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Nebraska

Divider Title: _____



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

Federal Building, Room 152
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE 68508-3866

Subject: PER - Third Quarter AmeriCorps Report

Date: July 10, 1995

To: Lloyd E. Wright
Director
Community Assistance and Resource Development

File Code: 360

Below is the third quarter AmeriCorps report from Nebraska:

1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH (09/12/94))

10 members of 20 total enrolled by 09/12/94

2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE QUARTER (06/30/95)

13 members of 20 total enrolled by 06/30/95

3. NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM

No members have been terminated from the program.

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED

	1ST	2ND	3RD	TOTAL
Omaha	1,250	2,572	1,251	5,073
Lincoln	800	1,413	4,344	6,557
Tecumseh	1,650	3,200	2,249	7,099
Norfolk	<u>300</u>	<u>2,209</u>	<u>1,495</u>	<u>4,004</u>
TOTAL HOURS	<u>4,000</u>	<u>9,394</u>	<u>9,339</u>	<u>22,733</u>

5. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING:

	1ST	2ND	3RD	TOTAL
Omaha	80	24	116	220
Lincoln	300	129	148	577
Tecumseh	200	200	40	440
Norfolk	<u>50</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>137</u>
TOTAL HOURS	<u>630</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>356</u>	<u>1,374</u>

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6. PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES:

Omaha:

- Present information on resource conservation and flood plain management to local communities as follows:
 - Spoke to three scout groups addressing at least 55 youth about Natural Resources Conservation, water quality issues, and urban wildlife gardening.
 - Spoke to six school groups addressing more than 120 individual children about endangered species, prairies, water quality, and forest ecology.
 - Assisted Papio-Missouri River NRD staff in training of volunteer naturalists. This effort was initiated in the last quarter and included actual teaching, facilitation of Project WILD workshops, and securing experts from outside to teach.
 - Conducted a "Scavenger Hunt" during the two days of Water Works. At least 350 students learned lessons about wildlife, nature, and human influences.
 - Taught the Millard North Middle School Science Club the principles of natural landscape design, guiding them through the design process as they produced a design for the school year. Assisting them in finding funding and materials.
 - Proposed, organized, and co-facilitated Project Wild and Aquatic Wild training for all AmeriCorps USDA members in Nebraska.
 - Assisted in all aspects of preparation before and teardown after the Children's Groundwater Festival. Acted as guides during the Festival. (Grand Island, Nebraska)
 - Assisted as Conveners at the Governors Conference on Community Service. (Lincoln, Nebraska)
 - Participated in the National Day of Service by cleaning up the F Street Recreation Center. (Lincoln, Nebraska)
- Conduct field investigations, gather data, and compile reports on the status of land, plant, and animal resources in the area.
 - Continue to gather and input data for Agricultural Non-Point Source Pollution Model for Wehrspann Lake Water Quality Project. This project will affect over 100 land owners with regard to land management practices and over 15,000 visitors per year to Chalco Hills Recreation Area.
 - Continue digitizing new NRI PSUs and points, to provide statistical reliability for the Papio-Missouri River NRD.

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- Coordinate public work projects to promote proper uses of natural resources and flood plain management.
 - Involved in the initial Save Our Stream volunteer training workshop for Wehrspann Watershed.
 - Removed an old and constructed a new wheelchair accessible boardwalk at the Homestead National Monument. We were assisted on this project by the Lincoln team.
 - Assisted NRCS staff and all other AmeriCorps teams on the Bioengineering project on Arbor Farm.
 - Assisted with cultural resource excavation at a site near the fish hatchery. (Gretna, Nebraska)

Lincoln:

