		Spencer/West Sterlington Volunteer Fire Department	1	
		Ward 5 Volunteer Fire Department	2	
Vermillion Parish	59			40
		Vermillion Fire District 1	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 3	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 4	4	
		Vermillion Fire District 5	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 6	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 7	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 9	4	
		Vermillion Fire District 11	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 12	3	

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Vermillion Fire District 13	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 14	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 15	3	
		Vermillion Fire District 16	2	
Vernon Parish	35			29
		Vernon Parish Fire District 1	29	
Washington Parish	35		0	
Webster Parish	10			7
		Webster/Evergreen Fire Protection District	1	
		Webster Fire District 2	2	
		Webster Fire District 4	2	
		Webster Fire District 11	2	
West Baton Rouge Parish	0			0
West Carroll Parish	35			4
		West Carroll Ward 2 Fire Protection District	4	
West Feliciana Parish	0			0
Winn Parish	12			10

**USDA/AmeriCorps Dry Fire Hydrant Project
Louisiana**

Parish	Hydrants Planned for Parish	Fire Protection Districts Within Parishes	Hydrants Installed by District	Total Hydrants Installed in Parish
		Winnfield Fire Department	10	

As of August 30, 1996:

Total Planned Hydrants: 1,975

Total Installed Hydrants: 848

Some parishes have declined dry hydrants. All parishes will have an opportunity to requested the declined hydrants to supplement the hydrants installed in their parishes.

This report was prepared by the following USDA/AmeriCorps members:

*Tom Morton, Trailblazer RC&D, Ruston, Louisiana
Nancy Dyer, Twin Valley RC&D, Natchitoches, Louisiana
Donna Haydel, Imperial Calcasieu RC&D, Jennings, Louisiana
Robin Torrence, Capital RC&D, Denham Springs, Louisiana*

Insurance premium information provided by Pat Harvey, Allstate Insurance Company agent, Alexandria, Louisiana.



APPENDIX A

**ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY
PROPERTY INSURANCE QUOTATION
AUGUST 13, 1996**

ESPECIALLY PREPARED FOR:

**NANCY DYER
A
LECOMPTRE LA 71423**

PREPARED BY:

**PAT HARVEY
AGENT
1335 PETERMAN DR
ALEXANDRIA LA 71301
318 442 3496
318 442 3497**

**LOUISIANA
DELUXE HOMESOWNERS**

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss your property insurance needs. I look forward to offering you the service and value that is the standard of Allstate Insurance. I am sure you will see that this quote can affordably enhance your insurance program.

TERRITORY ZONE 034 Town Class 0010

Policy Coverages:	Amount	Premium
Dwelling	50,000	1,059.00
Other Structures Protection	5,000	
Replacement Cost Guarantee		
Dwelling/Attached Structures		
Personal Property Protection	25,000	
Additional Living Expense	Up to 12 Months	
Family Liability (each occurrence)	100,000	
Guest Medical (each person)	1,000	
Deductibles Applicable	500	

New/Renovated Building Discount

Total Annual Premium 1,059.00

This quote is not a contract, or binder of coverage. All coverages are subject to the terms and conditions contained in the policy and endorsements. The premiums shown are for a 12 month policy period. If you have questions, please contact me at the number listed above.



APPENDIX A

**ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY
PROPERTY INSURANCE QUOTATION
AUGUST 13, 1996**

ESPECIALLY PREPARED FOR:

NANCY DYER
A
LECOMPTE LA 71423

PREPARED BY:

PAT HARVEY
AGENT
1335 PETERMAN DR
ALEXANDRIA LA 71301
318 442 3496
318 442 3497

**LOUISIANA
DELUXE HOMEOWNERS**

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss your property insurance needs. I look forward to offering you the service and value that is the standard of Allstate Insurance. I am sure you will see that this quote can affordably enhance your insurance program.

TERRITORY ZONE 034 Town Class 0008

Policy Coverages:	Amount	Premium
Dwelling	50,000	622.00
Other Structures Protection	5,000	
Replacement Cost Guarantee		
Dwelling/Attached Structures		
Personal Property Protection	25,000	
Additional Living Expense	Up to 12 Months	
Family Liability (each occurrence)	100,000	
Guest Medical (each person)	1,000	
Deductibles Applicable	500	

New/Renovated Building Discount

Total Annual Premium 622.00

This quote is not a contract, or binder of coverage. All coverages are subject to the terms and conditions contained in the policy and endorsements. The premiums shown are for a 12 month policy period. If you have questions, please contact me at the number listed above.

Barbern Osgood

202-720-7241

Statewide Dry Hydrant Program

The Statewide Dry Hydrant (SWDH) Program which is funded 62 percent by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources-Energy Division, seeks to install over 2,000 dry fire hydrants across the state to help improve rural fire protection and rural road maintenance. The SWDH Program is funded \$883,810 for the first year, and \$113,174 for year two with oil overcharge funds from the Stripper Will Settlement as approved by the U.S. Department of Energy. In turn, Trailblazer Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D), Inc. of Ruston will contribute \$336,448 in year one, and \$507,000 during the second year as in-kind match (including all volunteer hours and donations statewide). Calculating current costs for parts and installation at approximately \$8,000 per hydrant, the SWDH Program will save Louisiana roughly \$16 million upon completion.

