

# FOIA MARKER

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USDA [Department of Agriculture]/AmeriCorps - Clinton Library Copies - 1995 Application (for FY 96) to the Corporation for National Service 6 [1]

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**3**

CONGRESSIONAL NEWSLETTERS

LIBRARY  
UNION

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

Objective 7

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service      SITE: St. Peter, Minnesota  
Minnesota River Basin (1 RDT/6 PL&E)

SITE SUPERVISOR: Jim Jirik      PHONE: (507) 835-4831      COUNTY: Waseca

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Remove 15 miles of litter (old tires, debris, etc.) from the Blue Earth River and its tributaries, to improve the quality and esthetics of the river and of the water entering the Minnesota River.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?

Junk, old tires, car bodies, etc., will be pulled out of rivers and disposed of properly. Talks will be provided to various civic, environmental, agricultural groups, schools and other organizations. News articles will be provided to all news media within the area.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

The activities in the project area will improve water quality, provide for better esthetics, improve the appreciation for natural resources within the river corridor, and educate the public.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?

Miles of river cleaned of junk, old tires, car bodies, etc. will be used to determine the impact of the project I the project area.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

Reduced flooding, reduced impact of flooding, and improved water quality will determine the success of the project. The success will also be measured by the involvement of and the ability to compliment the local area's on-going Blue Earth river Basin Initiative (BERBI) project.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

The 150,000 people living in the BERBI project area will either directly or indirectly benefit from the flood restoration and prevention project. There are millions of people downstream of the project area who will receive benefits as the Minnesota River flows into the Mississippi River.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**  
**Objective 8**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service      **SITE:** St. Peter, Minnesota  
Minnesota River Basin (1 RDT/6 PL&E)

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Jim Jirik      **PHONE:** (507) 835-4831      **COUNTY:** Waseca

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Enhance 15 miles of habitat for wildlife by creating shelters from organic debris removed from the river systems.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Organic debris pulled from the rivers will be used to make wildlife shelters adjacent to the river system. Talks will be provided to various civic, environmental, agricultural groups, schools and other organizations. News articles will be provided to all news media within the area.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Creation of 15 wildlife shelters, enhanced wildlife cover and increased populations of wildlife.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

The quality of work will be measured by the increased populations of wildlife observed several years after project completion.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

Completion of 15 wildlife shelters. Also, by the local community response to the project and by improved future wildlife populations. The success will also be measured by the involvement of and the ability to compliment the local area's on going Blue Earth River Basin Initiative (BERBI) project.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

The 150,000 people living in the BERBI project area will either directly or indirectly benefit from the flood restoration and prevention project. There are millions of people downstream of the project area who will receive benefits as the Minnesota River flows into the Mississippi River.

II DATA

TIME PAGE:

- A. Name of Project: River Beautification & Flood Control
- B. Name of Organization: U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
- C. Project Type: PL&E
- D. Name of Duty Station: Minnesota
- E. Name of Field Station: Marshall and Polk
- F. States/Counties served: Marshall and Polk
- G. Project District: 7
- H. Project Supervisor: David Rose
- I. Project phone numbers: NRCS  
 P.O. Box 74  
 105 S. Division St.  
 Warren, MN 56762-1409  
 (218) 745-4351  
 FAX: (218) 746-6107
- J. Project Director: Michael M. Price
- K. Project phone numbers: NRCS  
 600 Farm Credit Service Bldg  
 375 Jackson St.  
 St. Paul, MN 55101  
 Ph: (612) 290-3677  
 FAX: (612) 290-3375
- L. Number of projects in PL&E: 9
- M. Number of projects in RDT: 0

RIVER BEAUTIFICATION AND  
FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

USDA- NRCS  
David F. Rose  
P.O. Box 74, 105 S. Division St.  
Warren, MN 56762  
(218) 745-4351

SUMMARY PAGE

**NEEDS TO BE MET:**

American Elm trees killed by Dutch Elm disease are now causing flood damage along the Middle River and Tamarac River in Marshall County, and the Snake River which flows through both Marshall and Polk County.

The main problem is that the dead trees fall into and then float down the rivers, creating log jams at certain points along the way; taking on all the characteristics of a dam. These log jams plug culverts and bridges causing major damage to the road systems. It also results in overland flow outside the main channel and causes erosion problems on public and private property. These problems will continue to increase for many years as more dead elms decay and fall into the river channels.

Our main objective is to remove the dead elm trees from the river channels and also those standing dead trees that have the potential to fall into the river.

We will plant new trees along this work zone to reforest those areas devastated by the Dutch Elm disease. Shrubs could also be considered for river bank stabilization in some sections.

The loss of the elms (floating down stream) in the river systems also creates a loss of habit for our wildlife. Therefore, we would like to salvage/utilize these dead trees to create "Cabins for Critters" to enhance habitat options for the area's wildlife.

There is approximately 170 miles of river in this project area. We estimate approximately 50% or 85 miles will be where most of the work needs to be done.

**KEY ELEMENTS OF THE SITE DESIGN:**

The project team will cooperate with a strategic Project Board. The Project Board will consist of representatives from each of the partners. The daily work site supervision will be accomplished by a Rural Development Corps Member.

**THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:**

A team consisting of eight (8) Environmental Corps Members supervised by one (1) Rural Development Corps Member.

**DESCRIPTION OF ADMINISTERING ORGANIZATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF PRIMARY PROGRAM PARTNERS:**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service will be the administering organization.. They will also provide office supplies, equipment (safety/computers), and coordinate training/education.

The partners are:

1. The Middle River/Snake River Watershed District will be providing a minimum of \$10,000 in cash for the project.
2. Marshall County will provide office space, phone, and transportation.
3. The Marshall County Soil & Water Conservation District will provide office supplies, technical assistance for tree planting phase, and public relations with the media and landowners.

**MISSION:**

The mission of this project is to assist the residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk Counties to rehabilitate riparian corridors, enhance wildlife habitat, improve water quality and insure public safety.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES:**

1. Remove debris (dead elm trees) from the 3 major river systems to prevent flood damage to private land and public facilities/roads which will help improve water quality.

**Work to be done:** Remove debris from the 3 major river systems with a goal of 25 miles the 1st year.

**Result of activities:** Reduce potential for flood damage to both private and public property, thus improving water quality.

**Quality:** Improve stream flow and reduction of debris in channels.

**Success:** 70% reduction in log jams at bridges and culverts. 50% less water erosion on private property located adjacent to river systems.

**Benefiting area:** All the residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk Counties.

2. Enhance habitat for wildlife by creating "Cabins for Critters" using the debris removed from the river system.

**Work to be done:** Take debris and make wildlife shelters (Cabins for Critters) on areas adjacent to the river systems. Goal the 1st year is to do this along the 25 miles of river system that has had the debris removed.

**Result:** More shelter for birds/animals.

**Quality:** Construction will meet wildlife habitat standards from either the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources or the US Fish/Wildlife Service.

**Success:** Enhance availability of wildlife cover and therefore decrease the potential for winter loss in bird and animal populations by 10%.

**Benefiting area:** All residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk Counties.

- 3. Plant trees/shrubs in identified areas along the 3 river systems where Dutch Elm disease has devastate the American Elm trees.

**Work to be done:** The goal the first year is to plant trees/shrubs along 25 miles of the river system.

**Result:** Reforestation of riparian areas along river system.

**Quality:** Successful establishment of trees/shrubs.

**Success:** 75% survival rate of newly planted trees/shrubs.

**Benefiting area:** All residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk Counties; especially those living along these sections of the river systems.

**COMMUNITY BUILDING OBJECTIVE:**

- 1. Foster an ethic of Community Service.

**Activities:** Conduct a "Clean-up Day" at each city park in Marshall County.

**Result:** 500 additional hours of volunteer service from other organizations (partners).

**Measure Quality:** Survey the partners and cities involved

**Standard of Success:** 500 additional hours of volunteer service met or exceeded; 100% of cities were satisfied with the service provided.

**PARTICIPANT DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE:**

- 1. Create an environment for members to have a positive learning experience.

**Activities:** Training in team building, safety methods, 1st aid, public speaking and value of diversity.

**Result:** AmeriCorps members learn and understand the value of working together as a team; create an awareness on the importance of safety, no matter what type of activity; learn to administer basic 1st aid and CPR methods; members experience the necessity of clear communication with individuals, groups and organizations in carrying out their project objectives; members accept others for what they are and utilize the strengths to complete their projects.

**Measure Quality:** Successful completion of training courses, ability to work together as 1 group.

**Standard of Success:** Accident-free work sites; favorable comments from partners on actions of members; retention of 100% of members in program.

**A. NARRATIVE**

**Needs**

American Elm trees killed by Dutch Elm disease are now causing flood damage along the Middle River and Tamarac River in Marshall County, and the Snake River which flows through both Marshall and Polk County.

The main problem is that the dead trees fall into and then float down the rivers, creating log jams at certain points along the way, taking on all the characteristics of a dam. These log jams plug

culverts and bridges causing major damage to the road systems. It also results in overland flow outside the main channel and causes erosion problems on public and private property. These problems will continue to increase for many years as more dead elms decay and fall into the river channels.

Our main objective is to remove the dead elm trees from the river channels and also those standing dead trees that have the potential to fall into the river.

We will plant new trees along this work zone to reforest those areas devastated by the Dutch Elm disease. Shrubs could also be considered for river bank stabilization in some sections.

The loss of the elms (floating down stream) in the river systems also creates a loss of habit for our wildlife. Therefore, we would like to salvage/utilize these dead trees to create "Cabins for Critters" to enhance habitat options for the area's wildlife.

There is approximately 170 miles of river in this project area. We estimate approximately 50% or 85 miles will be where most of the work needs to be done.

**Process**

The Marshall County Soil & Water Conservation District, the Middle River/Snake River Watershed District, Marshall County and the Natural Resources Conservation Service all assisted in identifying this need. After the flood in 1993, local residents requested help from the Watershed District. An inventory was completed by the above organizations to identify problems and possible solutions.

A Project Board will be formed that includes a representative from each of the following organizations to provide project direction and support:

1. The Middle River/Snake River Watershed District will take the lead role in this project by identifying the location of the project work sites. They will also be providing a minimum of \$10,000 in cash for the project.

- 2. Marshall County will provide office space, phone(s), and transportation.
- 3. The Marshall County Soil & Water Conservation District will provide office supplies, technical assistance for the tree planting phase, secure funding for cost of trees to be planted, and public relations with the media and landowners.
- 4. The Natural Resources Conservation Service will provide program administration, office supplies, equipment (safety/computers), and coordinate training/education.

**B. DESIGN**

**Concept**

A team consisting of eight Environmental Corps Members supervised by one Rural Development Corps Member headquartered in Warren, Minnesota (county seat for Marshall County). This team will get their direction from the Project Board.

**Service Activities - (typical day)**

Meet at the office at 8 a.m.. Go to a selected site utilizing proper equipment to remove dead trees from the river channel.. Most of the debris removal will be done during the winter months (November-March). Members will be using chain and hand saws to cut trees and then manually hauling/dragging this debris to adjacent areas. Mechanized equipment may also be utilized. During the summer months (April-October) members will do some debris removal, along with creating the "Cabins for Critters" (arranging and stacking debris in different types of piles) wildlife habitat. The tree planting will be done in may or October.

Members will be bringing bag lunches and will receive morning and afternoon breaks. They will return back to their home site around 5 p.m. A member from the Project Board will stop by at certain intervals to see if the members require anything.

**Participant Training and Support**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service will take the lead role to identify and schedule any training (safety, first aid, CPR, defensive driving, AIDS, cultural awareness) that members will receive. The Project

Board will provide input on prioritizing timing of training, along with member input.

We plan to utilize local organizations, agencies, and individuals to conduct this training whenever possible. We also plan to hold weekly meetings with members of the team, supervisors, and representatives of the Project Board.

**Participant Placement and Supervision**

Members will be placed on one team. They will all be working together in the same area. A Rural Development Member will be the work-site supervisor.

**Evaluation/Quality**

The Project Board and team members will jointly evaluate and monitor work programs for both quantity and quality. They will work together to set monthly goals and standards.

**Civic Activities**

All towns/communities are located along the 3 major river systems in Marshall County. The monthly community service activity will include doing a project (related to environment) so each town will benefit from a specific group activity by the member sometime during the year.

**Recruitment**

We will contact schools, colleges, technical schools, and universities in our region for applicants. A cover letter, along with a fact sheet and the application form will be sent to the above contacts. Follow-ups will be made by phone or personal visits. We will also use the media (radio and newspapers) for news releases and ads.

Applicants obtained from the National 1-800 AmeriCorps Hotline will also be considered.

Every effort will be made to have a diverse group of AmeriCorps members for this project; including both gender and ethnic background.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**Objective 9**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service      **SITE:** Warren, Minnesota  
River Beautification & Flood Control (1 - RDT/8 PL&E)

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** David Rose      **PHONE:** (218) 746-6107      **COUNTY:** Marshall & Polk

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Remove debris from the 3 major river systems to prevent flood damage to private land & public facilities/roads which will help improve water quality.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Remove debris from the 3 major river systems with a goal of 25 miles the 1st year.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Reduce potential for flood damage to both private and public property, thus improving water quality.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Improve stream flow and reduction of debris in channels.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

70% reduction in log jams at bridges and culverts. 50% less water erosion on private property located adjacent to river systems.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

All the residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk counties.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**Objective 10**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service      **SITE:** Warren, Minnesota  
River Beautification & Flood Control (1 - RDT/8 PL&E)  
**SITE SUPERVISOR:** David Rose      **PHONE:** (218) 746-6107      **COUNTY:** Marshall & Polk

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Enhance habitat for wildlife by creating "Cabins for Critters" using the debris removed from the river system.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Take debris and make wildlife shelters (Cabins for Critters) on areas adjacent to the river systems. Goal the 1st year is to do this along the 25 miles of river system that has had the debris removed. A minimum of 20 wildlife shelters will be constructed.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

More shelter for birds and animals.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Construction will meet wildlife habitat standards from either the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Minnesota Department of natural Resources or the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

Success will be gauged by the local community response to the project and by improved future wildlife populations. Evaluations will be made during the winter to determine wildlife use and to predict increased survival rates. Enhance availability of wildlife cover and therefore decrease the potential for winter loss in bird and animal populations by 10%.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

All residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk counties.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**Objective 11**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service      **SITE:** Warren, Minnesota  
River Beautification & Flood Control (1 - RDT/8 PL&E)  
**SITE SUPERVISOR:** David Rose      **PHONE:** (218) 746-6107      **COUNTY:** Marshall & Polk

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Plant trees/shrubs in identified areas along the 3 river systems where Dutch Elm disease has devastated the American Elm trees.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

The goal of the 1st year is to plant 5,000 trees/shrubs along 25 miles of the river system.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Reforestation of riparian areas along river system.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Successful establishment of trees/shrubs.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

75% survival rate of newly planted trees/shrubs.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

All residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk counties; especially those living along these sections of the river systems.

941

- A) Title of Project: Tourism Promotion
- B) Name of Organization: USDA, NRCS
- C) Team Type: RDT
- D) State of Duty Station: Mississippi
- E) County of Duty Station: Forrest
- F) Names of counties served: Smith, Jasper, Clarke, Covington, Jones, Wayne, Greene, Perry, Forrest, Lamar, Stone, George, Jackson, Harrison, Hancock
- G) Congressional District: 5
- H) Name of site supervisor: Jeannine May
- I) Address, Phone and FAX No.: Room 323, Colmer Fed. Building  
701 N. Main Street  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
Ph: (601) 545-2753  
FAX (601) 583-2424
- J) Name of St Project Director: Reginald Spears
- K) Address, Phone and FAX No.: Suite 1321, McCoy Federal Bldg.  
100 West Capitol Street  
Jackson, MS 39269-1399  
Ph: (601) 965-4335  
FAX: (601) 965-5178
- L) Number of Members in PL&E: 0
- M) Number of Members is RDT: 1

943

Tourism - P.1

TEMPLATE FOR RENEWAL FY96 NRCS AMERICORPS APPLICATIONS (PRIVATE)

For each site, we need the following information on this disk in DOS and in a hard copy, doubled spaced. The file should use ONLY font and INDENT not TABs should be used to indent text. You may have more than one site per diskette but please make each site a separate file:

1. TITLE PAGE:

(A) Title of Project: Tourism Promotion

(B) Name of Organisation: Southeast MS RC&D Council

(C) Team Type (PL&E or RDT, or combined): RDT

(D) State of Duty Station of Americorps Members: MS

(E) County of Duty Station of Americorps Members: Forrest

(F) Names of counties served by Members (up to 15 counties):

Jasper, Covington, Marion, Jackson, Harrison, Forrest, Hancock, Jones, Greene, George, Perry, Pearl River, Jefferson Davis, Lamar, Clarke, Raleigh, Wayne and Stone.

(G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members: Fifth

(H) Name of site supervisor (at the local or county level):

Jeannine B. May

(I) Address, phone number, and fax number of site supervisor:

Wm. Colner Bldg., Suite 315, 701 N. Main Street, Hattiesburg, MS 39401-3497 Telephone number: (601) 545-2753 Fax number: (601) 583-2424

(J) Name of state project manager: Reginald M. Spears

(K) Address, phone number, and fax number of state project manager:

Dr. A. H. McCoy. Bldg., Suite 1321, 100 West Capitol St. Jackson, MS 39269-1399 Telephone number: (601) 965-4335 Fax number: (601) 965-4940

(L) Number of Members in Public Lands and Environment Teams: 0

(M) Number of members in Rural Development Teams: 1

944

## Tourism - p. 2

1. **SUMMARY PAGE** - on one page provide an overview of:

A) Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half a year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members.