- Hands-on activity regarding erosion reduction and sediment pollution was presented at seven community events, reaching at least 1,200 more students. Our goal of presenting to 1,800 students was reached.
- Revitalization of the Normal Community of Lincoln was furthered as historic identification, reports, and historic designation nears completion. Ninety percent of the reports are completed and judged acceptable for use in historical archives.
- The flood management display project is completed; three more displays were mounted in rural communities impacted by the floods of 1993.
- Worked with the NRCS and other Nebraska USDA AmeriCorps teams to complete a bioengineered shoreline stabilization project in a rural community impacted by the floods of 1993 (news article and taped news report enclosed). Brush matting and crib walls made of willow and dogwood cuttings and other organic matter are progressive, innovative, aesthetic, and long-term solutions for reducing erosion, flooding, and damage to bridges along streams.
- Worked with Omaha team to build a handicap-accessible ramp across a wetland at the Homestead National Monument.
- A cultural resource assessment was led by a University of Nebraska-Lincoln anthropology professor and the Historical Society. Archaeological excavations revealed two occupations: Plains Indians of 800 to 1000 years ago lived on the site in earth lodges, and in 1850, a town called "Plattford" (also the name of the "dig").
- Assisted with the following environmental projects: Cultural Awareness Day, Soil and Water Stewardship Week, Storm Water Awareness Program, the Envirothon, Elmwood-Murdock Spring Outdoor Education Day, "Save Money and Reduce Trash" consumer outreach, and National Day of Volunteer Service. Duties included driving participants, delivering materials, stenciling storm sewers, distributing door hangers, presenting educational activities, staffing booths at fairs, and pulling weeds.

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Tecumseh:

- Flood Plain Management
 - Flood Control Maintenance with the Nemaha NRD.
 - Tecumseh AmeriCorps members conducted inspections, debris removal, and sprayed thistles on the more than 300 flood control structures in the Southeast Nebraska eight-county region. In addition, the members cleared trails, prepared habitat areas, planted trees, and removed debris from recreational areas.
- Resource Protection
 - AmeriCorps Team Tecumseh Bioengineering Demonstration Project
 - Completion of the final phase of the stream bank stabilization project at the Bioengineering Demonstration Project at the National Arbor Day Foundation Farm located in Nebraska City. In this quarter the team installed erosion control on the slopes of the project, the team installed erosion control mesh, live willow staking, and trees and shrubs. This project took a considerable amount of direct community service. The team built and laid the 70-foot log crib adjacent to the bridge, and implemented the total coverage of the slopes of the project with natural erosion control methods.
 - The Tecumseh AmeriCorps team helped the Nemaha NRD plant over 14,000 trees throughout the region.
- Historic Cultural Resource Restoration
 - Many communities throughout the region submitted historic restoration projects. Those selected included five communities: Brownville in Nemaha County, Falls City in Richardson County, Pawnee City in Pawnee County, and Beatrice in Gage County. Each of these communities submitted a large number of projects in their requests for AmeriCorps service.
- Historic Restoration Projects
 - Nebraska City: Historic Grand Old Army of the Republic Building in Nebraska City. The Tecumseh Team completed the repair of interior ceilings and walls in the almost 100 year old building. This building had extensive damage; repairs were made to plaster and other preparation made prior to painting. One hundred percent completion of main hall, entryway, and front offices.
 - Pawnee City: In the Pawnee City Historical District the team completed the inventory of artifacts and lamination of labels. The interior painting on some of the historic structures has been completed.
 - Falls City: In Falls City the team helped to landscape the Falls City Arboretum, completed the cabinet repair project at the city auditorium, and completed painting structures and parking barriers in the city parks.

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- Games and Parks: The Tecumseh Team cleared trails and created wildlife habitat areas in recreation sites located near Tecumseh. At the Indian Caves State Park, the team helped to prepare firewood bundles for park visitors.
- SAFE Project: The team completed the housing inventory of three communities in the Nemaha Valley School District. The SAFE Project: Students Accepting Families Everywhere, this housing and vacant lot inventory was used to prepare lists of available housing for potential in-migration of new families to the district.
- NRI Project: The Tecumseh Team is assisting the NRCS with the Natural Resource Inventory, NRI Project. This project involves mapping of points and digitalization for the counties of Lancaster, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Nemaha, and Johnson. One hundred percent of the mapping for Lancaster County is now completed; digitalization and mapping for the other counties will be continued in the service year.
- Water Resource Conferences: The Tecumseh Team provided support and helped as guides for two water conferences, the Children's Groundwater Festival in Grand Island and the Children's Water Celebration in Peru.
- Beatrice: The Tecumseh Team will provide direct community service to Gage County Historical District. This project consists of exterior trim painting on the Gage County Historic Museum at Beatrice.