Police Juries and Parish Commissions statewide are currently being invited to participate in the program which will provide up to thirty-five dry hydrants at no cost to parishes willing to install them. A dry fire hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe system permanently installed in existing lakes, ponds, and streams. The dry hydrant provides a water delivery system which allows tank trucks or fire department pumpers at the roadside to use suction to obtain the water from the hydrant. When properly installed, dry hydrants can eliminate the problem of hauling water over long distances for road maintenance or rural firefighting by providing natural, unprocessed water for use. The results include energy savings to consumers as well as road maintenance departments, improved rural fire protection, and lower fire insurance ratings.

Twin Valley RC&D is a nonprofit organization supported by federal, state, and foundation grants, dedicated to helping volunteers at a local level identify and work toward solving the problems unique to their individual communities. Twin Valley RC&D covers Caddo, DeSoto, Grant, Natchitoches, Rapides, Red River, Sabine and Vernon parishes. RC&D programs are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, or disability. For more information on the dry hydrant program, the installation demonstration, or on Twin Valley RC&D, please call Benny Dobson at 318-352-4946.

Dry Hydrants
FILE

DRAFT WORK PLAN

STATEWIDE DRY HYDRANTS PROJECT AMERICORPS

Tasks

- Assist in the preparation of an inventory using photography with assistance from the Soil Conservation Service and local fire districts.
 - Assist in the design and installation of the dry hydrant under the direction of Soil Conservation Service personnel and/or technical advisors.
 - Assist technical advisors to ensure strategic distribution of hydrants and coordination of installation.
 - Assist the RC&D coordinator in administering the program; i.e., coordinating the application process, making presentations to local governments, certifying installed unit, developing individual location maps, and monitoring the program.
 - Conduct needs determinations in each assigned parish.
 - Determine available water sources.
-

TRAINING

- AmeriCorps members will receive the initial training with the RC&D coordinators. The training will be conducted by Trailblazer, Inc.

STATEWIDE DRY HYDRANTS PROJECT

Submitted
by

TRAILBLAZER, INC.
302 Reynolds Drive
Ruston, Louisiana 71270
(318) 255-3554

Project Dates
approval + 24 months

Willie Doherty
President
Trailblazer, Inc.

Gilbert Pickens
Committee Chairman
Trailblazer, Inc.

March 1, 1994

ABSTRACT

The rural fire protection needs of our state are very great. In the average setting only minimal protection of life and property is being provided. This project will develop 2,000 water sources for improved rural fire protection and road maintenance. The completed project will install dry hydrants which will produce outstanding energy savings to the State as well as economic stimulus and encouragement to local emergency personnel.

The principles of this project are based on the pilot "The Rural Road Maintenance Project" (DNR Contract # 20140-91-04) which was completed in July of 1992. The project demonstrated energy savings of more than 1.42 million gallons of gasoline as well as volunteerism that received national recognition. 225 dry hydrants were installed in nine parishes to attain these results.

Water is the key ingredient in fire protection and proper road compaction. Currently water is being hauled great distances for this purpose. With the installation of dry hydrants in natural water sources, many water hauling vehicles in remote areas will be very close to a dependable water source.

This project will purchase 2,000 dry hydrants to be installed in our state. These hydrants will be strategically located in each project parish. They will be available for reduced distances in water hauling for fire protection and road maintenance.

The sub-contractors will announce the project in each parish (as scheduled), distribute applications to local sponsors, assist with the application process, announce for bids for materials, provide technical assistance for installation, insure quality control, coordinate and monitor volunteer assistance, monitor local donations to the project, produce monthly monitor reports, etc.

The project will need the cooperation of the RC&D Councils in the state. Each of the four RC&D Councils will be asked to carry out the project in their areas. In addition Twin Valley RC&D will be asked to carry out the project in the parishes which are not a part of an RC&D. Each RC&D will be asked to develop a dry hydrants committee which will assume the responsibility of reaching the project goals in their area. Each dry hydrants committee will have a representative to serve on an overall steering committee to be chaired by Gilbert Pickens who will represent the contractor.

Each participating parish governing body (i.e. Police Jury) will apply to the local RC&D Council in writing and agree to the following:

1. appointment of a representative to oversee the project in their parish;
2. acceptance of the dry hydrants and agreement for a quality installation, the same according to the project time table;
3. strategic distribution of the hydrants, and;
4. timely submission of all needed paperwork.

Upon installation of each dry hydrant, the parish will complete the Project Certification Form and forward it to the local RC&D Council. The RC&D dry hydrants committee will perform the quality control inspection of the individual hydrant and forward the "Form" to the Contractor. The Contractor will then send the agreed-to quality control fee to the RC&D.

This project has no adverse environmental impacts and will greatly benefit our rural residents. It will be available to help the people of Louisiana regardless of their race, creed, sex, religion, or national origin.

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TITLE PAGE

ABSTRACT

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I. INTRODUCTION

Water is the key ingredient in fire protection and in proper road compaction. The hauling of water to remote distances is very costly and consumes many gallons of energy.

This project addresses the problem by installing a system of dry hydrants to make water easily available for road maintenance and energy savings through improved auto efficiency, decreased water hauling costs, and use of non-processed water.

This project will offer dry hydrant assistance throughout the state.

- Section II of this proposal describes the problem in greater detail.
- Section III reviews the project's goals and objectives.
- Section IV describes the approaches and methods used by the project staff to achieve the goals and objectives and addresses the problem. It identifies the key participating systems, reviews the project's staffing and administration, and presents a timetable for the project's implementation.
- Section V reviews the plan for evaluating the project's effectiveness.
- Section VI reviews the dissemination and utilization of results.
- Section VII reviews the facilities and equipment.
- Section VIII reviews the personnel and organizational capabilities.
- Section IX is the budget for the project.
- Section X contains support data.