The primary/initial visits to the different counties has been very productive. The response from the various groups and individuals that I have met with has been outstanding. The persons in the area have a good idea of the impact that tourism could have of their county, and are more than willing to assist in the effort. Others have the impression that our goal is to create urban tourism rather than promote rural tourism. This misunderstanding is usually cleared up in no time and the townspeople then become very excited to show and tell some of the interesting, historic and even unusual aspects of their county.

The bimonthly newsletter is in the development stage and no complications are foreseen. We have had very good feedback concerning this newsletter and the networking possibilities that are there for all members.

Feedback on the upcoming conference has been very good as we have had many volunteers to help with the organization and development of such a conference.

I feel that the organization of SMTA has helped the smaller communities see that, even though they do not have a theme park or casino, they still have a great many attractions to offer visitors. The idea of the inventory, just the idea, starts to spin the wheels in the minds of the people as to what they have that someone from a large metropolitan area has never seen before. Better yet, what that person has not seen in many years and would dearly love to see again and especially show it to their children. SMTA is an opportunity for the smaller towns and communities to realize that they have things very important to offer, things like history, hospitality, and nostalgia that they will not have to sell their souls to have, it is in their own backyards. Another benefit of SMTA is the awareness that is being created among the locals of this 18 county area. Most of the people that live here have no concept of the variety of attractions that they have in their own backyards. Our organization and the publicity that we are receiving concerning all there is to do and see in Southeast Mississippi, even thus far and through word of mouth, has been an eye-opening experience for the residents.

945

## Tourism - p. 3

B) The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project to be performed by the Members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

The goals for next year follow the stated objectives. The Southeast Mississippi Tourism Association (SMTA) will continue to build the liaisons that we have been working on within the eighteen counties. With these counties working together, we will be in a position to better develop and promote our tourism resources, continue to apply for state matching grants, and work collectively for the betterment of the area.

During the course of the next year, we will develop a minimum of four regional tourism routes. Each of these routes will be focused on a different resource indigenous to the area. We will further our work on hospitality training for front line personnel in the area. We are consistently receiving reports on what to focus on in a hospitality training course and what to avoid. Trade shows are an important aspect of this industry and we will represent SMTA at certain shows with a promotional booth. This booth is a goal that is to be in place within the coming year. The trade shows to be attended will be decided on by our Executive Committee possibly with assistance from the Board of Supervisors. We also have set a goal to locate and utilize alternative sources of funding in the next year.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**SITE:** Hattiesburg, MS

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Jeannine May

**COUNTY:**

**OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** Promote local tourism.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Develop an inventory of the tourism attractions in the southeast Mississippi region; develop a regional brochure, coordinate a regional tourism conference.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Promote tourism in rural and other areas of southeast Mississippi and to stimulate the exchange of ideas of historic, cultural and scenic interest that will attract people to this region. To enhance recreation for the local people.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Local attractions will be summarized and a regional plan for tourism will be written and evaluated by the sponsoring organizations. Evaluations of the conference will be used to measure the impact.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

18 counties will be summarized for tourism attractions. Conference will be attended and evaluated by representatives from each of the 18 regions.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

Estimated 2,000 people.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**SITE:** Hattiesburg, MS

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Jeannine May

**COUNTY:**

**OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** Promote local tourism.

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- 1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**  
Establish cooperative partnerships with tourism related agencies and businesses in Southeast Mississippi. Develop regional tour routes and materials. Organize a committee to identify and report on regional marketing trends, produce and display a promotional booth and research and identify sources of support.
- 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**  
Coordination of tourism among agencies, organizations and business. Promote tourism in rural and other areas of southeast Mississippi and to stimulate the exchange of ideas of historic, cultural and scenic interest that will attract people to this region. To enhance recreation for the local people.
- 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**  
Tour routes and materials will be evaluated and accepted for use.
- 4. By what standard will you gauge success?**  
4 regional tour routes will be established.
- 5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**  
Estimated 2,000 people.

947

MISSISSIPPI

TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project:	Rural Fire Protection
B. Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture NRCS
C. Team Type:	RDT
D. State of Duty Station:	Mississippi
E. County of Duty Station:	Lincoln
F. Names of counties served	Franklin, Jefferson, Jeff Davis, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Pearl River, Pike, Walthall, & Wilkinson
G. Congressional District:	4
H. Name of Site Supervisor:	Bennie Huthins
I. Address, phone & fax numbers:	747 Industrial Park RD, NE Brookhaven, MS 39601 Ph: 601-833-5539 FAX: 601-835-0054
J. Name of State Project Director:	Reginald Spears
K. Address, phone & fax numbers:	Federal Bldg Jackson, MS 39269 Ph: 601-965-4330 FAX: 601-965-4940
L. Number of Members in PL&E:	0
M. Number of Members in RDT:	2

949

**RENEWAL APPLICATION FY 1996****Mississippi Cluster #3 NRCS****Cluster Site: Brookhaven****Work Site: Brookhaven ( Area Office)****Rural Fire Protection**

- A. Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half a year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members.

Using \$10,500 in grant funds donated for this project, over 50,000 conservation education booklets were purchased from Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) and distributed to over 200 elementary schools across the state of Mississippi. The response has been overwhelming, with requests being received for approximately 4 million booklets! Dawn Speights- Greenlee has worked as a team with the other four AmeriCorps members to assist them in preparing and distributing 8 news releases to 26 newspapers in 13 counties, setting up computer data bases and files on all projects, and preparing and distributing thousands of pieces of direct mail on AmeriCorps projects, activities and meetings.

This AmeriCorps work has developed Dawn's abilities and skills in business technology and public relations.

- B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project to be performed by the Members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

Key elements of this project of 1996 in addition to providing team assistance to the other four AmeriCorps members will include at least 75% of the members' time being devoted to the Rural Fire Protection project along with the other AmeriCorps member at Brookhaven field office work site (Gail Clark on Adopt-A-Stream). Both will be providing direct assistance to volunteer teams in selected counties (selected by need and interest) in identifying alternative water sources for rural fire protection and in collecting data needed to allow technical certification of these sources (topographic data, watershed size, pond size, distance to access roads, fire stations, etc.) This will involve extensive riding rural roads with geological survey maps. Assistance will also be provided in identifying landowners and making necessary contacts to collect information needed by local fire protection officials in preparing easements for use of private ponds.

**RENEWAL APPLICATION FY 1996**  
**Mississippi Cluster #3 NRCS**  
**Cluster Site: Brookhaven**  
**Work Site: Liberty**  
**Rural Fire Protection**

- A. Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half a year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members.

An initial "kickoff" meeting was attended by 42 fire protection and community leaders from 11 of the 13 counties. Interest in the proposed AmeriCorps directed project was very high. RC&D Council obtained a \$3,000 US Forest Service Rural Development grant to help with the project expenses. To date funds have been used (\$580) to purchase USGS topographic maps for complete double coverage for all 13 counties participating. Working group meetings have been held in 10 of the 13 counties with over 200 volunteers, and fire protection and community leaders participating. Meetings were scheduled, organized and directed by AmeriCorps member Canetti O'Brien. She also prepared all maps for the work sessions.

- B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project to be performed by the Members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

Program activities in 1996 will contain as now. More direct assistance will be provided to selected counties by Canetti and by additional assistance from Dawn Speights-Greenlee (Brookhaven AO) and Gail Clark (Brookhaven FO). Assistance will be provided in preparation of a sample landowner easement and in determining access needs to selected sites. Data will also be collected as needed to certify potential sites.

Due to the grant response from this project, we are transferring (following national office approval, of course!) the responsibilities of the Brookhaven (Area Office) Work Site AmeriCorp member (Dawn Speights-Greenlee) to Rural Fire Protection with the same objectives as the original Rural Fire Protection project as established in FY-95. She will continue to be located in Brookhaven Area Office.

{PRIVATE }

CLUSTER: #3

**GRANTEE:** USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service  
(formerly the Soil Conservation Service)

**SITE:** Liberty, Mississippi

{PRIVATE } FISCAL YEAR 1996 - PROPOSED

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE COMMUNITY BUILDING OBJECTIVES**

*A tool for creating or revising community building objectives.*

*Use one worksheet for each objective.*

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Rural Fire Protection

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE }1) What work will be done?**

Continue to work with local sponsors in identifying potential alternative water sources. Assist in collecting data for certifying sources. Provide assistance where needed in obtaining landowner easements.

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE }2) What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Activities should result in 75 percent of all residences having an approved water supply for fire fighting within 3 miles, covering 75 percent of the 13-project counties.

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE }3) How will you measure the quality of your work?**

Potential sites will be monitored on computer to regularly evaluate their status as to certification, easements, access and final approval.

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE }4) By what standard will you gauge success?**

100 percent of selected sources must meet NRC'S and State Fire Academy Standards. All easements must be reviewed by an attorney and recorded as a legal document.

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE }5) How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?**

An estimated 8,000 homes will benefit from available water supply for rural fire protection.

- A) Title of Project: Livestock Waste Management
- B) Name of Organization: USDA, NRCS
- C) Team Type: RDT
- D) State of Duty Station: Mississippi
- E) County of Duty Station: Lawrence
- F) Names of counties served: Copiah, Lincoln, Marion, Pike, Adams, Jefferson,  
Lawrence, Pearl River, Amite, Franklin, Jeff Davis, Walthall, Wilkinson
- G) Congressional District: 4
- H) Name of site supervisor: Bennie Hutchins
- I) Address, Phone and FAX No.: 747 Industrial Park Rd., NE  
Brookhaven, MS 39601  
Ph: (601) 833-5539  
FAX (601) 835-0054
- J) Name of St Project Director: Reginald Spears
- K) Address, Phone and FAX No.: Suite 1321, McCoy Federal Bldg.  
100 West Capitol Street  
Jackson, MS 39269-1399  
Ph: (601) 965-4335  
FAX: (601) 965-5
- L) Number of Members in PL&E: 0
- M) Number of Members is RDT: 2

953

**RENEWAL APPLICATION FY 1996****Mississippi Cluster #3 NRCS****Cluster Site: Brookhaven****Work Site: Monticello****Livestock Waste Management**

- A. Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half a year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members.

Seven animal waste lagoons have been pumped out and the nutrients applied to cropland and grassland according to an approved livestock waste application and management plan. Eleven farmers are on the waiting list. One field day was held with 50 in attendance and coverage provided by a Jackson television station. Six programs on water quality and animal management was presented to schools, mostly agriculture students. Member is currently coordinating efforts with Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service to promote, organize, and conduct environmental assessments on self-evaluations on homesteads and farms in selected watersheds using MCES's Farm-A-Syst and Home-A-Syst programs, 4-H's "Give Water A Hand" program and our own environmental assessment checklist developed by AmeriCorps member. Through numerous news releases, direct mailouts, and the field day, area farmers are now aware of the above services being offered.

Barbara Adams, AmeriCorps member has developed skills in working with people and groups and accumulated valuable technical skills and practical knowledge to strengthen her agriculture and biological education.

- B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project to be performed by the Members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

Key elements of the 1996 program will include a continuation of all the activities described above plus closer coordination with the Adopt-A-Stream and Adopt-A-Watershed programs being coordinated by another AmeriCorps member (Brookhaven field office work site - Gail Clark). There are over 100 animal waste lagoons in the RC&D Area that need this "renewing" treatment. Established partnerships with Extension Service, schools (Esp. Vo-Ag and Agri-Science teachers), and Conservation Districts will be continued and strengthened.

- A) Title of Project: Water Quality Improvement Project
- B) Name of Organization: USDA, NRCS
- C) Team Type: RDT
- D) State of Duty Station: Mississippi
- E) County of Duty Station: Union
- F) Names of counties served: Benton, DeSoto, Lafayette, Marshall, Panola,  
Pontotoc, Tate, Tippah
- G) Congressional District: 1
- H) Name of site supervisor: William A. Hannaford
- I) Address, Phone and FAX No.: 816 Hwy. 348 East  
New Albany, MS  
Ph: (601) 534-7651  
FAX (601) 534-3242
- J) Name of St Project Director: Reginald Spears
- K) Address, Phone and FAX No.: Suite 1321, McCoy Federal Bldg.  
100 West Capitol Street  
Jackson, MS 39269-1399  
Ph: (601) 965-4335  
FAX: (601) 965-5178
- L) Number of Members in PL&E: 0
- M) Number of Members is RDT: 1

- A) Title of Project: Adopt-A-Stream
- B) Name of Organization: USDA, NRCS
- C) Team Type: RDT
- D) State of Duty Station: Mississippi
- E) County of Duty Station: Lincoln
- F) Names of counties served: Copiah, Lincoln, Marion, Pike, Adams, Jefferson,  
Lawrence, Pearl River, Amite, Franklin, Jeff Davis, Walthall, Wilkinson
- G) Congressional District: 4
- H) Name of site supervisor: Bennie Hutchins
- I) Address, Phone and FAX No.: 747 Industrial Park Rd., NE  
Brookhaven, MS 39601  
Ph: (601) 833-5539  
FAX (601) 835-0054
- J) Name of St Project Director: Reginald Spears
- K) Address, Phone and FAX No.: Suite 1321, McCoy Federal Bldg.  
100 West Capitol Street  
Jackson, MS 39269-1399  
Ph: (601) 965-4335  
FAX: (601) 965-5178
- L) Number of Members in PL&E: 0
- M) Number of Members is RDT: 2

956

**RENEWAL APPLICATION FY 1996****Mississippi Cluster #3 NRCS****Cluster Site: Brookhaven****Work Site: Brookhaven ( Field Office)****Adopt-A-Stream**

- A. Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half a year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members.

Two news releases distributed to all newspapers in 13 counties, four programs with local schools, one field day with television coverage, and hundreds of direct mailouts have increased the awareness of water quality concerns and especially the Adopt-A-Stream program. Four volunteers were recruited to attend an intensive 3-day workshop, along with AmeriCorps members Barbara Adams, and Gail Clark, to prepare them to become stream monitors with a 3-year commitment to conduct tests and collect data on adopted streams. Six streams have now been adopted for monitoring and/or stream cleanup projects. Six volunteers are scheduled to attend a July workshop.

- B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project to be performed by the Members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts in 13 counties are in the process of adopting small watersheds with intensive agricultural or silvicultural operations. Gail Clark, AmeriCorps member, will coordinate activities that will include individual farm and homestead environmental assessments, land use evaluations, and organization of community action teams in addition to water quality monitoring. Volunteers will continue to be solicited for Adopt-A-Stream workshops and subsequent stream monitoring. Partners include Miss. Wildlife Federation, Miss. Dept. of Environmental Quality, Miss. Coop Extension Service, Conservation Districts, 4-H Clubs, Scouts, and Vo-Ag classes. Mississippi Power and Light Co. recently approved a \$500 matching grant to help cover expenses. SW Miss RC&D, Inc. will provide match funds. Gail will also assist with the Rural Fire Protection project in 1996.

{PRIVATE }

CLUSTER: #3

**GRANTEE:** USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service  
(formerly the Soil Conservation Service)

**SITE:** Brookhaven, Mississippi

{PRIVATE } FISCAL YEAR 1996 - PROPOSED

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE COMMUNITY BUILDING OBJECTIVES**

*A tool for creating or revising community building objectives.*

*Use one worksheet for each objective.*

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Adopt-A-Stream Project

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE } 1) What work will be done?**

Continue to coordinate the promoting and solicitation of monitors (volunteers) to adopt stream sections for cleanup and environmental monitoring in cooperation with Mississippi Wildlife Federation's Adopt-A-Stream program. Work with local sponsoring groups in an Adopt-A-Watershed program to promote local pride and action in addressing water quality and natural resource related problems within small watersheds throughout the 13-county area.

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE } 2) What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

The establishment of a water quality database to monitor changes caused by point and nonpoint pollution. The promotion and acceptance of ecosystem based management or management by watersheds to instill community action through peer pressure and community pride without the need for local ordinances or bad-actor laws.

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE } 3) How will you measure the quality of your work?**

Tests must maintain quality control procedures and must be conducted on specified schedule.

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE } 4) By what standard will you gauge success?**

By number of volunteers recruited (goal-50), number miles stream adopted (goal-100), by number monitoring points established (goal-30), and by number of targeted streams involved and by number of small watersheds accepted.

{PRIVATE }

**{PRIVATE } 5) How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?**

4,000 landowners and recreational users in a 13-county area

- A) Title of Project: Economic Development through Forestry
- B) Name of Organization: USDA, NRCS
- C) Team Type: RDT
- D) State of Duty Station: Mississippi
- E) County of Duty Station: Pike
- F) Names of counties served: Copiah, Lincoln, Marion, Pike, Adams, Jefferson,  
Lawrence, Pearl River, Amite, Franklin, Jeff Davis, Walthall, Wilkinson
- G) Congressional District: 4
- H) Name of site supervisor: Bennie Hutchins
- I) Address, Phone and FAX No.: 747 Industrial Park Rd., NE  
Brookhaven, MS 39601  
Ph: (601) 833-5539  
FAX (601) 835-0054
- J) Name of St Project Director: Reginald Spears
- K) Address, Phone and FAX No.: Suite 1321, McCoy Federal Bldg.  
100 West Capitol Street  
Jackson, MS 39269-1399  
Ph: (601) 965-4335  
FAX: (601) 965-5178
- L) Number of Members in PL&E: 0
- M) Number of Members is RDT: 2

**RENEWAL APPLICATION FY 1996**

**Mississippi Cluster #3 NRCS**

**Cluster Site: Brookhaven**

**Work Site: Magnolia**

**Economic Development Through Forestry Products**

- A. Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half a year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members.