II. STATEMENT OF NEED

Our state is basically rural. The people living in these rural areas have special needs, including fire protection and maintained roadways. Energy is being wasted in hauling water long distances for fire protection and road maintenance. If the water is being hauled then energy is wasted through poor fuel efficiency.

Water is the ingredient in providing each service.

Fire departments in our state are rated based on their ability to deliver water to a given site and to maintain a continuous flow for a period of time. For example, to receive an eight rating a fire department has to maintain a flow of 250 gallons per minute for two consecutive hours. That requires a lot of water (30,000 gallons). The hauling of water always causes problems - 30,000 gallons weighs more than 120 tons. Most rural departments would have to make 30 trips (2,000 gallon tankers, 150 miles) to a water source to get the water. With a fuel efficiency of 4 mpg, about 40 gallons of fuel is consumed in one test of one fire department. This can be reduced in half by the placement of dry hydrants in the rural setting.

A survey of our rural county roads shows that over 40% are gravel thoroughfares. These gravel roads require a great deal of maintenance to keep the gravel material within the road bed for an efficient, comfortable ride.

According to The Road Information Program (TRIP) based in Washington, D.C., it is estimated that vehicles use 56% more fuel in traveling over rough surfaces due to uneven power flow. Tire wear can be increased by 150% and automobile maintenance by 100%. By compacting these gravel road surfaces these numbers can be greatly improved.

The key ingredient in road compaction is water. Currently road maintenance crews are having to haul water great distances utilizing thousands of gallons of fuel for transport. According to local officials, between 20,000 and 28,000 gallons of water must be hauled from a location ten miles away. The vehicle can haul 1000 gallons per trip, so twenty trips would be necessary per day for road maintenance. This would require 400 miles per day per vehicle at four miles per gallon. This will use 100 gallons of fuel per day per vehicle for road maintenance.

We propose the development of water sources around the parish to make unprocessed water available for road maintenance and other community benefits. With a cost of about \$450 per dry hydrant and 35 hydrants per parish, each parish would generate direct energy dollar savings equal to the dry hydrant cost within a short period of time.

Duplicating this project over 64 parishes will save hundreds of thousands of gallons of energy.

This project will locate and install water sources throughout the state for improved rural fire protection, improved road maintenance and subsequent energy savings.

III. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Purpose: Increase energy savings through improved rural fire protection and improved road maintenance statewide.
- Goal : Develop sources of water to be used for fire protection with secondary benefits of road maintenance, road grading, and right-of-way maintenance.
- Objective 1: Announce the Dry Hydrant Assistance Program in each of the 64 Louisiana Parishes and encourage their participation.
- Objective 2 : Provide each participating parish with a proportionate share of Dry Hydrants.
- Objective 3 : Distribute surplus hydrants based on criteria established by the statewide committee.
- Objective 4 : Develop a final report which summarizes the total effort.

IV. METHODS

A. Introduction

To achieve the goals described in the previous section, this project will coordinate the purchase, delivery and installation of 2,000 dry hydrants over the state to improve rural fire protection and to improve rural road maintenance.

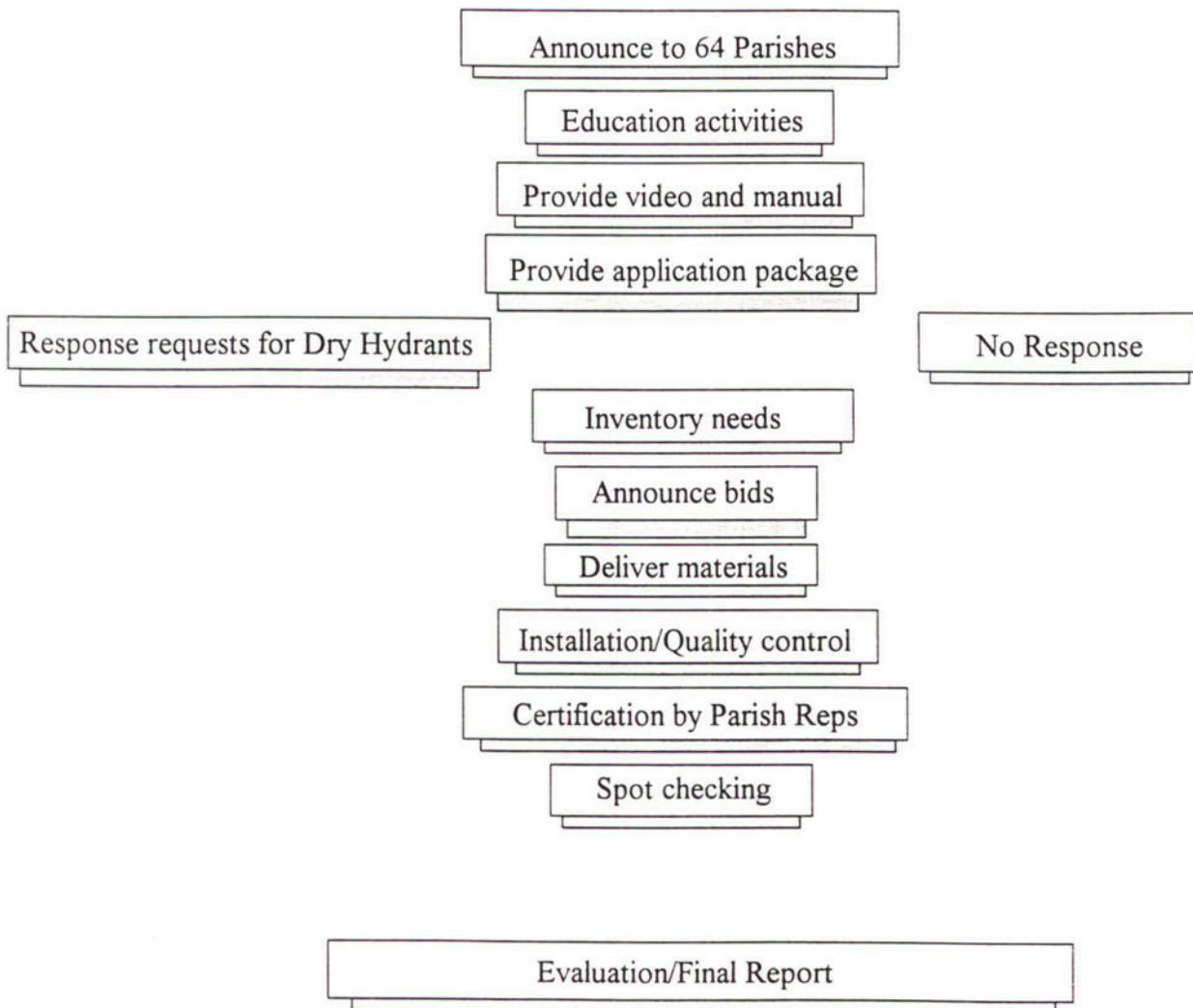
This section describes the project's activities in greater detail, identifies key participants in the development and implementation of the project; reviews the project's staffing and administration, and presents a timetable for the project's activities.