AmeriCorps member Frank Oakes has made dozens of personal contacts with key community and economic development leaders promoting our Forest Products Promotion project. Also presented 10 Civic Club programs. Held organizational meeting with Southwest Mississippi Woodworkers' Association (attendance-40). This organization will assist and encourage entrepreneurs in the development of small woodworking enterprises by providing information, guidance, and support on sources of technical and financial assistance available as needed.

Frank has also organized support for a RC&D-sponsored project to develop a Wood Products Technology Center in Southwest Mississippi with trifold furniture of vocational-technical training, technology transfer to new and existing businesses, and incubation services to new enterprises. The response from his efforts has been very encouraging, including a scheduled visit by the Governor of Mississippi today (4-25-95). He has organized to fact-finding trip for a busload (40-50) of economic and development leaders to operations in Alabama and north Mississippi scheduled for May 2-3.

He is continuing to work on a project to develop a local (13-county) incentive program to encourage tree-planted acres in expiring CRP contracts to remain in trees. The 100,000 acres in our 13-county area will be a valuable future raw materials sources.

- B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project to be performed by the Members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

Efforts and activities on this project will continue in the same direction in FY-96. Response of key leadership and results to date have been too encouraging to require any changes, just need more help!

{PRIVATE }

**GRANTEE:** USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service  
(formerly the Soil Conservation Service)

**CLUSTER:** #3

**SITE:** Magnolia, Mississippi

{PRIVATE } FISCAL YEAR 1996 - PROPOSED

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE COMMUNITY BUILDING OBJECTIVES**

*A tool for creating or revising community building objectives.*

*Use one worksheet for each objective.*

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Economic Development Through Forestry Project

{PRIVATE }

{PRIVATE } **1) What work will be done?**

Coordinating activities to promote secondary forest products development in the 13 project counties.

Assisting the newly organized Woodworkers Association in conducting training workshops on production, marketing, technical assistance, etc.

Continue activities and contacts toward developing and operating a local incentive program to encourage landowners to maintain expiring CRP contracts in trees.

{PRIVATE }

{PRIVATE } **2) What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

6 secondary wood products enterprises started or expanded.

4 meetings and 3 technical seminars conducted by Woodworkers Association.

95 percent of expiring CRP contracts signed up to participate in incentive program.

{PRIVATE }

{PRIVATE } **3) How will you measure the quality of your work?**

Quality of assistance will be measured by evaluation of success of enterprises assisted, as well as number and size of enterprises assisted. Also quality of CRP project will be measured by the degree of participation by landowners.

{PRIVATE }

{PRIVATE } **4) By what standard will you gauge success?**

Success will be measured by number of enterprises assisted, number of members active in Association, and number of acres signed up for extended incentive program.

{PRIVATE }

{PRIVATE } **5) How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?**

300 landowners and 13 enterprises

Title: Mid-Missouri Farm-A-Syst and Water Quality Project  
 Organization: USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service - Missouri  
 Team Type: Rural Development Team (RDT)  
 State of Duty Station: Missouri  
 County of Duty Station: Boone  
 Counties served: Boone, Callaway, Audrain, Howard & Cooper  
 Site Supervisor: Robert Broz (4 members)  
 Site Supervisor address: 205 Ag. Eng Bldg, University of Missouri  
 Columbia, MO 65211  
 Ph: (314) 882-0085 FAX: (314) 884-5650  
  
 Site Supervisor: Ross Braun (1 member)  
 Site Supervisor address: USDA - NRCS, Parkade Center #250  
 601 Bux. Loop 70 West  
 Columbia, MO 65203  
 Ph: (314) 876-0912 FAX: (314) 876-091  
  
 Project Director: Ross Braun  
 Project Director Address: USDA - NRCS, Parkade Center #250  
 601 Bus. Loop 70 West  
 Columbia, MO 65203  
 Ph: (314) 876-0912 FAX: (314) 876-0913  
  
 Number in Team: 5

**SUMMARY**

**Needs:** Water quality, both surface and subsurface, is a major concern of the public. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has identified several potential sources of surface and ground water pollution from farmsteads. Potential pollutants include pesticides, fertilizer, petroleum products, human and animal waste and other household and farm materials that pose a risk to water quality. Potential sources of pollution include storage facilities in homes and outbuildings, handling procedures, actual use of materials and disposal procedures and locations. Pollution risk is high at abandoned and working wells and surface conditions such as waterways, drainage ditches and road ditches. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources and public water supply agencies and companies have expressed an interest to identify well sites within their jurisdiction.

**Design:** AmeriCorps members will conduct a water quality information campaign, conduct Farm-A-Syst short courses, give presentations to student and adult organizations and assist individual rural residents to evaluate water quality concerns on farmsteads and provide guidance to reduce water pollution risks through protection measures and emergency plans. They will work in five counties in Mid-Missouri.

**Participants:** 5 AmeriCorps members with natural resource management backgrounds who are willing and able to work full-time.

**Partners:**

**USDA - NRCS:** Administering agency, office space, vehicles, and technical support and training.

**University of Missouri Extension Service:** Lead agency for technical oversight and training, office space.

**Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Pollution Control Program:** Funding for materials and training

**Consolidated Farm Service Agency:** Training and administrative support.

**Mission:** To increase awareness of water quality protection needs and measures and assist rural residents to evaluate water

quality concerns on their farms in order to implement protection practices.

Objectives:

- 1) Perform Farm-A-Syst evaluations on 500 farmsteads.
- 2) Reduce potential water quality pollution on 250 farmsteads.
- 3) Increase public awareness of water quality concerns through at least 2 public presentations in each of 5 counties.
- 4) Initiate a system to inventory wells and identify 500 well sites.

USDA-NRCS AmeriCorps Project Proposal  
January 20, 1995

**NARRATIVE**

Needs:

This project is a response to concerns about protecting surface and ground water. The Farm-A-Syst program has been developed by the Cooperative Extension System, Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Environmental Protection Agency in order to assess the risks of water pollution from farmsteads and develop individual action plans to reduce risks. Use of the program in Missouri has been limited since other mandates have taken priority. The Extension Service is the lead agency for this program. Farm\*A\*Syst campaigns have been implemented in two Missouri projects, the Upper Niangua Hydrologic Unit Area and the Mark Twain "319" Water Quality project.

Needs have been identified through monthly state water quality committee meetings that include the University Extension Service, Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR), NRCS, CFSA and the Missouri Department of Conservation. In addition, the Extension Service, DNR, CFSA and NRCS worked together to determine priority areas for an AmeriCorps Farm-A-Syst project.

Additional funding and personnel is needed in order to successfully implement the Farm-A-Syst program in Missouri. The Farm-A-Syst program is well suited to the AmeriCorps national service program since implementation asserts direct assistance to communities through presentations and short-courses and individuals through one-on-one guidance to perform farmstead evaluations and determine methods to reduce the risk of water pollution. AmeriCorps members will complete program worksheets with local residents in order to accurately record information, increase understanding and explain risks and solutions to reduce risks. Short courses and formal public presentations complement the program. The direct benefits to communities and residents are an increased understanding of water pollution risks and methods to reduce risks.

Design:

The five AmeriCorps members will be housed at Extension Service and NRCS offices in the Columbia, Missouri area. They will

receive training from University Extension Service and NRCS staff. County office staff from both agencies will provide the support to implement an information campaign that includes mailing announcements and developing relationships with community leaders, organizations and local news media. County offices will also provide clerical and technical support.

Members will primarily work one-on-one with residents to complete Farm-A-Syst worksheets and determine implementation of water protection practices. Well locations will be mapped during the on-farm inventory. They will give presentations to local organizations such as FFA, 4-H, service organizations. Members will also assist Extension Service staff to conduct Farm-A-Syst short courses.

A memorandum of understanding between the NRCS and University of Missouri will be established.

Training:

Farm\*A\*Syst training and quality oversight will be provided by the Extension Service. Both the Extension Service and NRCS will teach members about natural resource management concepts and water quality principles. Initial Farm\*A\*Syst training will be provided through a 2 - 3 day session and subsequently will be provided through one-day sessions and on-the-job training. The Extension Service will conduct the Farm\*A\*Syst training with assistance from NRCS. The Extension Service will assist the NRCS Project Director to complete individual performance evaluations.

CFSA will coordinate training on communication skills, first aid and defensive driving.

## USDA-NRCS AmeriCorps Project Proposal

### Placement:

Members will be placed individually since an office large enough to house an additional five people is not available. We will utilize space at the University of Missouri, Columbia, the NRCS State Office and local NRCS and Extension Service offices. Members will have office space in order to have access to agency electronic mail, phones, copiers, fax machines and both clerical and technical support.

### Supervision:

Robert Broz, University Extension Service, will provide technical supervision  
Ross Braun, NRCS AmeriCorps Project Director will serve as administrative supervisor for the five members.

BUDGET

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):**

Living Allowances:	5 @ \$12,000 =	\$ 60,000
FICA, Unemployment, Workmen's Comp:	5 @ 1,878	9,390
Health Benefits:	5 @ 1,200	6,000
Support:	<u>5 @ 1,510 =</u>	<u>7,550</u>
	TOTAL:	\$ 82,940

In-kind costs: 5 Vehicles  
Project Director & Administrative support

**University of Missouri Extension Service:**

In-kind costs: Office space, supplies, phone, fax & computer  
Secretarial support  
Instructional & Supervisory support

**Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) - Water Pollution Program (319 Funds)**

Farm-A-Syst Notebooks	500 @ \$10 each	\$ 5,000
Postage: <u>5 counties x 2,000 letters x .32</u>		<u>3,200</u>
TOTAL:		\$ 8,200

In-kind costs: Grant administration

**Consolidated Farm Service Agency (CFSA)**

In-kind costs: Training and administrative support

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS:

\$ 91,140 plus in-kind costs to NRCS, Extension Service, MDNR and CFSA.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**Objective 1**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service      **SITE:** Columbia, Missouri  
Farm\*A\*Syst (5 Members - RDT)  
**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Robert Broz (4 members)      **PHONE:** (314) 882-0085      **COUNTY:** Boone  
Ross Braun (1 member)      (314) 876-0912

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Improve water quality

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Do Farm\*A\*Syst evaluations, provide one-on-one assistance, develop and implement a marketing effort to create interest in the evaluation process, direct Farm\*A\*Syst participants to technical & financial assistance.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

500 farms completed evaluation; 50% of farmers in watershed will have received information; requests for evaluations, farm families have a better understanding of Groundwater Protection Practices around the farm. Each member will make 2 presentations; at least 500 well sites will be clearly identified using a USGS topographic map or a global positioning system (GPS).

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

500 farms have altered at least one practice to reduce pollution, 90% of work sheets properly completed; 90% of recipients have indicated satisfaction with the service.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

Residents will request Farm\*A\*Syst assistance & 500 evaluations will be completed. 50% are intending to apply a practice the next year, a service evaluation form will be completed by each family. Well site maps will be used by public water supply organizations.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

500 farm families will receive direct assistance, Community members from at least 10 organizations will have an improved understanding of water quality concerns.

**TEMPLATE FOR RENEWAL FY 96 NRCS AMERICORPS APPLICATIONS**

For each site, we need the following information on this disk in DOS Word Perfect 5.1 and in a hard copy, double spaced. The file should use ONLY font and INDENT not TABs should be used to indent text. You may have more than one site per diskette but please make each site a separate WordPerfect 5.1 file:

**1. TITLE PAGE:**

A) Title of Project: Community Service - AmeriCorps

B) Name of Organization: Five Rivers RC&D - NRCS

C) Team Type (PL&E or RDT, or combined): RDT

D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: Nebraska

E) County of Duty station of AmeriCorps Members: Johnson

F) Names of counties served by Members (up to 15 counties): Saline, Otoe, Johnson, Nemaha, Jefferson, Gage, Pawnee, and Richardson counties, and Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D, South Central Nebraska RC&D, and Trailblazer RC&D counties.

G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members: 1, 2, and 3.

H) Name of site supervisor (at the local or county level): Howard McNiff

I) Address, phone number, and fax number of site supervisor: P.O. Box 626, Tecumseh, NE 68450 (402) 335-3338, Fax-(402) 335-3356.

J) Name of state project manager: Craig R. Derickson

K) Address, phone number, and fax number of state project manager: Federal Building, Room 152, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508-3866 (402) 437-5878, Fax-(402) 437-5327.

L) Number of Members In Public Lands and Environment Teams:

M) Number of members in Rural Development Teams: 5

**TEMPLATE FOR RENEWAL FY 96 NRCS AMERICORPS APPLICATIONS**

For each site, we need the following information on this disk in DOS Word Perfect 5.1 and in a hard copy, double spaced. The file should use ONLY font and INDENT not TABs should be used to indent text. You may have more than one site per diskette but please make each site a separate WordPerfect 5.1 file:

**1. TITLE PAGE:**

**A) Title of Project: Community Service - AmeriCorps**

**B) Name of Organization: Northeast Nebraska RC&D - NRCS**

**C) Team Type (PL&E or RDT, or combined): RDT**

**D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: Nebraska**

**E) County of Duty station of AmeriCorps Members: Pierce**

**F) Names of counties served by Members (up to 15 counties): Antelope, Cedar, Dixon, Knox, Pierce, and Wayne counties and Loup Basin RC&D, North Central Nebraska RC&D, Northeast Nebraska RC&D, Panhandle RC&D, and Southwest Nebraska RC&D counties.**

**G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members: 1 and 3**

**H) Name of site supervisor (at the local or county level): Janet L. Jorgensen**

**I) Address, phone number, and fax number of site supervisor: Route 2, Box 67, Plainview, NE 68769-9504 (402) 582-4866, Fax-(402) 582-3799**

**J) Name of state project manager: Craig R. Derickson**

**K) Address, phone number, and fax number of state project manager: Federal Building, Room 152, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508-3866 (402) 437-5878, Fax-(402) 437-4327**

**L) Number of Members in Public Lands and Environment Teams:**

**M) Number of members in Rural Development Teams: 5**

## 2. Summary Page

A. Specific accomplishments that were achieved in the first two quarters of the project in meeting community service objectives are as follows:

- Developed and presented hands-on conservation educational material on soil erosion and sediment control to 600 students.
- Collected environmental data on wildlife habitat in flood plains of 19 areas in eastern Nebraska. Information is being entered into a GIS system to assist local officials and planners.
- Provided assistance to 8 local communities in fish and wildlife enhancement at recreation areas; recycling of Christmas trees; prepared food boxes for the elderly and other people in need.
- Developed and implemented a school program for 720 children on the Threatened and Endangered Species, Bio-engineering, Water Quality, and Landscape Ecology.
- Gathered resource data for Agricultural Non-point Source Pollution Model for Wehrspann Lake Water Quality Project affecting over 100 land owners on 15,00 acres.
- Marked timber in forestlands of Winnebago Indian Reservation on over 160 acres of land in need of improvement.
- Implemented a bioengineering demonstration on streambank stabilization at the National Arbor Day Foundation Farm. Members built and installed 70 feet of brush material and willow plants to restore the area damaged in the 1993 floods.
- Completed inspections on over 300 flood control structures affected by the 1993 floods and removed debris to maintain the effectiveness of the watershed structures.
- Members assisted in presentations at the Children's Groundwater Festival to educate our youth on the importance of water quality protection and ways to conserve water. The festival has gained regional status and is attended by over 600 children from as many as 50 communities.

Our experience with the AmeriCorps program so far this year has shown us that there is a tremendous unmet need in Nebraska to assist rural communities in developing programs and projects to strengthen their economic, environmental, and cultural well being. We believe that the AmeriCorps program can best serve Nebraska by concentrating our proposed 10 Rural Development members in two District cluster offices to provide assistance to 9 different Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) offices across the state. The partnerships that we have built this first year will allow us to assist the RC&D coordinators in addressing local priorities that the community councils and boards have identified.

B. The FY 1996 AmeriCorps program will move from a 20 member Environmental Corps model at 4 sites to a 10 member Rural Development model with 2 cluster sites. The teams will specifically address economic, environmental and cultural needs in the following community service projects:

- Identify the volume of solid waste being generated and reduce the volume going to landfills by 20 percent through the establishment of five recycling programs in five communities for 2,000 participants.
- Enhance tourism through partnerships with local officials, the Nebraska Economic Development Department, Nebraska Tourism Board, which will result in at least a 20 percent increase in tourism activities, brochures, and travel points of interest for Nebraska.
- Provide assistance in the collection and recycling of household hazardous waste by establishing a regional recycling committee to have at least 50 percent of the local households participating and collecting 4,000 pounds of hazardous waste.

-

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #1: Identify the amount (volume) of solid waster being generated and the reduce the volume of solid waste material going to community landfills by 20 percent through the establishment of five recycling programs serving five communities benefiting 2,000 participants.**

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: \_\_\_\_\_

SITE SUPERVISOR: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:**

- Establishment of an information program.
- Work with the County Recycling members.
- Utilize the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) programs database to measure before and after program participation.
- Establish five recycling programs in the region.
- Formation of recycling committees.
- Identify market(s) for recyclables.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?

- Improve the knowledge and awareness in communities on recycling of solid waste materials.
- Formation of recycling committee(s).
- Develop partnerships with other volunteer community organizations.
- Strengthening of existing recycling centers or the establishment of new ones to serve participating communities.
- Establish a market for recyclables.
- Identify the volume of solid waster being generated and what percentage is recyclable.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

Develop five recycling programs in five communities.  
Two to three recycling centers that are viable.  
Identify the volume of solid waste being generated by communities.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?

Documentation of a 20 percent reduction in volume of solid waste material to the participating communities' landfill through environmentally sound practices.  
Established recycling centers able to market recycled material.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

Out of five programs established, 50 percent of the households in the communities are committed to recycling.  
Survey by the County Recycling members will identify household participation.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?

250 households and 2,500 residents in five communities.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #4: Advocate the collection and recycling of household hazardous wastes by forming regional recycling of household hazard waste committee as measured by an increase of 50 percent of households participating and a collection of 4,000 pounds.**

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: \_\_\_\_\_

SITE SUPERVISOR: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:**

Establish a structure for the collection and recycling of household hazardous wastes.

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Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?

Community awareness in waste management, environment, and community recycling.

Development of partnerships between communities and increase community cooperation.

Formation of regional recycling of household hazardous waste committee(s).

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

A regional recycling household hazardous waste committee addressing area needs.

Form at least one committee and one center established for receiving materials.

Participants show a continued commitment to the environment and community recycling projects.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?

Individual participant survey form.

A survey of community and county officials in participating areas.

The volume of materials being collected.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

Four thousand pounds of household hazardous waste collected the first year.

Fifty percent of households participating.

Eighty percent of participants demonstrating continued community recycling.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?

Twenty-five participating communities.

Eight thousand residents.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #5: Provide site visit evaluation on 90 percent of the counties in Nebraska for improvement or development working with at least three committees to identify the feasibility of development and creation of jobs.**

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: \_\_\_\_\_

SITE SUPERVISOR: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:**

- Evaluate the tourism/recreational sites and opportunities in the region.
- Work with committees to recommend development needs.
- Identify one to three corridors or areas for tourism/recreational opportunities.
- Work with committees to establish tourism/recreational services needed for support and development.
- Develop at least three committees to assist on tourism development and promote regional cooperation.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?

- Site visit 90 percent inventoried tourism/recreational sites and evaluate.
- Identify infrastructure available or needed to improve utilization of 30 percent of the attractions.
- Establish three communities to assist on regional tourism development.
- Through the three committees established identify tourism and recreational services available or needed on 50 percent of the region's attractions.
- Through the three committees established identify tourism/recreation business that are established or needed for regional tourism development.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

Regional cooperation on development of the tourism/recreation industries.

A regional tourism development plan for counties in Nebraska.

Three partnerships developed.

Three committees to support and develop regional tourism.

Planning activities will encourage adoption of proposed projects by communities for immediate implementation.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?

Survey partners to identify projects being implemented from the regional tourism plan resulting in the potential for a 10 percent increase in jobs.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

The completion of the regional tourism plan.

Survey partners to identify projects being implemented that will result in a 10 percent increase in jobs related to tourism/recreation.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?

Fifty individuals in five communities.

**NW HAMPSHIRE**

TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project:	N.H. Rural Revitalization Team
B: Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture NRCS
C. Team Type:	Rural Development
D. State of Duty Station:	New Hampshire
E. County of Duty Station:	Belknap
F. Names of counties served	Belnap, Carroll, Cheshire, Coos, Grafton, Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham, Strafford, and Sullivan
G. Congressional District:	1 and 2
H. Name of Site Supervisor:	Rick DeMark
I: Address, phone & fax numbers:	103 Main Street Suite #1 Meredith, NH 03253-9266
J: Name of State Project Director:	Rick DeMark
K. Address, phone & fax numbers:	103 Main Street Suite #1 Meredith, NH 03253-9266
. Number of Members in PL&E:	N/A
M. Number of Members in RDT:	5

A Proposal  
for an  
AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Project

N.H. Resource Revitalization Team

January 24, 1995

Submitted by:

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service in New Hampshire

in cooperation with the

North Country Resource Conservation and Development Council

and

Southern N.H. Resource Conservation and Development Council

Project Summary

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils in New Hampshire (N.H.) are volunteer organizations established to assist communities and non-profit organizations solve problems and develop opportunities that will improve the social, economic and environmental fabric of rural areas. RC&Ds respond to requests for assistance and assertive, pro-active actions in specific topic areas that are directed at developing or conserving critical natural resources. The RC&D no-turf, can do project oriented philosophy brings a diverse mixture of agencies, organizations and individuals together to get things done. In N.H. RC&D's partner list is greater than sixty agencies and organizations working together on community improvement and regional development projects.

B.

The purpose of this project is to create a Team that will work directly with communities and non-profits through the two RC&D councils in N.H. The Team will help organize community project teams. AmeriCorps members in these functions will provide a degree of continuity not currently available. The goal of the Team is to help allow NH communities revitalize their rural economies and maintain their desired rural character while protecting and developing their valuable natural and human resources.

Project Mission and Objectives

Mission

The mission of the N.H. Resource Revitalization Team is to respond to requests for assistance from communities, organize resource assessments and help organize and implement projects by providing technical support to project teams.

Objectives

Community service

1. To organize and provide coordination and organizational support to 30 community level and regionally based project teams working on identified resource concerns and opportunities.
2. To facilitate communication between communities and technical assistance providers in each of four resource categories including forest, water, agricultural, and human/community.

## Project Narrative

### A. Needs to be addressed by this Project

This proposal is appropriate for consideration under the AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Program because it addresses specifically identified community revitalization, resource conservation and development needs. It is also an appropriate proposal because it will place and direct assistance at the grass roots level and on project specific activities.

RC&D Councils conduct regular needs assessments to insure that projects which are adopted are wanted and will have area wide benefit. All projects adopted by RC&D Councils in N.H. are driven by one of the following needs:

To develop and promote creative approaches to use and manage land for agriculture, forestry, water, wildlife, recreation and community needs.  
To protect the quality of natural resources thorough education, training, technical and financial assistance.

- To better utilize locally available resources.
- To expand natural resources based opportunities that contribute to economic and social vitality.

To improve and develop new technologies for agriculture and forestry.  
To achieve balanced development combining natural resource utilization, tourism, industry and commerce.

- To increase citizen awareness, involvement and effectiveness as the foundation to natural, technical, financial and human resource development.

To help communities find ways to provide needed facilities, resource recovery and recycling opportunities.

### B. Project Design

#### Concept

The concept behind the Rural Revitalization Team is to organize a team that can organize outreach services and provide technical, communication, and organizational services to teams of community volunteers.

#### Service Activities to be Performed

The objectives of this project will be achieved by the Resource Revitalization Team. Americorps participants of the Team will be recruited to insure appropriate experience, education and diversity. The Team will be composed of five participants. Talents sought for Team participants will

include a communication, forestry, marketing, soil and water conservationist and an organizational support.

The Team will help project teams organize and accomplish their goals. The specific disciplines provided by individual Team participants will be directed to appropriated situations.

AmeriCorps participants will receive technical training and support that enables them to excel in their positions. The training will be valuable to the AmeriCorps participants in their future employment.

#### Relation to Need

In NH, resource and economic development is a locally directed volunteer process. NH has 244 communities, each developing and implementing their own plan to conserve and develop its resources. RC&D Councils build coalitions and regionally oriented projects between communities and organizations to help lessen the degree of fragmentation. The existence of the Rural Revitalization Team will provide a degree of coordination and a delivery system not currently available.

#### Participant Training, Support, Placement and Supervision

The Team will receive administrative support from the RC&D Councils. Technical support and training will be provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service and other RC&D partner organizations. Supervision of the Team will be provided by the RC&D Project Coordinators.

Office space, equipment, telephone, computers and use of vehicles will be coordinated by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, RC&D and their cooperating agencies and organizations.

#### Anticipated Results of this Project include:

1. Assistance to a Chamber of Commerce to complete a resource inventory and develop an overall economic development plan.
2. Help to communities to conduct townwide Forest Land Evaluation Site Assessments (FLESA) to identify critical forest lands.
3. Working with individual farmers and farming organizations will develop the fee for hunting business and other farm diversification enterprises.

4. A leadership training program for municipal and non-profit board members will be organized.
5. Communities and watershed organizations will conduct environmental clean-up projects, public education and watershed management activities.
6. Local conservation commissions will conduct wetland inventories and functional assessments.
7. communities will develop eco-tourism marketing programs.
8. Communities will initiate recycling programs.
9. A flexible marketing network of secondary wood product manufacturers will be organized.

Additional project activities where AmeriCorps participants would be involved would be determined by the results of the public outreach resource assessment and requests from individual communities and non-profit organizations that have been endorsed by the RC&D Council.

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 1**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Revitalization Team (5 Members - RDT)

**SITE:** New Hampshire

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Richard DeMark

**Phone:** (603) 279-6546

**COUNTY:** Belknap

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Enhanced network and coordination of resource conservation and development activities resulting in more than 30 individual projects addressing specifically identified needs.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Will provide technical assistance, and coordination services to community project teams; help watershed regions conduct environmental protection/restoration projects.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Increased coordination between communities and resource agencies and organizations; timely completion of statewide/regionwide resource conservation and development projects.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Numbers of individuals & organizations participating in a statewide resource revitalization; numbers & categories of projects initiated. Performance evaluations of and by project teams.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

30 projects initiated with at least 5 projects in each resource category (agriculture, forestry water, human/community).

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

All state residents and businesses that can benefit from the 30 projects initiated.

**NW HAMPSHIRE**

TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project:	N.H. Rural Fire Protection Technical Team
B. Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture NRCS
C. Team Type:	Rural Development
D. State of Duty Station:	New Hampshire
E. County of Duty Station:	Belknap
F. Names of counties served	Belknap, Carroll, Cheshire, Coos, Grafton, Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham, Strafford, Sullivan
G. Congressional District:	1 and 2
H. Name of Site Supervisor:	Rick DeMark
I. Address, phone & fax numbers:	103 Main Street Suite #1 Meredith, NH 03253-9266
J. Name of State Project Director:	Rick DeMark
Address, phone & fax numbers:	103 Main Street Suite #1 Meredith, NH 03253-9266
L. Number of Members in PL&E:	
M. Number of Members in RDT:	5

A Proposal  
for an  
AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Project

N.H. Rural Fire Protection  
Technical Team

Submitted by:

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service in New Hampshire

in cooperation with the

North Country Resource Conservation and Development Area Council Southern  
N.H. Resource Conservation and Development Council

and the

N.H. Rural Fire Protection Task Force and  
its cooperating agencies and organizations including:

- N.H. Fire Marshals Office N.H. Division of Forests & Lands
- USDA - Natural Resources Conservation service UNH Cooperative Extension
- N.H. Association of Conservation Districts N.H. Bureau of Fire Standards & Training N.H. Association of Fire Chiefs N.H. Fire Prevention Society N.H. Insurance Department New Boston Fire Department Strafford County Conservation District N.H. Technical College
- Federal Emergency Management Agency N.H. Office of Emergency Management

Project Summary

Rural communities in New Hampshire (N.H.) face a unique set of obstacles and challenges in their attempts to provide protection from loss of life and property caused by fire. The rural character in N.H. inherently contributes to large acreage's of poorly accessible land; narrow, winding and often, dirt roads; increasingly intermixed wildland and suburban type development; lack of year-round developed water withdrawal sites; volunteer fire departments and small town budget constraints.

The purpose of this project is to provide educational, organizational and technical services not normally available to rural communities in NH. These services will be provided through the creation of the NH Rural Fire Protection Technical Team (RFPTT).

B. The RFPTT will have five (5) members. The team will produce fire protection and fire prevention plans and will be working with local agencies. The project will be administered by the North Country and Southern New Hampshire Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Councils for the N.H. Rural Fire Protection Task Force. Agency partners of the Task Force include: N.H. Fire Marshall's Office, N.H. Division of Forests & Lands, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, UNH Cooperative Extension, N.H. Association of Conservation Districts, N.H. Bureau of Fire Standards & Training, N.H. Association of Fire Chiefs, N.H. Fire Prevention Society, N.H. Insurance Department, New Boston Fire Department, Strafford County Conservation District, N.H. Technical College, Federal Emergency Management Agency, N.H. Office of Emergency Management.

## Project Mission and Objectives

### Mission

The mission of the N.H. Rural Fire Protection Technical Team is to help communities reduce risk and loss of life and property due to fire through a comprehensive problem solving approach including local education, organization and technical improvements.

### Objectives

#### Community Service

1. To provide the skills and technical information to help 60 rural fire departments in N.H. develop innovative fire protection plans for their communities.
2. To have 60 rural fire departments in N.H. fully understand water supply needs and management principles.
3. To assist 40 rural N.H. communities find innovative ways to carry out planned improvements.
4. To have 20 fire departments in N.H. create and implement a comprehensive educational fire prevention plan with their citizens.

## Project Narrative

### A. Needs to be addressed by this project

This proposal is appropriate for consideration within the AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Program because it specifically addresses needs of rural N.H. communities that could not be addressed otherwise. Improving a community's ability to prevent and suppress the threat of fire will have direct benefits for community revitalization as well as protecting the natural resources so critical to rural lifestyle and economies in our state. Because 80% of rural businesses that are destroyed by fire are not rebuilt, it is critical to the economic stability of rural communities to be able to provide adequate service.

In preparation for this project, a detailed survey was sent to all 244 fire departments in N.H. The results of the survey established the basis for the needs assessment used in the preparation of this project proposal as well as other activities currently underway onto which this project, if funded, will build.

The N.H. Rural Fire Protection Task Force is already involved in writing and publishing a compendium of information on issues critical to rural communities wishing to improve their fire prevention and suppression capabilities. This compendium of information will be initially introduced in the Spring of 1995 at two regional seminars. In addition, a pilot cost sharing program will be instituted this year to provide modest financial incentives to communities wishing to undertake prevention and protection actions. The Rural Fire Protection Technical Team will help provide a degree of contact with communities not currently possible. The existence of the Team will allow timely and direct interaction with communities most interested in improving their fire protection services.

### B. Project Design

#### Concept

The concept behind the organization of this team is to bring together a diversity of skills that, when brought together, can provide comprehensive fire protection planners assistance to rural communities in our state. Such services are currently not available.

Service Activities to be Performed

The objectives of this project will be reached by a New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Technical Team. Team members will be recruited locally to insure appropriate experience, education and diversity. The Team of five will be able to provide comprehensive community services including: developing plans of work, scheduling and compiling comprehensive community plans, assisting individual fire departments identify their fire prevention educational needs and implement an innovative strategy to meet them. Interaction of community fire protection planning with other aspects of local government, helping communities collect and interpret natural resources and community resource information as related to developing fire protection strategies. Evaluate and design water withdrawal facilities as a part of comprehensive fire protection community plans. Provide technical assistance in installing planned improvements. The Team will receive administrative support from the RC&D Councils in N.H. These councils are working in partnership with the New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Task Force who will provide technical support, project guidance and priorities. Supervision of the Team will be provided by the North Country RC&D Projects Coordinator.

Team members will receive technical training that enables them to excel in their positions. The training will also be valuable in their future employment.

Individual fire departments and communities will be contacted on behalf of the Team by the new Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Task Force. Team services will be offered to help them prepare comprehensive rural fire protection and prevention plans. Every community has its unique features and its plan will be carefully tailored to meet the locally identified needs. At the same time we will encourage the development of mutual aid strategies to enhance regional fire protection capabilities.

Relation to Need

Development of this statewide assistance program will be based on the outcomes of the Statewide Assessment of Rural Fire Protection Issues completed in the Fall of 1994. Assistance to individual communities will be based on the specific assessment completed and reviewed by that community with the team.

Participant Training and Support

Training and support for the rural Fire Protection Team will be provided by the members of the NH Rural Fire Protection Task Force. The Task Force is

public/private partnership including the following agencies and organizations.

Office space, office equipment, telephone, computer and use of vehicles for the Team will be organized by the Task Force. Training in water supply site assessment and development and fire suppression planning will be provided by NRCS. Training in planning as relates to fire protection will be provided by the UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Department of Safety, and the NH Office of Emergency Management.

Participant Placement and Supervision

The Team will receive direct supervision by the Task Force through the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Resource Conservation and Development Council. However, the design, composition, and mission of the Team will result in its becoming self directed, answering to and having direct contact with the work of the Task Force.

Anticipated Results of this Project Include:

- 60 communities will have a comprehensive fire protection plan to improve the capability of the fire department.
- 60 communities will have a comprehensive fire prevention plan.
- 40 communities will have on-site technical assistance and properly installed non-pressure hydrants, cisterns and other water drafting facilities.
- 60 communities will have developed a plan and implement to obtain resources for improvements.
- 60 communities will have received training and developed strategies to identify what water is needed, what is available and how to move it to accomplish fire control.

Every community in New Hampshire would have the opportunity to request this assistance. They would be required to establish a local task force that works with the Technical Team to develop their plans and strategies.

This approach will be successful because local decision-makers are leading their own improvement initiatives. They are supported by a partnership that is recognized in New Hampshire as an authority in rural fire protection and community development.

Annual Budget

	Funds Requested	Grantee Contributions	Total
1. Personnel			
A. Stipends			
\$12,000 X 5	\$60,000	- 0 -	\$60,000
B. Benefits			
\$3,500 X 5	17,500	- 0 -	17,500
C. Contract Services			
\$100/month		1,200	1,200
D. Training			
\$1,000 X 5		5,000	5,000
2. Non-Personnel			
A. Office	- 0 -	6,000	6,000
B. Telephone	- 0 -	800	800
C. Utilities	- 0 -	600	600
D. Equipment			
Computer	- 0 -	4,000	4,000
Survey equipment	- 0 -	3,000	3,000
Desk, chairs, etc.	- 0 -	1,000	1,000
Photo copier	- 0 -	2,000	2,000
Fax	- 0 -	1,200	1,200
E. Office Supplies	- 0 -	600	600
F. Educational materials	- 0 -	1,400	1,400
G. Printing	- 0 -	1,200	1,200
H. Travel			
Mileage 30,00 @.25/mile		7,500	7,500
Vehicles 3 @ \$10,000 each		30,000	30,000
Vehicle Maintenance	- 0 -	2,000	2,000
I. Other			
Publications		<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>
	\$77,500	\$67,700	\$145,200

CORPORATION FOR . . . TIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 2

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Fire Protection Team (5 Members - RDT)

**SITE:** New Hampshire

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Development of innovative fire protection plans, improved water supply delivery systems, increased capability to implement needed actions, increased public awareness and support.