IV. METHODS

B. Program Activities

Start-up Activities

1. Trailblazer Council establishes Statewide Dry Hydrant Committee
2. Dry Hydrant Committee establishes proposal foundation
3. Draft proposal
4. Meet with parish representatives to review proposal
5. Submit proposal
6. Receive funding



IV. METHODS

C. Participants

The development and implementation of this project depends upon the participation of a number of key systems. These key systems and the role they play are outlined below:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Trailblazer Board of Directors - | Project administration, supervision, and coordination |
| • RC&D Councils - | Subcontractors -- responsible for carrying out the project in their area of responsibility. |
| • Parish Police Juries - | Serves as the primary local sponsor of the project. Overall coordination with parish needs: includes road maintenance /construction, fire protection, and publicity; responsibility for application and installation. |
| • Local Non-Profit Groups - | Includes Water Districts and Fire Districts. Assist police juries with site selection, landowner contacts, application, and installation. |
| • USDA
Soil Conservation Service - | Engineering design and installation assistance. |
| • Soil and Water
Conservation Districts - | Technical Assistance. |

IV. METHODS

D. Staffing and Administration

The Trailblazer STATE WIDE DRY HYDRANTS will be administered by a Dry Hydrants Committee through a Project Director and Co-Director who will insure overall coordination of project activities. It will be staffed by an administrative assistant, a part time secretary, an attorney, a certified public accountant, subcontractors, technical advisors, consultants and volunteer labor. All who have experience in the pilot project.

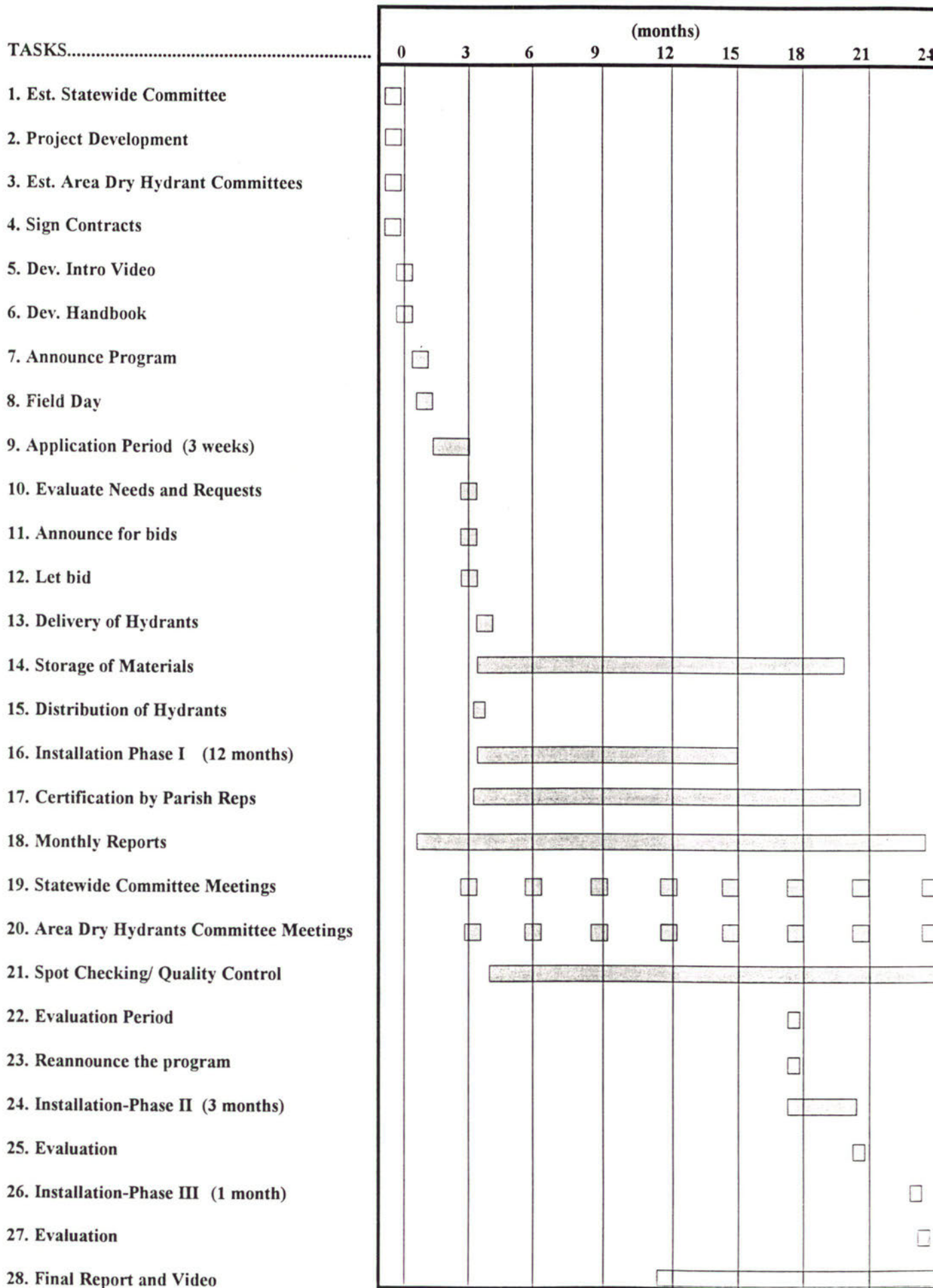
The overall responsibility for ensuring the successful completion of the project rests with the Trailblazer, Inc. which will closely monitor progress and issue progress reports.