---

**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Provide technical & financial resources to local fire departments and community leaders for improved fire prevention & suppression through direct assistance in planning, implementation and education.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Increased intra and inter community capacity to reduce fire losses. Lowered community risk assessments.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Pre and post service evaluations of fire protection capabilities. Demand for team services.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

60 rural fire departments will have created innovative fire prevention and protection, plans. 40 communities will find new ways to carry out improvements. 20 communities will create and carry out comprehensive educational program.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

60 rural fire departments and the residents of those 60 N.H. communities.

## 1. TITLE PAGE:

New Jersey FY 96 NRCS AmeriCorps Renewal Applications

**A** Title of Project: Beemersville Forest Stewardship Demonstration

**B** Name of Organization: USDA, NRCS

**C** Team Type: RDT

**D** State of Duty Station: New Jersey

**E** County of Duty station: Hunterdon

**F** Names of counties served: Hunterdon, Sussex, Warren

**G** Congressional District: Twelve

**H** Name of site supervisor: Gail Bartok

**I** Address, Ph/FAX number: 8 Gauntt Place  
Flemington, New Jersey 08822  
Ph: (908)782-3915  
FAX: (908)788-0795

**J** Name of State Project Dir.: Carlos F. Henning

**K** Address, ph/FAX number: 1370 Hamilton Street  
Somerset, NJ 08873  
Ph: (908)246-2358  
FAX: (908)246-2358

**L** Number of Members in PL&E: 0

**M** Number of Members in RDT: 15

2. Summary Page-Beemersville Watershed Restoration

A. Accomplishments for First Half Year:

Developing forest stewardship plans on two tracts. This involves about 250 acres woodlot, where very little forest management has taken place during the last 30 years. The work included:

- \* Making brush piles for wildlife habitat improvement
- \* Planting riparian buffers
- \* Assisting Rutgers Cooperative Extension and USDA-NRCS to promote forest stewardship via field days, open houses and other activities which increase public awareness
- \* Planning a wetland restoration project at the Rutgers University Snyder Farm
- \* Presented a list of Forest Stewardship practices that the team would like to accomplish this year
- \* Cleaned up woodland dump at Snyder Farm including 11 tons of steel that was recycled. Woody debris (fence posts and branches) will be used for wildlife habitat improvement projects on site.
- \* Began wildlife inventory at both sites
- \* Marked property boundaries at Snyder Farm after researching deeds at Hunterdon County Hall of Records and using Rutgers GIS staff and a global positioning system
- \* Began designing and laying out over 2 miles of trails at Beemersville for environmental education and to highlight various forestry, wildlife management, soils, geologic formations and history of the camp
- \* Began helping with construction of a maple sugar house in Beemersville including installing evaporators and cleaning tap lines for the upcoming maple syrup season
- \* Made artificial nest cavities for wildlife at both sites and for the Warren County AmeriCorps group
- \* Assisted NJ Bureau of Forest Management to organize and supervise volunteers in erecting fencing at Wharton State Forest in the Pinelands

B. Key elements of FY-96 will focus 100% completing and implementing two comprehensive FS management demonstration plans. Activities will include:

- \* Forest management practices
- \* Installing 2 miles of trails
- \* Planting riparian buffers
- \* Planting wetland restoration areas on the two tracts
- \* Making brush piles for wildlife habitat improvement

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service    **SITE:** New Jersey

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Gail Bartok

**COUNTY:**

**NO OF MEMBERS:** 3

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** 1 Update/Revise Forest Stewardship Plans

- 
- 1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**  
Inventory natural resources at the Beemersville, and Snyder Farm tracts and update Forest Stewardship Plans as needed.
  - 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**  
Comprehensive management plans for Beemersville and Snyder Farm tracts.
  - 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**  
Evaluation of plans to meet standards of New Jersey State Forester.
  - 4. By what standard will you gauge success?**  
Two plans completed and approved for implementation.
  - 5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**  
200+ Rutgers University Natural Resource management students.  
900+ forest landowners and 7,600,00 residents
  - 6. How many members will work on this objective?**  
Three

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service SITE: New Jersey

SITE SUPERVISOR: Gail Bartok

COUNTY:

NO OF MEMBERS: 5

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: 2 Implementation of Planned Practices

---

1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?  
Trail construction, wildlife habitat improvements, planting trees and shrubs, etc.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

Complete implementation of all practices

\* 5000 ft. trails

\* 250 ac. wildlife habitat improvement

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?

Inspect & measure units of each practice; observe wildlife populations at 2 sites.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

100% of planned practices are installed according to standards.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

200+ Rutgers University Natural Resource management students.

900+ NJ Forestry Associate landowners.

6. How many members will work on this objective?

Three

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service    **SITE:** New Jersey

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Gail Bartok

**COUNTY:**

**NO OF MEMBERS:** 3

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** 3 Develop Strong Bond/Partnerships Among AmeriCorps Team Members

---

**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Riparian buffer planting, streambank stabilization using bioengineering techniques.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

To demonstrate streambanks improvement using native plants.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Number of plantings and Inspection by NRCS engineer.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

200 feet of stream stabilized

1,000 feet of buffers planted

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

20,000 residents of Pattenburg, Somerville and Camden

**6. How many members will work on this objective?**

Three

## 1. TITLE PAGE:

- A) Title of Project:  
Burlington, Camden, Ocean Conservation Project
- B) Name of Organization:  
Natural Resources Conservation Service
- C) Team Type:  
Rural Development
- D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members:  
New Jersey
- E) County of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members:  
Burlington
- F) Names of Counties Served by Members:  
Burlington, Camden, Ocean
- G) Congressional District of Duty Station of the Members:  
Three
- H) Name of Site Supervisor:  
Kenneth Taaffe
- I) Address, Phone Number, and Fax Number of Site Supervisor:  
USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Tiffany Square, Suite 101A  
R.D.#2, 2615 Route 38  
Mt. Holly, N.J. 08060  
(908) 267-0811  
Fax (908) 261-3007
- J) Name of State Project Manager:  
Carlos F. Henning
- K) Address, Phone Number and Fax Number of State Project Manager:  
USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
1370 Hamilton Street  
Somerset, N.J. 08873  
(908) 246-1171 ext 122  
Fax (908) 246-2358
- L) Number of Members in Public Lands and Environment Teams:  
Zero
- M) Number of Members in Rural Development Teams:  
~~one~~ 5

Revised 4/27/95 Revision II

A. Accomplishments for First Half Year:

New Jersey's major land and water resource problems are many. Most people within the state have little knowledge of conservation and ecological systems. Environmental education is an important avenue to acquaint the unfamiliar with natural resources issues and solutions.

The Corps Member has been assisting three soil Conservation Districts increase its 1,331,386 residents awareness and appreciation for the Environment. Activities consisted of the following:

- \* Worked on the Cooper River Water Quality and Erosion Control Demonstration Project in Collingswood
- \* Began work on an informational and educational pamphlet about the Cooper River Water Quality and Erosion Control Demonstration Project
- \* Finished work on a Camden Environmental Educational Directory which lists various groups and businesses with the different environmental services that they provide (i.e., tours, audio/visual materials, speakers, etc.)
- \* Assisted in Envirothon events (planning to actual event)
- \* Staffed Earth Fair and Ocean County Fair events
- \* Staffed New Jersey and Philadelphia Flower Show exhibits
- \* Assisted in staffing exhibit and ANJEE Conference
- \* Wrote 5 informational articles for Volunteer Voice and NRCS this week

B. Key elements of the FY-96 program focus on:

- \* Stabilizing eroding streambanks on Cooper River and Barnegat Bay shoreline
- \* Macroinvertebrate sampling of sediment control basins after installation to determine effectiveness of Best Management Practices installed at Barnegat Bay
- \* Developing a Conservation Education Program for school children

3. Objectives

Objective #1: Streambank and Shoreline Stabilization Using Bioengineering

1. What is the work to be done?
  - \* Assist in the stabilization of a half-mile stretch of Cooper River's eroding streambank
  - \* Establish bioengineering trial plantings on Barnegat Bay's brackish water shorelines
  - \* Develop Cooper River and Barnegat Bay shoreline stabilization plan based on past year's successes and failures
  
2. What is the desired result?
 

Control erosion on the shorelines of Cooper River and Barnegat Bay through the intensified use of bioengineering techniques
  
3. How will you measure the quality of your work?
 

On-site inspections of the bioengineering techniques in accordance with plans, standards and specifications
  
4. By what standard will you gauge your success?
 

Stabilization and survival of 60% of the work after one year. One-half mile of streambank stabilized.
  
5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work?
 

Work will improve the recreational activities in both the Cooper River and Barnegat Bay watersheds. The estimated effect to the public is 1 million persons.
  
6. How many members will work on this project?
 

One
  
7. What is the charter site for this work?
 

Mt. Holly, New Jersey

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service SITE: New Jersey

SITE SUPERVISOR: Kenneth Taaffe

NO OF MEMBERS: 3

CLUSTER: Mt. Holly

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: Assist Ocean County Soil Conservation District with Water Quality Practices in Barnegat Bay

---

**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

\*Monitor nutrient and sediment control basins after installation (macroinvertebrate sampling)

\*Inspect and monitor BMP's, such as grassed waterways used on road shoulders. Take water samples below BMP's to determine effectiveness.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Reduced sediment, nutrients, and pollutants in Barnegat Bay (a water body used by an estimated 1 million people a year) and improved water quality.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Comparison of water samples before and after installation of BMP's  
Report on the effects of basin and road shoulder BMP's

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

Show reduction in 4 pollutants identified by EPA.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

Directly work with 10-15 individuals. Work will indirectly benefit close to 1 million people who use the Barnegat Bay.

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service    **SITE:** New Jersey

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Kenneth Taaffe

**COUNTY:**

**NO OF MEMBERS:** 3

**CLUSTER:** Mt. Holly

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** Assist Ocean County Soil Conservation District with Water Quality Practices in Barnegat Bay

---

**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

\*Monitor nutrient and sediment control basins after installation (macroinvertebrate sampling)

\*Inspect and monitor BMP's, such as grassed waterways used on road shoulders. Take water samples below BMP's to determine effectiveness.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Reduced sediment, nutrients, and pollutants in Barnegat Bay (a water body used by an estimated 1 million people a year) and improved water quality.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Comparison of water samples before and after installation of BMP's

Report on the effects of basin and road shoulder BMP's

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

Show reduction in 4 poll identified by EPA.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

Directly work with 10-15 individuals. Work will indirectly benefit close to 1 million people who use the Barnegat Bay.

**6. How many members will work on this objective?**

One

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service    **SITE:** New Jersey

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Kenneth Taaffe

**COUNTY:**

**NO OF MEMBERS:** 3

**CLUSTER:** Mt. Holly

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** Conservation Education

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Develop an educational program for children

Write informational and educational materials for publication in newsletters, pamphlets, and newspaper

Coordinate the planning of the New Jersey Envirothon in Burlington County

Staff events that provide conservation information to the public (i.e. flower show, fairs, etc.)

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Increased awareness of the importance of conserving natural resources among adults and school children.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Quality and impact will be measured by pre and post test.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

Increase the level of conservation education and conservation awareness by 60%.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

Approximately 1,331,386 persons (residents in Ocean, Burlington, and Camden counties)

**6. How many members will work on this objective?**

One

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service    **SITE:** New Jersey

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Kenneth Taaffe

**COUNTY:**

**NO OF MEMBERS:** 3

**CLUSTER:** Somerset and Middlesex

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** Demonstrate New Technologies in Stabilizing Streambanks and Shoreline Using Bioengineering Techniques.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**  
Establish bio-engineering practices on streams and the shoreline through local agreements as demonstration projects.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**  
Teach local public works personnel "how-to" implement low cost stabilization techniques; stabilize eroding sections of stream banks, shorelines, and critical areas.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**  
Inspect restored areas according to specific site plans

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**  
An increase in local communities, groups and organizations using bioengineering practices to stabilize eroding areas (streambanks, shorelines, etc.) according to guidelines and standards provided

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**  
Approximately 30,000 people (residents of Somerville) will requirements for the selected sites

**6. How many members will work on this objective?**  
Three

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service SITE: New Jersey

SITE SUPERVISOR: Kenneth Taafe

COUNTY:

NO OF MEMBERS: 3

CLUSTER: Somerset and Middlesex

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: Increase Public Awareness of Natural Resources Management

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1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**  
Work with Bunker Hill Environmental Center, Somerset County Parks Commission and other groups to establish gardens, displays, trails and other needed practices on eroding areas that highlight local natural resources.
2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**  
Increase the awareness of local residents about the importance of conserving natural resources and the impact of individual actions.
3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**  
Inspection by NRCS technical experts according to specific project plans
4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**  
Ten projects will be planned with 50% implementation
5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**  
Approximately 980,000 people (residents of Somerset and Middlesex counties)
6. **How many members will work on this objective?**  
Three

NEW YORK

TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project: GIS Supported Community Planning & Resource Protection

B: Name of Organization: U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS

C. Team Type: RDT

D. State of Duty Station: New York

E. County of Duty Station: Erie

F. Names of counties served: Erie, Niagra, Seneca Nations of Indians

G. Congressional District: 30

H. Name of Site Supervisor: John Whitney

I: Address, phone & fax numbers: 50 Commerce Way  
East Aurora, NY 14052  
Ph: (716) 652-8480  
FAX: (716) 652-8506

J: Name of St Project Director: John Whitney

K. Address, phone & fax numbers: 50 Commerce Way  
East Aurora, NY 14052  
Ph: (716) 652-8480  
FAX: (716) 652-8506

L. Number of Members in PL&E: 0

M. Number of Members in RDT: 5

**NEW YORK - GIS Supported Community Planning and Resource Protection****SUMMARY PAGE:**

A. *Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members?*

First half year accomplishments of the five member AmeriCorps team based in East Aurora, New York include acquisition of existing maps and data from various sources including Census Bureau TIGER files, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Freshwater Wetlands and Ecozones, U.S. Geological Survey topographic data, National Heritage Registry, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory, and others. Efforts are under way to create a series of county-wide special district maps including Agricultural Districts, Water Districts, Sewer Districts, Fire Protection Districts, etc. Locations of surviving American Chestnut trees in Western New York are being mapped using global positioning satellite technologies in partnership with the NY Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation. AmeriCorps members are working with local researchers to prepare locations and management maps for mature and remnant "old growth forests" in WNY. Members are collecting other tax parcel information to support a number of greenway and greenspace protection and community development projects. Members digitized national Wetlands Inventory maps for 100% of Erie County (approx. 670,000 ac.), NWI maps for 80% of Niagara Co. (approx. 360,000 ac.), and 130,000 acres of tax parcels data. Resource maps have been developed or acquired to support soil map digitizing and aerial photography interpretation for a 200,000 acre area of northern Erie and southern Niagara Counties as part of the Niagara Frontier Wetlands Initiative. Many simpler data layers and maps were produced with Seneca Nation of Indians, Bureau of Indian affairs, and U.S. Forest Service input to support cultural resource protection and forest management on the sovereign lands of the Seneca Nation. Procedures were developed and refined to distribute paper and electronic data and to support and demonstrate GIS technologies for community planning and resource protection. Members assisted with three wetland restoration projects, two runoff management projects, three manure management projects, and with inventory activities associated with summer floods and highly erodible land evaluations. Members cartography, GIS, geography, conservation, and civic skills have been greatly developed and enhanced.

B. *The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project performed by the members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.*

Current community service, community building, and visibility efforts will be strengthened under FY 96 program year design through the further sharing of data, standard operating procedures, project ideas, techniques, and experiences with other GIS work sites in Erie County and throughout New York State and the U.S. via Internet, conventional correspondence, and presentations. Each member will recruit at least two (2) Earth Team volunteers to assist with project activities. Members will each perform at least two (2) public presentations/demonstrations per month in their role as GIS "ambassadors." Members will continue to report directly to and be supervised by staff at the East Aurora Field Office though smaller teams of AmeriCorps members and volunteers may rotate between three to five other GIS work sites with daily reports to the Field Office. Additional input will be solicited from community leaders on data and resource protection and community development needs.



**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Scale & line quality of digitized products will be measured by comparing output of digitized products with original source material. Community impact will be measured through records of data use for specific project evaluations & general community planning efforts. Discussions, informal surveys, & direct interaction with municipal officials & staff will be the primary measuring tools.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

Digitizing efforts will incorporate NRCS quality control/quality assurance standards along with the Content Standards for Digitizing Geospatial metadata of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (1994). A minimum of two QA/QC reviews will be required for each data layer developed or acquired prior to distribution or public release. Soil data will include QA/QC reviews by the Soil Information Services Laboratory at Cornell University. Surveys of project partners will ask specifically how useful AmeriCorps developed data is or is expected to be for local resource protection and planning activities. Discussions will continue to include evaluation of impacts on efficiency & effectiveness compared with procedures used prior to incorporation to GIS data.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

Nearly one million people live in the project area. Approximately 1500 people will be directly impacted. Indirect impacts will extend throughout the project area. Impacts will increase as data is used by additional local communities and agencies. Approximately 15 municipal & partner staff will be directly involved with and impacted by project activity.



NEW YORK

TITLE PAGE:

- A. Title of Project: New York Urban Project
- B. Name of Organization: U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
- C. Team Type: Both
- D. State of Duty Station: New York
- E. County of Duty Station: New York
- F. Names of counties served: Queens, Kings, Richmond
- G. Congressional District: 12, 6, 13
- H. Name of Site Supervisor: John Bricker
- I. Address, phone & fax numbers: 290 Broadway - 25th Fl  
New York, NY 1007  
Ph: (212) 637-3710  
FAX: (212) 637-3772
- J. Name of St Project Director: John Whitney
- K. Address, phone & fax numbers: 50 Commerce Way  
East Aurora, NY 14052  
Ph: (716) 652-8480  
FAX: (716) 652-8506
- L. Number of Members in PL&E: 10
- M. Number of Members in RDT: 2

## SUMMARY PAGE

The Urban Resources Partnership is a new federal initiative designed to make government more effective and responsive to the environmental needs of urban communities. The Partnership combines the resources of six key federal natural resource agencies: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Forest Service, and Extension Service; USDOJ Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service; and the Environmental Protection Agency. These six agencies are working collaboratively with local and state government agencies, private, non-profit and community organizations, and local citizens to develop programs and plans to protect, enhance, and rehabilitate critical urban environments.

The projects in this proposal respond to the need for improvement in the quality of, and access to, open spaces and natural areas in New York City, particularly for lower-income communities of color. Historical development patterns in New York, and the recent and ongoing reductions in the budgets for park restoration and maintenance have resulted in the steady deterioration of New York's already overburdened Park system. Although New York has several large wilderness-type ecosystems that could provide some relief, these areas have been subject to pollution from inappropriate uses, overdevelopment, and nonpoint source pollution, as well as from certain specific environmental catastrophes (e.g., an oil pipeline spill). Projects have been designed to work with local community groups to reclaim and restore public lands and natural habitats, and to work within underserved communities to enhance the local environment.

We are requesting ten NRCS Environmental Team numbers and two Rural Development team members in order to create one team dedicated to conducting environmental restoration and management projects, in two geographic areas of the City. The team will stay together for the year of service, and as a group, will rotate through a series of up to ten projects, ranging from a few days up to three months per project. This model serves to maximize the Corps members' exposure to a variety of high impact restoration projects, while ensuring broad based impact throughout the area of service.

We have defined the area of service to include two diverse and sensitive ecosystems: Jamaica Bay and Staten Island.

In order to accomplish the goals of this program, we have developed a collaboration of entities that represent varied area of expertise that support the leadership role of NRCS: the Urban Resources Partnership (URP), Gateway National Recreation Area (National Parks Service), and many Community-based organizations. NRCS will be responsible for managing the AmeriCorps program. The direct supervision of the Rural Development Corps members, and the overall supervision of the Environmental Corps members' activities. URP will play an active role in soliciting and selecting appropriate projects, will be actively involved as technical consultants to the projects, and will provide environmental training and education for participating Corps members. Gateway, a local Federal partner in the Urban Resources Partnership, will play a key role in developing and overseeing projects at their locations, and will help to provide the necessary context for the community based projects by serving as a destination for field trips for community residents organized by the Corps members. Community-based organizations will be actively involved in developing, overseeing, and evaluating the impact of their sponsored projects and will help to involve community residents in the Corps members' work. The Urban Resources Partnership will contract with a local youth serving organization to assist in the recruitment and training of Corps members, and to assist in the logistical coordination of the project rotations.

3. MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

A) *Mission Statement:*

TO FOSTER COMMUNITY BASED AND ECOSYSTEM APPROACHES TO ENHANCE THE NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENT THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN FEDERAL NATURAL RESOURCE AGENCIES, AMERICORPS MEMBERS, AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS.

B) *Objectives:*

(1) To revitalize 8-10 community neighborhoods by enhancing the quality of, and improving access to open space and natural resources through projects such as vacant lot improvement, tree planting and care, and greenway and bicycle trail development and improvement.

(2) To protect 30 Miles of natural shoreline ecosystem habitats surrounding significant coastal wetlands.

(3) To enhance the capacity of AmeriCorps members working in collaboration with community-based organizations to understand, effect change, and evaluate the impact of their actions on the environment in two New York City ecosystems.

4. NARRATIVE

A) NEEDS TO BE MET AND APPROPRIATENESS FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

Needs:

Natural vegetation and open spaces in urban areas have several well documented benefits: they reduce human stress levels; enhance the attractiveness of urban environments; improve air and water quality and moderate urban climate; and provide opportunities for urban residents to experience nature in the City. Well maintained urban open spaces have been shown to be correlated with reduced crime levels, increased property values and community stability. and an increase in the overall quality of life of residents.

Nevertheless, two independent factors have combined to limit the potential beneficial impact of urban open spaces to residents of our nation's largest City -- New York (NYC). First, it has been documented that, due largely to historical patterns, NYC residents with the lowest per capita incomes (a group which is disproportionately comprised of people of color) are more likely to live in community districts with the lowest amount of parkland per capita. These residents have the greatest need for urban open space, since they often lack the resources to visit natural areas outside their neighborhoods and City. Second, the ongoing fiscal crisis in NYC has resulted in continuing reductions in the budget for park restoration and

maintenance. Since lower income communities tend to have the lowest amount of parkland per capita, the facilities they do have tend to be among the most highly utilized and over-utilized in the City. Such facilities suffer the most from reductions in the budgets for maintenance, security, and recreational programs, which have made these places unattractive, inaccessible, and unsafe.

Yet by virtue of its geography, New York has several large wilderness-type ecosystems that could provide relief to the communities most in need of access to open space, some of which are directly adjacent to the natural areas. For example, the Gateway National Recreation Area, located in three of NYC's five boroughs, "ranks among the National Park Service's most popular recreation spots" (NY Times, 1992). Gateway includes the 16,000 acre Jamaica Bay, which is one of the most urbanized waterways in the world, but which also is home to a wildlife refuge, wetlands, and a great diversity of plant and animal life. Substantial portions of Gateway and Jamaica Bay also border on some of the communities most in need of increased urban open space. However, most visitors exclusively visit Jacob Riis Beach in the summer, without ever visiting these other natural areas.

The Urban Resources Partnership (URP) is a coalition of six Federal Agencies. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Forest Service, and Extension Service; USDO I Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service; and the Environmental Protection Agency. URP was designed to mobilize Federal resources to respond to the unmet environmental needs of local communities. URP strives to work in partnership with Federal, State, and local government agencies, non-profit and community-based organizations, and local citizens to develop sustainable programs to protect, enhance and rehabilitate critical urban environments and distressed communities. In response to the open space and natural resource needs in NYC, URP/NYC proposes to design and implement a unique community-based program to engage young adults, supported by NRCS and AmeriCorps, in hands-on urban environmental restoration efforts in two of New York's most significant, yet endangered ecosystems: Jamaica Bay, and the Staten Island shore and salt marshes.

Our proposed program provides a unique model for capitalizing on the potential synergy's from several Federal programs working together with local partners. The national service team would collaborate with local community-based organizations, City agencies, and the Federal partners of URP on projects that would conserve and restore public lands and natural resources/habitats, revitalize neighborhoods by creating and maintaining recreation areas, green spaces, and community gardens, and reduce environmental risks through education and cleanup. Critical to the program's design and execution is URP's ecosystem approach, under which the wilderness area and surrounding communities will be viewed holistically. While many other environmental programs generally focus on a single area/issue (e.g., street trees, wetlands, greenways, vacant lots, etc.) the URP national service project aims to consolidate efforts to attack multiple interrelated problems within one ecosystem area. For example, Jamaica Bay is plagued by nonpoint source pollution (NPSP), particularly urban runoff from human activity. The URP AmeriCorps team will engage in restoration efforts along Jamaica Bay, but will also be well-positioned to educate local community residents of the impact of NPSP on Jamaica Bay, and to help them design programs in their communities to mitigate this problem.

The proposed program would take place both within several historically underserved communities and a larger natural habitat within close proximity. In this way, the AmeriCorps team may: (1) gain appreciation of the natural environment through active environmental restoration efforts and management activities; (2) gain an understanding, by utilizing an ecosystem approach, of the interrelationship between human activity in their neighborhoods and its impact on the environment at large; and (3) become involved in community revitalization efforts and education projects with peers and local resident to promote active environmental stewardship and "sustainable communities".

For these reasons, we believe the program is particularly well-suited to the AmeriCorps national service concept. In addition, by utilizing young adults supported by AmeriCorps, the program will enable us to reach a diverse group of NYC youth, including those having the greatest socioeconomic needs: poverty, unemployment, inadequate education, crime, and drug abuse. The youth unemployment rate in NYC stands

at 36.4%, nearly twice the national average (19.9%). According to the Census, of dropouts aged 16-19, only 28% have jobs while only 17% more are looking for work but are still unemployed. Young people confronted with employment barriers and violence experience a sense of powerlessness, have low self-esteem, and often lack contact with adults who can guide them during this critical phase of their development. National service in general can marshal the resources and talents that benefit the young, the old, and society at large, as well as provide an opportunity for youth from different socioeconomic and educational backgrounds to interact. The URP program in particular will provide all participants with the opportunity to engage in environmental education, gain practical work experience, and introduce them to possible environmental careers that will begin the longer term process of achieving environmental justice in their communities..

#### Process:

Since its inception one year ago, the Urban Resources Partnership has been working to identify critical environmental needs throughout the City. URP's strategy has been and will continue to be to consult with local government officials, non-profit and community-based organizations, and local residents to learn about current activities and to determine the niche to be filled by this collaboration of federal government natural resource agencies. At a series of meetings with local government officials held in Spring 1994, Jamaica Bay was named by many as one of the most significant local natural resources for URP to focus on. Similarly, the fragile ecosystem of Staten Island has been the focus of much of the restoration work by the Natural Resources Group of the New York City Parks Dept., which has requested assistance from the Partnership. Concern for these two ecosystems is further supported by the Water Quality Coordinating Committee of the New York City Soil and Water Conservation District. The Committee has designated nonpoint source pollution of New York City's wetlands and water bodies as priority issues, and has requested program support from URP. In addition, the need for jobs and job training for young people has been expressed as a priority by residents at community roundtables conducted recently by Cornell Cooperative

Extension-NYC in both Far Rockaway (which borders on the Jamaica Bay), and Staten Island.

NYC has a formal annual process, called the "Community District Needs" statements, by which community concerns and program priorities are presented by each of the City's 59 community districts to the City administration. We have reviewed these reports and learned that each year, many community districts express dissatisfaction about the lack of open space and recreational opportunities, and the condition of neighborhood parks and street trees. In addition, low income communities site the overabundance of vacant lots as a priority problem to be addressed. In a recent report, one Brooklyn community district bordering on Jamaica Bay wrote: "the water pollution of Jamaica Bay must be given close attention" in that it is a local recreational and natural resource." Similarly, Staten Island community districts repeatedly express concern over the petrochemical pollution of their water and shoreline. They also place a high priority on the development of access to the waterfront for pedestrians and bicyclists, and the completion of a planned greenway.

All of these sources have helped us to define the macro level needs to be addressed by this program. Our local Federal partners, Gateway National Recreation Area, has assisted in identifying more localized needs by suggesting community-based organizations (CBOs) as sponsors of projects that reflect their respective community's concerns. Since these organizations generally evolve from the communities in which they are based and therefore reflect local residents' concerns and needs, each CBO has its own particular process of assessing need. We have begun to tap into this vast resource of CBOs in order to develop the specific service activities for this application. If we are designated as an AmeriCorps program, we will continue to work with Gateway's community outreach office, as well as the Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC) and the Citizens Committee of New York City to identify additional local groups in the target communities to further refine our scope of work and project definitions. The WQCC will help to identify appropriate nonpoint source pollution prevention projects and project sponsors. In addition, the Citizens Committee has a data base of over 20,000 grass roots organizations

city wide, and has offered to assist us in outreach to targeted communities in these ecosystems.

B) DESIGN

Concept:

For the delivery of this AmeriCorps program, the NRCS NYC Urban Programs Manager (and URP/NYC Steering Committee member), Jack Bricker, will be responsible for the overall management of the program and supervision of the Corps members activities. He will be supported by the members of the Urban Resources Partnership, as well as a contracted local partner who will provide additional support.

We are requesting ten NRCS Environmental Team members and two Rural Development Corps members (one to service as a team leader, and one to serve as a project planner) in order to create one team dedicated to conducting environmental restoration and management projects in two geographic areas of the City. The team will stay together for the year of service, and as a group, will rotate through a series of up to ten projects, ranging from a few days up to three months per project. This model serves to maximize the Corps members' exposure to a variety of high impact restoration projects, while ensuring broad based impact throughout the area of service.

We have defined the area of service as two diverse and sensitive ecosystems: Jamaica Bay and Staten Island. By defining the area of service as an ecosystem, rather than restricting their activities to one community, Corps members will gain an appreciation for the interrelationship between human activity in their communities and its impact on proximate natural areas. For example, for the Jamaica Bay Ecosystem, Corps members will work on projects both at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, and in the half dozen communities that ring the Bay.

In order to accomplish the goals of this program, we have developed a collaboration of entities that represent varied areas of expertise that will support the leadership role of NRCS: the Urban Resources Partnership (URP), Gateway National Recreation Area (National Park Service), and many community-based organizations.

NRCS will be responsible for managing the AmeriCorps program and supervising Corps members' activities. This includes supervising the two Rural Development Corps members, establishing project rotations, conducting weekly site visits, and participating in in-service training programs.

URP will play an active role in soliciting and selecting appropriate field projects within the two targeted ecosystems. During the implementation phase, staff from the six federal agencies that comprise the Urban Resources Partnership will be actively involved as technical consultants to the projects and will provide environmental training and education for participating Corps members.

Gateway is comprised of numerous sites in and around the Jamaica Bay in Brooklyn and Queens, and along the eastern shore of Staten Island. As a local Federal partner in the Urban Resources Partnership, Gateway will play a key role in developing and overseeing projects at their locations, and will help to provide the necessary context for the community based projects by serving as a destination for field trips for community residents organized by the Corps members. Gateway will also be the site for the initial team training and subsequent team-building exercises.

Community-based organizations will help to assess community needs, be actively involved in developing, overseeing, and evaluating the impact of their sponsored projects, and will help to involve community residents in the Corps members' work.

In addition to the above partners, URP will contract with a local youth-serving organization to assist the NRCS project manager with Corps member recruitment/applicant screening, team-building/in-service training, and project planning. In addition, they will assist in the recruitment, training and daily supervision of the two Rural Development Corps members.

*Service Activities*

Corps members will perform service full-time, four days each week, and on the fifth day will participate in in-service training. During nine months out of the year, Corps members

will work outdoors on high impact restoration projects. During the winter months, members will conduct environmental education sessions at schools located in the target communities within the two ecosystems. URP program criteria will be used to select appropriate service projects, which include the following: 1) projects must meet a locally stated priority and have a long term impact on the community's quality of life and natural environment; 2) projects taken together must represent geographic, ethno-cultural, and natural resource diversity; and 3) projects must build local capacity and engender community commitment to insuring sustainability beyond the term of the specific URP sponsored projects.

What follows is a partial listing of the kinds of environmental restoration projects and sponsoring organizations that will host the AmeriCorps members. These projects are representative of the types of service activities the Corps members will be involved in over the course of the year.

Jamaica Bay

Service activities will take place both at the Gateway National Recreation Area sites in Brooklyn and Queens, and in the communities in the watershed. The following organizations have agreed to host the AmeriCorps team and to oversee the restoration projects described.

Gateway National Recreation Area at Jamaica Bay is comprised of 1,454 acres, including 800 acres of natural areas made up of grasslands, fishing areas, public campgrounds, and community gardens. The park sites include many locations in both Brooklyn and Queens, including Floyd Bennett Field, Plumb Beach, Shore Parkway/Canarsic Pier. Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Fort Tilden/Breezy Point, and the most popular destination in the summer, Jacob Riis (beach) Park. While these areas are incredibly diverse and present a multitude of natural habitats and recreational opportunities, fiscal and staffing constraints have resulted in the need for extensive management and restoration work throughout the park. AmeriCorps members will work under the supervision of park supervisors on trail maintenance projects such as cutting back overgrown brush, and placing woodchips and sign posts along the trails. Corps members

will also blaze new trails. in some cases to steer visitors away from some sensitive ecological areas, and in others, to provide access to wildlife viewing areas. Corps members will also work to remove the blighted black pines and engage in revegetation programs utilizing native trees and shrubs. Participation in the annual beach cleanups will help members to understand the connection between nonpoint source pollution from the communities and its impact on beaches.

New Perspectives Development Corp. is a nonprofit local development corporation that works with community youth centers and senior centers on neighborhood enhancement projects. Corps members will work on a variety of projects designed to engender a stronger sense of community stewardship through local park and trail maintenance projects and beach cleanups. They will also work on some inter-generational projects including grounds enhancement projects at senior centers. Corps members will assist in community-wide vacant lot reclamation projects by planting shrubs, trees and vegetables. and assisting in the development of community gardens.

NYC Audubon Society (NYCAS), an independently incorporated chapter of the National Audubon Society, plays a critical role in protecting habitats and promoting awareness of wildlife in NYC. AmeriCorps members will supplement the ongoing efforts of the NYCAS' primarily volunteer-run Jamaica Bay Coastal Habitat Restoration Project, which seeks to reverse the negative impact past industrial and residential uses have had on the Bay's ecosystem. Corps members will be assigned to work at two public wildlife sanctuaries managed by NYCAS: Dubos Point Wetlands Sanctuary, and Bayswater Point State Park. Corps members will participate in restoration work, which includes debris removal, selected enhancement of natural restoration process, and monitoring through scientific study. In addition, they will learn and utilize natural resource inventory techniques in order to assist researchers in collecting scientific data. Corps members will also play a key role in conducting outreach efforts to local communities and school children to promote public awareness of the restoration project and access to the sites.