This section describes the project's staffing and administration in greater detail.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Trailblazer Dry Hydrant Committee- | responsible for policy, publicity, review/approval of applications, granting of materials, reports, and on-site spot checks. |
| 2. Project Director-
<i>Gilbert Pickens</i> | responsible for day to day operations, program direction, and budgeting to achieve the desired objectives. |
| 3. Project Co-Director -
<i>Ellzey Simmons</i> | responsible for direct assistance to Project Director and the Dry Hydrants Committee (provided with other federal funds) |
| 4. Coordinators - | responsible for direct assistance to the subcontractors. |
| 5. Administrative Assistant -
<i>June Rohr</i> | responsible for administrative support, correspondence, and record keeping. |
| 6. Project Secretary -
<i>Tammy Griffin</i> | assists with administrative support, correspondence, and record keeping.
(provided by other federal funds) |
| 7. Glen Mitchell, CPA | assists with financial management, record keeping |
| 8. Attorney - Gary Nunn | provides legal assistance. |
| 9. Technical Advisors - | responsible for assisting the project director and the committee in the direct application of the project. |
| 10. Volunteers - | responsible for assisting the project team with details of day to day operations |

Additional details on the qualifications of the project staff are contained in Section VIII.

IV. METHODS E. TIMETABLE OF EVENTS



IV. METHODS

F. Summary

This section has described activities which when completed, will result in achievement of the goals and objectives of the Statewide Dry Hydrants Project.

Trailblazer will apply the RRMP system of dry hydrants assistance to the entire state of Louisiana. All efforts will be targeted toward the subcontractors and the Parish Police Juries.

Completion of this project will enable these parishes to improve their energy efficiency in fire protection and road maintenance. In addition, the project is expected to yield such long range benefits as energy conservation, dollar savings for individuals and agencies, and improve services to the communities and to the area.

V. EVALUATION

This section describes the project plan for evaluating the effort, efficiency, and overall outcome of the Trailblazer Statewide Dry Hydrants Project. It reviews our plan for collecting and compiling evaluative data of the project and disseminating the results to the funder, the project staff, and other key audiences.

The project has two phases; during each phase the staff will issue monthly progress reports and final report. The report will identify problems and opportunities that were experienced during that phase and plans for improvements.

Applicants will be encouraged to issue written comments for inclusion in the evaluation report.

Following the concluding phase, a final report or summary will be released with a news item. The final report will include recommendations which might be helpful for future projects.

VI. DISSEMINATION AND UTILIZATION

Trailblazer, Inc. is willing to participate in the dissemination and utilization of the project's results as requested.

Details of the funder's expectations can be completed at a later date.

VII. FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

This proposal demonstrates that we have taken pains to save money. Our request is for the purchase of 2,000 dry hydrants. A high percentage of the other needs will be provided by the sponsor-- including labor, office equipment, travel, installation equipment, other installation costs, etc.

VIII. PERSONNEL AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITY

Gilbert Pickens	- Project Director, Dry Hydrant Committee-Chairman, Trailblazer Board of Directors
Ellzey Simmons	- Project Co-Director, Coordinator of Trailblazer, Inc., Proposal Writer
Garland Colvin	- Area Coordinator, Assist Sub-Contractor
Danny Clement	- Area Coordinator, Assist Sub-Contractor
Donna Remides	- Area Coordinator, Assist Sub-Contractor
Jim Neveu	- Area Coordinator, Assist Sub-Contractor
June Rohr	- Trailblazer Administrative Assistant
Tammy Griffin	- Project Secretary
Gary Nunn	- Attorney - Legal Advisor
Glen Mitchell	- Certified Public Accountant
Dr. Hal Barker	- Technical Advisor, Member-Trailblazer Board of Directors
Lamar Colvin	- Technical Advisor, Member-Trailblazer Board of Directors
Willie Doherty	- Technical Advisor, Member-Trailblazer Board of Directors
Jim Martin	- Technical Advisor, Member-Trailblazer Board of Directors
Hoyt Tompkins	- Technical Advisor, Member-Trailblazer Board of Directors
Blake Hemphill	- Technical Advisor, Member-Trailblazer Board of Directors
R. O. Machen, Jr.	- Technical Advisor, Trailblazer Area Council Member, President, Evergreen Volunteer Fire District (Webster Parish), Vice President People's Bank and Trust, Minden, LA.
Reggie Skains	- Technical Advisor, Trailblazer Board of Directors - Mayor Village of DownsVille
Robert Earl Lee	- Technical Advisor, Member-Trailblazer Board of Directors, Webster Parish Police Juror
Dry Hydrant Committee:	
Project Chairman - Gilbert Pickens	
Representative from Twin Valley RC&D -	
Representative from Capital RC&D -	
Representative from Northeast Delta RC&D -	
Representative from Imperial Calcasieu -	

**STATEWIDE DRY HYDRANTS
BUDGET
24 MONTH**

	Requested	Donated	Total
A. PERSONNEL			
1. Project Director (20% @ \$60,000pa)	0	24,000	24,000
2. Co-Director (20% @ 45,000pa)	0	(18,000)	
3. Area Coordinators	0	(72,000)	0
4. Administrative Assistant (90% @ 19,000 pa)	34,200	0	34,200
5. Benefits (17%)	5,814	0	5,814
6. Secretary (20% @ 16,000pa)*	0	(32,000)	0
7. Student Workers	9,000	0	9,000
8. Technical Advisors (20,800 hrs @ \$20/ hr.)	0	416,000	416,000
9. Professional Services	2,400	1,200	3,600
10. Volunteers (24,576 hours @ \$10/hr.)	0	245,760	245,760
11. Consultants	0	122,880	122,880
12. Federal Technical Asst. (USDA-SCS) (\$27.50/hr. @ 5 hrs/DH x 2000)*	0	(275,000)	0
13. State Technical Asst. (SWCD) (3 hrs/DH x \$10/hr. x 2000)	0	60,000	60,000
Total Personnel	\$51,414	\$869,840	\$921,254
B. TRAVEL			
1. Project Director	1,200	0	1,200
2. Statewide Committee	5,760	2,240	8,000
3. Area Committees	12,800	6,208	19,008
4. Volunteers	0	24,000	24,000
Total Travel	\$19,760	\$32,448	\$52,208
C. OPERATING SERVICES			
1. Office Space (650 sq ft @ \$ 7.50 /sq ft/yr)	2,250	(7,500)*	2,250
2. Equipment	1,200	5,000	6,200
3. Supplies	2,500	1,000	3,500
4. Telephone	3,000	3,000	6,000
5. Postage	3,360	0	3,360
6. Publicity and Energy Savings Evaluation	15,500	0	15,500
Total Operating Services	\$27,810	\$9,000	\$36,810
D. MATERIALS: DRY HYDRANTS			
1. 6" PVC pipe sch. 40, angles, couplings, strainers, caps, plugs, adapters 2,000 ea @ \$450	900,000	0	900,000
Note:			
2,000 @ \$365 Materials			
2,000 @ \$85 Quality Control/Inspection			
2. Additional Materials: pipe, glue, signs, etc.	0	100,000	100,000
3. Storage: 8 Mo. @ \$1,200/Mo x 8 locations	0	76,800	76,800
Total Materials	\$900,000	\$176,800	\$1,076,800
E. INSTALLATION			
1. Equipment (backhoe, etc.) 4 hours @ \$65 X 2,000	0	520,000	520,000
2. Labor: 5 helpers 4 hrs. @ \$10 X 5 X 2,000	0	400,000	400,000
TOTAL INSTALLATION	\$0	\$920,000	\$920,000
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	\$998,984	\$2,008,088	\$3,007,072

* other federal funds used

() indicates the number was not counted in the match

A. PERSONNEL

1. *Project Director (donated)*
2. *Co-Director **
3. *Area Coordinators**
4. *Administrative Assistant, Trailblazer, Duties include support of the project leaders:*
 Responsible for record keeping
 Monitor progress
 Submission of monthly monitoring reports
 Project correspondence
 Training activities for subcontractors
 Coordination of publicity, news items, and videos
 Coordination of special meetings
 Track volunteer efforts
 Prepare invoices for reimbursement of expenses and procurement
 Fund disbursement
 Coordination between the Contractor and Subcontractors
 Coordination of Handbook (Manual)
5. *Benefits for the Administrative Assistant (17%)*
 Includes: Annual leave accrual @ 4 hours earned/two weeks of duty
 Sick leave accrual @ 4 hours earned/two weeks
 Holidays same as Federal Government (10)
 FICA (No health insurance benefits offered)
6. *Secretaries in the RC&D Offices*
7. *Student Workers duties include:*
 Intermittent office help on an as needed basis, Assist with routine duties of the project staff
 Assist with copying, compiling, filing as needed
8. *Technical Advisors-* A. one person in each participating parish assigned by the police jury to coordinate the parishwide effort, insure strategic distribution of hydrants and coordination and documentation of volunteers.
 10 hours per hydrant x 2,000 hydrants = 20,000 hours.
 B. also includes members of the area dry hydrant committees
 5 committees x 5 members x 8 meetings x 4 hours = 800 hours [@ \$20/hr.]
9. *Consultants-* persons carrying special skills (such as fire protection, water hauling, road maintenance, and management of the pilot project) which will help insure a quality project.
 4 hrs./ mo. x 24 mo. x 64 parishes = 6,144 hrs. @ \$20/hr. = \$122,880
10. *Volunteers-* persons willing to assist the project with special tasks which are not listed elsewhere.
 Includes but is not limited to labor during installation.
 16 hrs./ mo. x 24 mo. x 64 parishes = 24,576 @ \$10 = \$245,760
11. *Professional Services-* includes services of CPA and attorney

*other federal funds used

B. TRAVEL

The proposed project calls for 5 area dry hydrants committees (ADHC) and 1 overall coordinating committee (SWCC). All payments will be according to state travel regulations. Only committee members and the project director will be eligible for mileage.