Metro Greenways Council (MGC) developed the original plan for a 350 mile citywide greenway, most of which has yet to

be implemented. In addition to advocating for the completion of the Metropolitan Greenway System, Council members monitor greenway conditions, and promote greenway activities through leading walks and rides. Under the guidance of MGC, Corps members will work on improving the condition of existing segments of the Rockaway/Gateway Greenway, and will develop and build interim segments, including links to the adjacent communities. Service activities include marking existing trails, clearing brush and trash, laying woodchips or crushed stone to inhibit re-growth of tall grass. The completion of this project will permit residents in the communities surrounding Jamaica Bay easier access to the Gateway sites (Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Floyd Bennett Field, Riis Park. and Fort Tilden).

Staten Island

Service activities will take place both at the Gateway National Recreation Area sites along the Atlantic shore of the island, in the salt marshes on the northern shore, in the communities surrounding these sites, and in the communities through which the greenways pass. The following organizations have agreed to host the AmeriCorps team and to oversee the restoration projects described.

Gateway National Recreation Area in Staten Island is comprised of 1,104 acres of land and water including Miller Field, Great Kills Park, Hoffman Island, Swinburne Island, and Historic Fort Wadsworth, which was recently added to the Gateway portfolio in 1994 after the base was closed by the federal government. Corps members will focus their work at Fort Wadsworth, where they will be involved in a variety of service activities designed to restore the historic quality of the facility, and to develop the site into a local cultural and environmental resource. Service activities include developing a trail network, and planting trees and shrubs to attract the public to the site.

Neighborhood Open Space Coalition (NOSC) is a non-profit working partnership of member organizations dedicated to community participation in preserving and enhancing New York City's open spaces. NOSC is the lead organization promoting the development of the North Shore Railroad Corridor project, which will transform an abandoned railroad right-of-way into a greenway with foot trails and bicycle paths.

Corps members will work to develop an interim trail corridor within the main right-of-way, and will develop new trails connecting segments of the rail corridor. Service activities will include clearing brush and trimming back overgrowth on the trail. as well as planting trees and shrubs along side the trail where necessary. Corps members will be trained to lead walks through this natural area, introducing residents and visitors to this unique adaptive use of an abandoned railroad right-of-way.

Protectors of Pine Oak Woods (PPOW) is a community-based environmental organization working to preserve the remaining natural areas of Staten Island through a variety of conservation activities. Corps members will work to develop the planned Staten Island Greenbelt through trail restoration and maintenance projects. Service activities will include clearing brush, and trimming back overgrowth on the trails. Corps members will also assist to place signs to clearly mark the trail. Maintenance and restoration work will be included along this overutilized hiking trail area.

Salt Marsh Restoration Group (SMRG) was formed after a 1990 spill from in oil refinery pipeline destroyed 12 acres of marsh and damaged the ecosystem of the 10 other acres Of marsh on the west shore of Staten Island. SMRG works to restore and prevent future damage through labor-intensive clean-up and planting, research and evaluation of salt marsh ecosystems, and advocacy. Corps members will assist in SMRG's Old Place Creek Marsh Site project, where SMRG is developing data baselines and monitoring the growth of grass and the recruitment of marsh organisms back into the grasses. After completing a series of educational workshops conducted by SMRG staff, Corps members will compile data to supplement the study and engage in actual restoration projects. Other service activities will include planting Spartina, a salt marsh cordgrass, to stabilize the fragile sediment in the marsh and replace vegetation that was lost in the spill. With the help of Corps members, SMRG aims to plant 60,000 cords covering 100,000 square feet during the Spring planting season, in order to insure stable growth by the start of the following cold season.

*Relation to Need*

Through the proposed service projects, AmeriCorps members will address critical environmental needs through natural resource management and restoration, and community enhancement projects. Trail restoration projects will facilitate access to existing natural areas. Wetlands restoration projects will help to stem, or reverse, recent trends of wetlands degradation and help to restore critical wetlands. Community education projects will help to make residents aware of the impact of their actions on the larger ecosystems of which they are part, and community greening projects will improve local environment and quality of life in these neighborhoods. In addition, through exposure to environmental issues and natural area and interaction with experts the AmeriCorps youth may become more interested in pursuing environmental careers but will in any event return to their communities with an increased awareness of environmental stewardship that they will share with friends and family.

*Participant Training and Support*

There are various components to the Corps members' training, support, education, and service learning. These components will take place both formally and informally before, during and after the service activities. The first element of member training will occur at the very start of the year of service, when all of the URP team members will participate in a six day residential training program at Gateway National Park. The Urban Resources Partnership will contract with a local youth-serving organization experienced in preparing youth for community service work. At Gateway, they will learn communication and team building skills, in addition to learning wilderness survival and outdoor skills that will prepare them for their year of service.

Orientation week is just the first component of the overall training program which will continue throughout the year. Once service activities begin, Fridays will be dedicated to in-service training activities and work-shops, lead by the team leader. Service learning workshops will enable Corps members to explore issues relating to their field service. These workshops may include reading and writing assignments related to the prior week's service activity, giving Corps members a broader perspective on their field work. Fridays may also include environmental field trips, or presentations

urban ecological topics Corps members are engaged in, as well as include environmental career sessions to encourage urban youth to pursue careers in environmental disciplines. The environmental education facilities at Gateway will also be available throughout the year to provide mid-year training focused on natural resource issues.

### *Participant Recruitment, Placement, and Supervision*

To recruit Corps members, we will utilize a variety of strategies, including placing ads in community newspapers, obtaining referrals by individuals and organizations, and conducting outreach to several of the specialized high schools in NYC, including the High School of Environmental Science. For the two Rural Development Corps members, we will target our recruitment efforts at area colleges with programs in environmental science in order to recruit individuals with a background and interest in environmental issues.

We will seek to form a team comprised of people from diverse backgrounds and education levels. Criteria used in selection will include: interest and/or experience in environmental issues, dedication to the concept of national service, willingness and ability to work on a team, and ability to confront challenges. During the recruitment process, priority will also be placed on collaborating with community-based organizations to recruit candidates from neighborhoods surrounding Jamaica Bay and Staten Island.

As described in the "Concept" section, the ten Environmental Team members will form one team who will remain together for the year, and as a team, will rotate through a series of projects. A Rural Development Corps member, reporting to the NRCS project manager, will serve as the field supervisor/crew leader for the Environmental Team. The crew leader will work with the team on a daily basis throughout the year to provide direct supervision and overall support to the team members. The crew leader will work alongside the team beginning at orientation week, and then at each project site over the course of the year. The crew leader will also monitor attendance, work performance and team related issues, and plays a key role as the link between the team and the project sponsor. Staff from the sponsoring organizations will provide additional on-site training, supervision and support.

Project assignments will be scheduled by the second Rural Development Corps member who will work as an environmental planner under the supervision of the NRCS project manager, and in consultation with URP staff and partners. In addition, the Urban Resources Partnership will contract with a local youth-serving organization to assist in the logistical coordination of scheduling project rotations. The Rural Development Corps member, the consultant, NRCS, and URP will work in partnership with sponsors to coordinate all service projects. Advance planning will ensure that the team has sufficient project-related training, tools and equipment to deliver service safely and effectively. Although many of the sponsors have worked with youth before, staff will ensure that sponsors are oriented with AmeriCorps mission and goals.

5) OBJECTIVES:

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #1:

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: New York, New York

SITE SUPERVISOR: John A. Bricker PHONE NO.: 212/637-3710

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: To revitalize open space in 8-10 communities.

1. WHAT WORK WILL BE DONE?

vacant lot improvement, tree planting and care, greenway and bicycle trail development and improvement

2. WHAT IS THE HOPED FOR RESULT OF THE WORK/ ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED ABOVE?

enhancing the quality of, and improving access to open space and natural resources in the targeted communities

3. HOW WILL YOU MEASURE THE QUALITY OF YOUR WORK?

Successful creation of gardens or landscaped sitting areas for community residents; establishment of street trees; establishment/improvement of greenways and bicycle trails.

4. BY WHAT STANDARD WILL YOU GAUGE SUCCESS?

If community residents utilize these sites, and participate in the creation and maintenance of the sites.

5. HOW MANY INDIVIDUALS WILL RECEIVE THE BENEFIT IF THE WORK OF YOUR MEMBERS?

All of the residents of the targeted community. [There are approximately 50,000 residents on average in a community district \* 10 districts = 500,000 residents]





**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 3**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service                      **SITE:** New York, New York  
(15 Members - 12 PL&E/3 RDT)

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** John A. Bricker                      **PHONE:** 212/637-3710                      **COUNTY:** New York

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** Establish bike trails.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**  
Establish and improve greenways and bicycle trails by removing debris and clearing trails.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**  
Improve access to open space and natural resources in the targeted communities.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**  
Inspections from state agencies and meeting specifications of NRCS, FS, NPS

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**  
5 miles in Jamaica Bay and 2 miles in Staten Island.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**  
All of the residents of the targeted community. (There are approximately 50,000 residents on average in a community district \* 10 districts = 500,000 residents.)

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 4

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service                      **SITE:** New York, New York  
(15 Members - 12 PL&E/3 RDT)

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** John A. Bricker                      **PHONE:** 212/637-3710                      **COUNTY:** New York

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS:** To protect 30 miles of natural shoreline ecosystem habitats surrounding significant coastal wetlands.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Removal of debris along the shoreline of Jamaica Bay and Staten Island coasts.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Reduction of debris and habitat improvement.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

By the amount of debris removed.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

2 tons of debris from 800 acres of natural area.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

Residents in communities surrounding Jamaica Bay in Queens and Brooklyn as well as communities along the coast of Staten Island. (over 2 million people live in Queens, over 2 million people live in Brooklyn; approximately 5 million people live on Staten Island.)



## NORTH DAKOTA

## TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project: Groundwater Protection  
B. Name of Organization: U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS  
C. Team Type: RDT  
D. State of Duty Station: North Dakota  
E. County of Duty Station: Grand Forks, Ramsey, Richland, and Stutsman  
F. Names of counties served: Barnes, Benson, Cass, Eddy, Foster, Grand Forks, Griggs, Nelson, Ramsey, Ransom, Richland, Sargent, Steele, Stutsman, and Traill  
G. Congressional District: North Dakota  
H. Name of Site Supervisor: Jeffrey L. Printz  
I. Address, phone & fax numbers: USDA/NRCS  
208 2nd Ave. SW  
Jamestown, ND 58402-2096  
Ph: (701)252-1460  
FAX: (701)252-9068  
J: Name of State Project Director: Richard L. Bentaas  
K. Address, phone & fax numbers: USDA/NRCS  
220 E. Rosser Ave., Rm. 278  
P. O. Box 1458  
Bismarck, ND 58502-1458  
Ph: (701)250-4761  
FAX: (701)250-4420  
L. Number of Members in PL&E: 0  
M. Number of Members in RDT: 5

1. TITLE PAGE:

- A. Title of Project: Trout Stream Renovation  
in the Mountains
- B. Name of Organization: NC RC&D Association
- C. Team Type: combined
- D. State of Duty Station: North Carolina
- E. County of Duty station: Buncombe
- F. Names of counties served: Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Swain,  
Jackson, Macon, Haywood,  
Buncombe, Henderson,  
Transylvania, Madison, Avery,  
Mitchell, Yancy, and Watauga.
  
- G. Congressional District: 11th
- H. Name of site supervisor: Sally Stokes
- I. Address, ph/fax number: 22 South Pack Sq, Suite 310  
South Market Street  
Asheville, NC 28801.  
Ph: (704) 252-1675  
FAX (704) 252-1675
  
- J. Name of st Project Dir: Cecil Settle
- K. Address, ph/fax number: 4405 Bland Road, Suite 205  
Raleigh, NC 27609.  
Ph: (919) 790-2909  
FAX (919) 790-2881
  
- L. Number of Members in PL&E: 5 members
- M. Number of Members in RDT: combined (see L above)

2. SUMMARY PAGE

A. The specific needs to be met, particularly as they relate to the Environment and Community Service.

Statewide, we are experiencing industrial and residential growth. This growth is perceived by some as positive while others view it as detrimental to our statewide ecosystems. Unfortunately, most citizens lack the knowledge to develop opinions supported by scientific facts. When problems or opportunities are cited in our state; such as, timber cutting in the national forest; or the construction of a superhighway; or the siting of a nuclear waste storage facility; most citizens react out of fear, unable to understand that there are balances between environment and progress. The first two objectives of the overall plan are designed to achieve an informed citizenry.

North Carolina is a state composed of 85% rural counties. In 1994, more than 100 citizens lost their lives to fire, while property losses exceeded 50 million dollars. One of the leading causes of this loss of life and property is the lack of an adequate supply of water to fight fires, since less than 20% of rural North Carolina counties have county-wide water systems. The NC Resource Conservation and Development Association plans to implement a statewide dry hydrant program to supply water resources for this public safety program. AmeriCorps participants are needed to achieve this goal.

B. The key elements of the program design. A description of the administering organization and identification of primary program partners.

- Southwestern NC RC&D
- Mountain Valleys RC&D
- Trout Unlimited
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Blue Ridge RC&D
- NC Department of Transportation
- NC Wildlife Resources Commission

1. **Mission and objectives.**

**A. Mission statement**

The mission of the North Carolina RC&D Association is to promote environmental protection and conservation with a concern and effort to insure sustainable economic growth in the state of North Carolina.

**B. Annual objectives**

1. Assist with the development and improvement of tourism and recreation in the area.
2. Provide assistance in protection of the resource base.
3. Assist with programs for improvement in fishing and wildlife habitat.

**4. Narrative:**

**A. Needs to be met and appropriateness for national service.**

**Needs:** There is a need for renovation of these streams in order for the fish habitat to be restored. This will increase the carrying capacity of the streams and make more recreational fishing available to the general public. These streams not only serve the citizens of North Carolina but also the citizens of the adjoining states and beyond.

**Process:** The streams that need improvement will be identified by members of the Trout Unlimited Chapters in Western North Carolina in consultation with local Wildlife and Fishing Clubs, local citizen groups as well as the local Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Southwestern NC, Blue Ridge, and Mountain Valley RC&D Councils.

**B) DESIGN.**

The Trout Unlimited Chapter will be primarily responsible for identifying the streams needing improvement and provide some supervision of the daily cleanup activities. The local Soil and Water Conservation District will provide some needed office space and some supervision of the daily cleanup activities in their respective districts. The RC&D Council will supervise the overall cleanup and restorative activities, schedule and organize the cleanup activities in order that the work can progress in a timely and orderly manner. Fish enhancement structures will be installed at points identified by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission.

**Concept:** To restore mountain streams to their original character.

**Service Activities:** The participant or personnel involved in the actual cleanup will be carrying out the following activities:

Pickup and removal from stream site all debris, trash, and materials that would lead to deterioration of the fish habitat.

Also, they would be involved in making stream improvements in some instances such as constructing small rock dams to create pools and installing fish enhancement structures with outside assistance.

Participants will work with the NC Department of Transportation to improve access areas at points designated for restocking trout.

**Relation to Need:** The program success will be determined by the improvement of the fish habitat in the streams. This will be determined by monitoring by the Community Colleges and Trout Unlimited. Additional information as to the success of the cleanup project will be determined by members of Trout Unlimited in relation to the increased fish population and increase in the number of people fishing the streams.

**Participant Training and Support:** Training will be provided to the participants by the RC&D Councils in association with the members of the Trout Unlimited Chapter.

Training will include the proper method of traversing the stream in a safe manner and removal of debris and other material. They will be instructed in the value of fish habitat improvement in relation to the environmental concerns as well as the economic benefits of the project.

**Participant Placement and Supervision:** Supervision will be provided to the participants by a competent person, one of the participants or other person. At least 50% of the participants that are assigned to trout stream improvement projects will be Native Americans recruited from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 10

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service                      SITE: North Carolina  
          Trout Stream                      (5 Members - Combined)

SITE SUPERVISOR: Sally Stokes    PHONE: (704) 252-1675    COUNTY: Buncombe

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: . Assist with the development and improvement of tourism and recreation in the mountains.

- 
1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**  
Stream cleanup to reduce pollution to native trout streams. Organic and inorganic pollutants such as paper, animal mortality, cans, bottles, tires, appliances, etc. will be removed from streams.
  2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**  
Improved water quality and improved wildlife habitat will improve travel and tourism to the area.
  3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**  
By the number of miles of streams that can be restocked with trout once the cleanup work is complete.
  4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**  
An effort will be made the first year to improve no less than 200 miles of streams. We realize this will not impact tourism by fisherman and recreational uses initially.
  5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**  
All landowners adjacent to streams as well as all who visit the area and use these public waters for recreation. Off site benefits will be recognized downstream by all who take water for residential, municipal, industrial and other use.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 12

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service                      SITE: North Carolina  
          Trout Stream                      (5 Members - Combined)  
SITE SUPERVISOR: Sally Stokes   PHONE: (704) 252-1675   COUNTY: Buncombe

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: . Improve fishing and wildlife habitat

- 
1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**  
Identify streams needing improvement (cleanup). Perform cleanup measures including the removal of trash, debris, and other pollutants. Build fish enhancement structures at locations identified by Trout Unlimited. It is estimated that a1/2 ton of debris will be removed from each mile of streams. Five fish enhancements structures are planned for FY 96. The removal of organic waste, heavy metals, and old tires (petroleum base) will improve water quality enough such that these streams will support trout which is very sensitive to pollution.
2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**  
To restore mountain streams to their original character.
3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**  
The program success will be determined by the improvement of the fish habitat in the streams. This will be determined by monitoring by the Community Colleges and Trout Unlimited. Additional information as to the cleanup project will be determined by members of Trout Unlimited in relation to the increased fish population and increase in the number of people fishing the streams.
4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**  
Water quality standards established by North Carolina Water Resources Division for trout waters of North Carolina.
5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**  
All landowners with property adjoining streams and visitors who use the public waters of North Carolina. All streams are public waters in North Carolina.

1. TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project: Dry Fire Hydrants

B Name of Organization: NC Resource Conservation and Development Association

C Team Type: combined

D. State of Duty Station: North Carolina

E County of Duty station: Alamance

F Names of counties served: Randolph, Alamance, Guilford, Orange, Durham, Caswell, Rockingham, Davie, Forsyth, Stokes, Yadkin, and Surry.

G Congressional District: 6th

H Name of site supervisor: Calvin Evans

I Address, ph/FAX number: 201 South Main Street  
Graham, NC 27253  
Ph: (910) 227-5829  
FAX (910) 227-6890

J Name of st Project Dir: Cecil Settle

K Address, ph/FAX number: 4405 Bland Road, Suite 205  
Raleigh, NC 27609  
Ph: (919) 790-2909  
FAX (919) 790-2881

L Number of Members In PL&E: 5 members

M Number of Members in RDT: combined (see L above)

SUMMARY PAGE

A. The specific needs to be met, particularly as they relate to the Environment and Community Service.

This program will provide an essential tool which is needed to encourage economic development and sustain rural growth. This statewide system will provide water needed for road maintenance and construction, fire protection, and water intakes for agriculture and other uses.

B. The key elements of the program design. A description of the administering organization and identification of primary program partners.

- Nine Regional RC&D's            North Carolina Fire Fighters Association
- Fire Departments                North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation
- AmeriCorps Members            Natural Resources Conservation Service
- North Carolina Division of Energy

**3. Mission and objectives.**

**Mission statement**

Building support and leaders in our communities in the natural resource and human resource areas in order to address public environmental and economic concerns.

Annual objectives:

1. Improve public safety on state-wide basis in rural areas.
2. Provide alternative sources of water for rural areas of the state.
3. Inventory sites for intake points for rural water supply.

4. Narrative:

**Needs:**

A state-wide survey was conducted, by the North Carolina Resource Conservation and Development Association , to determine the need for rural fire protection. These dry hydrants will serve small towns and rural volunteer fire departments that lack staff to process applications, perform needed accounting requirements for materials and placement of dry hydrants. AmeriCorps participants can provide this service to rural communities and fire departments.

**Process:**

The process of determining needs involved input from local and county government, fire departments, the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, the North Carolina Fire Fighters Association, and local soil and water conservation districts. Questionnaires were sent to every county in North Carolina.

DESIGN.

**Concept:**

This program will be the responsibility of the North Carolina Resource Conservation and Development Association with administration assigned to the nine RC&D areas that serve the state. AmeriCorps participants assigned to the mini teams in the mountains, piedmont, and coastal plains will be pooled together to work on this project during late fall, winter and early spring.

**Service Activities:**

Participants will work with landowners and fire departments with identifying and documenting both private and public water sources for the dry hydrants. They will review applications for dry hydrants submitted to RC&D by fire departments and set priorities on installation based on criteria to be developed by RC&D and other partners. They will schedule shipping of materials and installation of dry hydrants. AmeriCorps participants will be responsible for inventorying and accounting for materials shipped and received from vendors to fire departments. They will monitor and document installation of works, and the solicitation of volunteers to assist with the installation.

**Relation to Need:**

Provide a statewide rural fire protection program which will save lives and property. It will reduce fire insurance premiums for all citizens and businesses served by the system. It will be an added dimension which could be a major factor in bringing new businesses and light industry into a rural area.

**Participant Training and Support:**

Training will include a three day seminar conducted by the North Carolina Fire Fighters Association. Two days will include application processing, identification of water sources, and dry hydrant equipment design. One day will be spent installing and inspecting a dry hydrant.

**Participant Placement and Supervision:**

Each of the three mini groups requested in Objectives 1, 2, and 3 will be assigned a reasonable driving distance from their homebase which is as follows:

<u>Mini Team Location</u>	<u>No. Participants</u>
Western North Carolina	5
Northern Piedmont North Carolina	5
Eastern North Carolina	<u>5</u>
	15

Participants will be supervised by regional fire marshals.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 4

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service      SITE: North Carolina  
Dry Fire Hydrant      (5 Members - Combined)  
SITE SUPERVISOR: County Fire Marshals      PHONE: (910) 944-4787      COUNTY: State-wide

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: Improve public safety on a state-wide basis in rural areas.

- 
1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?  
The long-term goal is to install 3,411 fire hydrants (non-pressurized) across the state. Of this number (3,411), twenty-five percent or 852 hydrants will be installed by the end of FY 96.
  2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?  
Saving human lives and property from fire and fire-related accidents.
  3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?  
By the number and quality of the hydrants installed.
  4. By what standard will you gauge success?  
By an overall reduction in insurance premiums due to availability of water for fire fighting purposes.
  5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?  
All citizens of rural areas in North Carolina.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 5

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service      SITE: North Carolina  
Dry Fire Hydrant      (5 Members - Combined)  
SITE SUPERVISOR: County Fire Marshals      PHONE: (910) 944-4787      COUNTY: State-wide

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: Provide alternative sources of water for rural areas of the state.

- 
1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?  
The long-term plan is to install 3,411 fire hydrants (non-pressurized) across the state. Install 852 hydrants by the end of FY 96.
  2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?  
To provide users with access to a dependable, safe, and adequate supply of water that is within close proximity to the user.
  3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?  
By a 5 percent status review of intake points where hydrants have been installed.
  4. By what standard will you gauge success?  
By the installation of 25 percent of the hydrants in FY96.
  5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?  
All citizens of rural areas in North Carolina.

1054

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 6

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service                      SITE: North Carolina  
          Dry Fire Hydrant                      (5 Members - Combined)  
SITE SUPERVISOR: County Fire Marshals    PHONE: (910) 944-4787    COUNTY: State-wide

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: Inventory sites for intake points for rural water supply.

- 
1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**  
Coordinate a review of a minimum of 3,800 intake points in the statewide inventory. Not all points identified initially will be available for use due to ownership, proximity to community needs, etc.
  2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**  
To insure that points identified in the state-wide inventory are accessible and that the supply and quality of water is acceptable.
  3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**  
By a 5 percent status review of intake points approved for hydrant installation.
  4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**  
By reviews and approval ratings by rural fire departments on a site-by-site evaluation.
  5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**  
All citizens of rural areas in North Carolina.

1. TITLE PAGE:

- A. Title of Project: Learning Centers on Public Properties
- B. Name of Organization: NC RC&D Association
- C. Team Type: combined
- D. State of Duty Station: North Carolina
- E. County of Duty station: Chowan
- F. Names of counties served: Currituck, Camden, Hyde, Pasquotank, Hertford, Perquimans, Chowan, Washington, Terrell, Dare, Pitt, Bertie, Martin, Beaufort, and Gates.
- G. Congressional District: 1st
- H. Name of site supervisor: Rodney Johnson
- I. Address, ph/fax number: 412 West Queen Street  
Edenton, NC 27932.  
Ph: (919) 482-7437  
FAX (919) 482-3428
- J. Name of st Project Dir: Cecil Settle
- K. Address, ph/fax number: 4405 Bland Road, Suite 205  
Raleigh, NC 27609.  
Ph: (919) 790-2909  
FAX (919) 790-2904
- L. Number of Members in PL&E: 5 members
- M. Number of Members in RDT: combined

2. SUMMARY PAGE - on one page provide an overview of:

A. The specific needs to be met, particularly as they relate to the Environment and Community Service.

This program will include adding new trails and facilities as well as utilizing and improving existing facilities that promote environmental education. The installation of conservation measures to solve existing problems and complement the ecosystem educational efforts in the park will be completed by participants.

B. The key elements of the program design. A description of the administering organization and identification of primary program partners.

- |                            |             |                           |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Pasquotank Recreation Area |             | Englehard Creek Boardwalk |
| Goose Creek State Park     |             | Hope Heritage Forest      |
| Albemarle RC&D             |             | Mid East RC&D             |
| State Park Service         |             | Local Recreation          |
|                            | Commissions |                           |
| NC Forest Service          |             | Natural Resources         |
|                            |             | Conservation Service      |

3. Mission and objectives.

**Mission statement**

The mission of the North Carolina RC&D Association is to promote environmental protection and conservation with a concern and effort to insure sustainable economic growth in the state of North Carolina.

**B. Annual objectives**

1. Pilot Test Ecosystem Management and Education Activities in North Carolina parks.
2. Promote resource conservation and development using state parks and public lands.
3. Encourage travel and tourism to rural areas through improved recreational facilities and services.

4. Narrative:

**Needs**

**Needs:** Introducing ecosystem management and educational tools will add a new dimension to the experience(s) of users of North Carolina parks. AmeriCorps participants working in these ten parks will serve as a catalyst to demonstrate the value and need for implementing a statewide ecosystem program in all parks.

**Process:** Needs were identified by public meetings and by public mailings during the process of updating RC&D area plans. Each RC&D area in North Carolina has recently (last two years) gone through a thorough process to identify community and regional needs. Questionnaires were sent to homes and businesses in the state. Out of these questionnaires came the ideas of developing rural areas of the state for industry and recreation. Environmental education projects are planned for Hanging Rock State Park, Pasquotank Multi-purpose Recreation Area, Englehard Far Creek cleanup and boardwalk, Goose Creek State Park environmental education trails, and Hope Heritage Forest nature trails.

**B) DESIGN.**

**Concept:** The ecosystem program at each park will be structured such that it can be used by individual(s), families, school groups, and others. Activities and learning experiences will be designed for independent study as well as institutional study. The improvement of trails and the installation of conservation measures will provide a pleasing and safe environment for users. The concept for the design of the program is to provide installation labor for projects where partners cannot afford the expense of contracting this work to a private company.

**Service Activities:** Participants will be involved in laying out the planned facilities which will include trails, amphitheaters, exhibit stations, constructing and/or installing exhibits, organizing environmental field days, manning exhibit stations and giving educational programs. Program participants will be assigned a project location for a given week. They will report to that site each day using a vehicle provided by the NRCS, which will be kept centrally located within the project area. Daily supervision will be provided by the local project sponsor for work to be accomplished each day. These activities will serve to foster an informed citizenry on the environment.

**Relation to Need:** Goals for construction and implementation will be established for the short term and monitored by the state park staff. A questionnaire will be developed by the project team(s) to evaluate user satisfaction once the ecosystem plan and facilities are in place.

**Participant Training and Support:** Training will include a two day overview of the program. Fifty percent of this training orientation will be on site. This will be followed by three days of service learning curriculum. Each participant should complete their tour of service well informed in ecosystem based management. Beyond that accomplishment, each participant will better understand the needs and value of community and public service. This method of training will be used on all three objectives.

**Participant Placement and Supervision:** Participants will work in teams of five, one-of-which will serve as a team leader. Participants will be supervised by state park staff.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE  
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES  
Objective 7

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service      **SITE:** North Carolina  
Ecosystem Mgmt & Education      (5 Members - Combined)  
**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Rodney Johnson    **PHONE:** (919) 482-7437    **COUNTY:** Pasquotank

**COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** . Pilot test ecosystem management and educational activities in North Carolina parks.

- 
1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**  
This program will include adding four new trails with each trail being approximately one mile in length as well as utilizing and improving existing facilities that promote environmental education. The installation of conservation measures to solve existing problems and complement the ecosystem educational efforts in the park will be completed by participants.
  2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**  
An informed public that will promote development of similar ecosystem projects in all state parks.
  3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**  
By public comments on ecosystem educational development within the parks and public lands.
  4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**  
By the reaction of those state officials responsible for establishing programs and improvements in state parks relative to pilot testing ecosystem management (no standard has been set for this program in North Carolina).
  5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**  
All uses of the parks and public lands identified in the objective.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**SITE:** North Carolina

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Rodney Johnson

**COUNTY:** Pasquotank

**OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** Promote resource conservation and development using state parks and public lands.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

The ecosystem program at each park will be structured such that it can be used by individuals, families, schools and others. Design activities for independent study and institutional study; improve trails and install conservation measures to provide a pleasing and safe environment. Construct water bars, short diversions, small waterways, and other BMPs.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

To provide technical assistance where partners cannot afford the expense of contracting with a private company. To develop an environment for demonstrations and education purposes to show students and adults the ecological and environmental value of practicing good land and water conservation management.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Site inspections and evaluations will be conducted for improvements made to trails, signs and exhibit stations.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

Improvements will be made at five parks.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

Estimated 32,000 users per year.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**SITE:** North Carolina

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Rodney Johnson

**COUNTY:** Pasquotank

**OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** Encourage travel and tourism to rural areas through improved recreational facilities and services.

---

**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Members will complete a list of activities available to children, adults, and groups at the parks where improvements will be made. This information will be provided to local Bureaus of Travel and Tourism. This information will help support travel bureaus' efforts to promote tourism.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Encourage travel and tourism to rural areas by improving recreational facilities and services.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

The number of average users will be compared in the past three years to the number of users in 1996, 1997 and 1998.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

A list of activities will be compiled for five parks. Average use will increase by 15% or 4800 people.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

Estimated at 32,000 users per year.

## NORTH DAKOTA

## TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project: Groundwater Protection  
 B. Name of Organization: U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS  
 C. Team Type: RDT  
 D. State of Duty Station: North Dakota  
 E. County of Duty Station: Grand Forks, Ramsey, Richland, and Stutsman  
 F. Names of counties served: Barnes, Benson, Cass, Eddy, Foster, Grand Forks, Griggs, Nelson, Ramsey, Ransom, Richland, Sargent, Steele, Stutsman, and Traill  
 G. Congressional District: North Dakota  
 H. Name of Site Supervisor: Jeffrey L. Printz  
 I. Address, phone & fax numbers: USDA/NRCS  
 208 2nd Ave. SW  
 Jamestown, ND 58402-2096  
 Ph: (701)252-1460  
 FAX: (701)252-9068  
 J. Name of State Project Director: Richard L. Bentaas  
 K. Address, phone & fax numbers: USDA/NRCS  
 220 E. Rosser Ave., Rm. 278  
 P. O. Box 1458  
 Bismarck, ND 58502-1458  
 Ph: (701)250-4761  
 FAX: (701)250-4420  
 L. Number of Members in PL&E: 0  
 M. Number of Members in RDT: 5

1065  
NORTH DAKOTA**2. SUMMARY PAGE**

- A) AmeriCorps members have completed scope and effect on 57 of the 160 targeted areas having the greatest potential to reduce downstream flooding of rural and urban communities.

AmeriCorps members promotional efforts, which included well sealing demonstrations, has succeeded in generating renewed interest by rural and urban residents to seal abandoned wells.

AmeriCorps members assisted Ramsey County Emergency Management personnel by surveying current and projected water levels in Devils Lake. This information will be used by community residents and businesses to implement protective measures as Devils Lake continues it's rise to record levels.

AmeriCorps members assisted the community of Harwood, ND clean up a trailer court that was abandoned because of severe flood damage.

AmeriCorps members have received training on Civil Rights, AIDS awareness, first aid, CPR, hazardous materials, defensive driving and basic survey techniques. Perhaps most noticeable has been their improved interpersonal skills attained through "on-the-job" training, working with the general public.

- B) The FY 96 AmeriCorps project objective will be more focused on the flood prone area of southeastern North Dakota. This area is undergoing considerable economic and urban development in an area that is sensitive to ground water contamination as well as being environmentally sensitive.

AmeriCorps members will be working directly with communities in this area to promote ground water protection. Members will also be providing outreach to urban and rural communities, including informational meetings, to increase awareness of environmentally sensitive issues.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**SITE:** North Dakota

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Steve Fischer

**COUNTY:**

**OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** Promote increased community awareness of the needs for ground water protection measures and the development and or implementation of well head protection plans for urban and rural water systems.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Members will work with leaders of local government, community groups, and one-on-one in an effort to educate and provide information on the Best Management Practices (BMP) to protect ground water from chemical pollutants.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Increased awareness to the dangers of ground water pollution and an increase in the application of "Best Management Practices", especially in well head areas.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Progress will be measured by the number of BMPs applied and the number of well head plans developed for new areas. Site supervisors will review accomplishments to ensure policies are followed.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

20 group presentations will be made; 22 well head plans developed and 30 BMPs installed.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

Estimated 3,000 rural residents who depend upon rural water systems for household water use will benefit.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

**GRANTEE:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**SITE:** North Dakota

**SITE SUPERVISOR:** Steve Fischer

**COUNTY:**

**OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:** To provide information to communities and residents on the negative impacts to ground water quality from intensified agricultural uses within the Sheyenne Delta area.

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**1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

Members will conduct community meetings and make one-on-one contact with rural and urban residents to provide information on the impact of pesticides and herbicides being used in ever increasing amounts on specialty crops in the targeted area. They will emphasize impacts on potential for ground water contamination, threatened and endangered species, and soil health concerns.

**2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

Awareness of the dangers of ground water contamination by chemicals and voluntary protection of threatened and endangered species habitat. Overall improvement in soil health, and an increased awareness of resource concerns associated with production of specialty crops.

**3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

Members will develop periodic progress reports on number of meetings conducted and the number of groups contacted.

**4. By what standard will you gauge success?**

50 groups contacted, 25 presentations made.

**5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

3,000 rural residents who depend upon rural water systems for household use.