1.	<u>Project Director</u> performance of duties as project leader Requested \$200/day x 6 days = (Does not include Statewide Committee Meetings)	subtotal	1,200
2.	<u>Statewide Committee - 5 Members</u> <u>Mileage</u> Per diem - 8 meetings @ \$200/meeting x 5 members Request \$1,152 per member x 5 = \$5,760 (remainder is donated)	subtotal	8,000 8,000
3.	<u>Area Committee:</u> a. Will meet quarterly throughout the project for a total of 8 times. Each will have approximately 6 members who will drive 200 miles round trip = 9,600 miles @ \$.24 a mile = b. Will also implement the project in their area 1,200 miles per parish x 55 = 66,000 miles x .24 = 400 miles per parish x 9 pilot parishes = 3,600 miles x .24 = \$200 per parish is being requested for the Area Committee (\$12,800) the remainder will be donated	 subtotal	 2,304 15,840 864 19,008
4.	<u>Volunteers-</u> will average 50 miles for each Dry Hydrant installed 100,000 miles @ \$.24 a mile =	subtotal	24,000

Total Donated	\$2,240
Total Requested	\$5,760
Grand Total	\$8,000

C. OPERATING SERVICES
5. POSTAGE

Trailblazer- \$1,120
Subcontractors @ \$40 per parish
Twin Valley - \$1080
Capital - \$520
ImpCal - \$160
N. E. Delta- \$480

Total Requested \$3,360

C. OPERATING SERVICES
6. PUBLICITY AND ENERGY SAVINGS EVALUATION

<u>Field day</u> -	\$3,000
<u>Introductory Video</u> (\$30 x 100)	\$3,000
<u>Dry Hydrant Manual</u> - (\$25 x 100)	\$2,500
<u>Final Report</u> -	\$7,000

TOTAL.....\$15,500

D. MATERIALS: DRY HYDRANTS**1. NUMBER OF HYDRANTS**

Budget Amount \$/ dry hydrant*	Total # of Hydrants
\$450/D. H.	2,000

* includes all materials and Quality Control fee of \$85 per hydrant

Quality Control is earned by:

providing assurance to the contractor for quality installations and a quality program
adherence to the established guidelines of the program

establishing a local contact person in each parish in cooperation with the police jury

local contact person will

1. sign accepting the hydrants for the parish
2. track volunteerism
3. insure strategic coverage of the parish
4. involve the area fire departments
5. certify to the committee that the hydrant has been installed and tested
6. complete survey

the committee will ultimately be responsible for the documentation of volunteerism (record of contributions form)

a member of the committee must spot check and certify that the hydrant is installed...at the same time the person will record any observations regarding the particular installation.

D. MATERIALS: DRY HYDRANTS**1. Materials List includes one - Dry Hydrant head assembly**

one- Strainer

one- Ell

60'- 6" Sch. 40 PVC

2- Supports

1-Qt. paint

Blue reflectors- 2,000

Epoxy- 2 gallons/parish

X. APPENDICES

OFFICE USE ONLY

PARISH NAME

DRY HYDRANT NUMBERS

LAST INSTALLATION DATE

**DRY HYDRANTS
PARISH
APPLICATION PACKAGE**

Trailblazer, Inc.

PART I	Basic Application
PART II	Materials List
PART III	Letter of Request <i>example</i>
PART IV	Resolution <i>example</i>
PART V	Location of Property
PART VI	Landowner Permission <i>example</i>
PART VII	Certification Form

PART I Application for Assistance

STATEWIDE DRY HYDRANTS PROJECT

(Please provide all requested information)

Applicant's Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Parish _____

Name of Appointee _____

Title _____

Telephone-
(home) _____ (office) _____

Number of Dry Hydrants Previously In-
stalled _____

Are you aware that the project will grant a maximum of 60 feet of
Pipe? _____

Do you agree to provide the materials which the project cannot provide to insure a quality installa-
tion? _____

Anticipated Benefits: *check all that apply*

_____ Fire Protection

_____ Road Construction

_____ Right-of-Way Maintenance

Please describe your overall installation plan? *example : we will coordinate locations of the hydrants with our fire protection districts and the jury will provide labor and equipment for the installation.*

PART II LIST OF MATERIALS

Please provide the total amount of materials needed for number of hydrants requested and return to Trailblazer.

		90 degree	45 degree	Total
1.	Dry Hydrant Adapter Sch. 40 PVC 6"			
	<i>specify</i> 90 degree Male threads	_____		
	45 degree Male threads		_____	
	90 degree Female threads	_____		
	45 degree Female threads		_____	
	TOTAL #adapters			_____
2.	ELLS			
	<i>specify</i> 6" PVC 90 bend	_____		
	6" PVC 45 bend		_____	
	TOTAL #ELLS			_____
3.	Strainer			_____
4.	Supports - 2 per Dry Hydrant			_____
5.	Hydrant Cap (for male threads)			_____
6.	Plug (for female threads)			_____
7.	6" PVC Pipe Sch. 40 (3 joints x number of hydrants)			_____
8.	1-Qt. Paint			_____
9.	Blue reflectors - 2,000			_____
10.	Epoxy - 2 gallons/parish			_____

Note: Materials listed are the only ones the project agrees to provide.

PART III LETTER OF REQUEST *(EXAMPLE)*

Please send a request letter to your local RC&D Council.

Date _____

To: Trailblazer, Inc.
302 Reynolds Dr.
Ruston, LA. 71270

We request your assistance through the Statewide Dry Hydrants Project.

We agree to:

- cooperate with and to adhere to the policies of this program,
- waive all claims against this organization and the personnel that represent it,
- assume full responsibility for the installation and maintenance of the Dry Hydrants,
- provide the extra materials necessary for a quality installation.

Sincerely,

signature

organization

PART IV RESOLUTION (EXAMPLE)

Please send a resolution adopted by your organization to the local RC&D Council.

WHEREAS, The Police Jury of _____ Parish, Louisiana recognizes the importance of adequate rural fire protection; and

WHEREAS, _____ Parish Police Jury recognize the energy savings through proper rural road maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the major problem for both improved rural fire protection and proper maintenance of rural roads is an accessible water supply; and

WHEREAS, when strategically placed, dry hydrants can serve a dual purpose, both that of rural fire protection and rural road maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Trailblazer Statewide Dry Hydrant Project has received approval for placement of thirty-five dry hydrants per parish statewide,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Police Jury of _____ Parish, Louisiana, that it does hereby agree to (1) participate in the Statewide Dry Hydrants Project, (2) accept the receipt of all dry hydrant materials, (3) accept the responsibility for timely installation of the dry hydrant materials, (4) accept the responsibility for all documentation and (5) accept the responsibility for continuing maintenance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that _____ be designated as the representative of the jury-assisting with the location and installation of hydrants and assisting with paperwork needed toward the completion of the project in _____ Parish, Louisiana.

A copy of this form should be completed and returned to the local RC&D Office upon completion of each hydrant.

PART VII
DRY HYDRANT CERTIFICATION FORM

Dry Hydrant Number _____ Parish _____

Location _____

Date Installed _____

Date Tested _____

Tested by _____

Have you observed the hydrant being used to draft water? _____

Visual Observations.....

Is the Hydrant Accessibleyes.....no....

Backfill over Pipe Acceptableyes.....no....

Is hydrant identified with a Numberyes.....no....

Does hydrant fit the landscapeyes.....no....

Signature

date

Signature -Spot Checker

date

PART VI *example*

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION

A record of the landowner's permission is to be kept on file by the Authorized Group. A copy is sent to the local RC&D office for location purposes of the hydrant.

I, _____, OWNER OR

REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE PARISH/STATE

OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED:

DO HEREBY AUTHORIZE _____

T____ R____ Section #____

please

•draw all roads in the section

•name all roads

•place a dot at hydrant location

Henceforth called the Authorized Group, to install a dry hydrant in the above mentioned location. I understand that the Authorized Group will be responsible for providing all materials and labor needed. Ownership of the dry hydrant will remain with the Authorized Group.

Permission is also granted for the Authorized Group to come upon my property and draw water from the dry hydrant as needed.

This agreement can be cancelled by either the Property Owner or the Authorized Group upon six month written notice whereby the dry hydrant will be removed.

Signature of Property Owner / Representative

Date

Signature from Authorized Group

Date

LOCATION
MAP

Statewide Dry Hydrants Project
Monthly Monitor Report
Date: _____

Contract Number: _____

Subcontracting Party: _____

Invoice Amount: _____

Total Contract Amount: _____

Reporting Period: _____

	Budget	Requested	Available
Travel-(A) Statewide Committee	\$ _____		
(B) Area Committee	\$ _____		
Supplies-	\$ _____		
Postage-	\$ _____		

1. Milestones Accomplished: (% of task accomplished)

Task A: Program Development _____

Task B: Acceptance of Applications _____

Task C: Distribution of Materials _____

Task D: Installation of Hydrants _____

Task E: Inspection of Installation _____

2. Nature Of Problems Encountered: _____

3. Remedial Action Taken As Planned: _____

4. Likely Impact Upon Achievement: _____

5. Other Discussions Of Special Note: _____

6. Next Scheduled Committee Meeting: _____

Other Comments _____

Survey of Parishes

A. The Need

1. Rural Roads

How many total miles of road do you have? _____

How many are miles of publicly maintained gravel/dirt roads? _____

How often are these gravel/dirt roads compacted with water? _____

How many road compactors use a water shuttle? _____

What is the average number of miles traveled by the shuttle(s) to refill for road compacting operations? _____

2. Fire Protection

How many fire districts are in you parish? _____

What percentage of your parish currently has fire protection coverage of eight(8) or less? _____

B. Available Water Sources

Have you conducted a survey of available water sources? _____

How many potential sites can you identify through the survey results? _____

If you have no inventory of potential sites, then please estimate the number of sites available. _____

How many of these sites are acceptable for rural fire protection(to PIAL)? _____

What percentage of the sights are on private property and require the owners permission? _____

What percentage of these are on public lands and are accessible without restriction? _____

C. Commitment for Installation

Is your parish willing to install these hydrants? _____

Does your parish have the manpower and equipment to install all the hydrants offered. _____

Will this program receive the priority, attention and effort required to complete all the tasks of the mission? _____

D. Number of Hydrants Requested

Considering the above, how many hydrants are you requesting? _____

Please provide a map showing the proposed locations of requested hydrants.