The Tecumseh Team feels that their year of community service will be of benefit to all of the communities of the region.

Norfolk:

- Bank stabilization at Maskenthine Lake with the Lower Elkhorn NRD
- Litter control with Keep Norfolk Beautiful along Highway 81 and in the Norfolk city parks
- Outdoor classroom construction along an abandoned railway bed in Hartington with the NRCS
- Tree planting, volunteer tree removal, spreading mulch, and putting in tree identification markers at the University of Nebraska - Concord Research Station
- Packing shipments of donated clothes and medical supplies bound for Russia with the Orphan Grain Train
- Tree planting along the highway leading into Battle Creek with the NRCS
- Prairie seed sowing with the Nature conservancy near Wood River
- Assistance with the Commodities Supplemental Food Program in Norfolk
- Tree planting with fifth and sixth graders at Fairplay Golf in Norfolk
- Butterfly garden construction at Dead Timber State Recreation Area

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- Debris clean-up, natural fence construction, and tree transplanting at Deer Trails Wilderness Area
- Pesticide container recycling with the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Council, the Papio-Missouri River NRD, and University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension
- Trail work and sign construction at Wilderness Park
- Flower planting at the Madison County Fairgrounds in cooperation with Keep Norfolk Beautiful
- Tree planting with the Lower Niobrara

7. PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Lincoln:

- The work of our team has often garnered positive feedback. About our "Run-Off Relay," in which young students learn soil conservation as described in #6 above, teachers "gave all positive and excited comments about your presentation." At Earth Day, two young siblings participated three times and were dragged away in protest!
- A report, given about a home in the Normal Community, Lincoln, Nebraska, that was judged worthy of historic designation, was evaluated as "excellent" by historian Ed Zimmer.
- Some letters of appreciation are enclosed about other projects we have contributed to.

8. PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER:

Omaha:

- Assist the Norfolk team in the completion of trails installation at Wilderness Park. (West Point, Nebraska)
- Complete training of naturalists at the Papio-Missouri River NRD Chalco Hills Recreation Area.
- Complete NRI work to establish statistically reliable data base for Papio-Missouri River NRD.
- Continue work on BIA projects. (Winnebago Indian Reservation, Winnebago, Nebraska)

Lincoln:

- Marking utilities on NRCS maps.
- Assisting on soil conservation projects
- Working on local public access lakes and parks.

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Tecumseh:

The Tecumseh Team will complete many of the projects that the team began in their service year. Those projects expected to be completed are those in Pawnee City, Falls City, Beatrice, and the NRI Project.

Norfolk:

- Trail work at Pawito Caves.
- Barbed wire fence removal at Yellowbanks Wildlife Management Area.
- Volunteer tree cutting at the University of Nebraska - Concord Research Station.
- Volunteer tree cutting at Wilderness Park.

9. PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Omaha:

The contract arrangement makes it impossible to replace team members lost due to attrition. Our team is down to two; causing a number of challenges that require us to reduce our expectations regarding overall accomplishments.

Lincoln:

The team continues to have personality and team work difficulties. Members have been counseled, reprimanded, and recieved extra training to attempt to correct the problems. Not all efforts to bring the group together have been successful.

Tecumseh:

The Tecumseh Team did not have difficulties in getting communities and organizations to submit requests. The wide variety of projects undertaken by the team is indicative of the lack of resources that communities have in the region. Attempts to narrow the focus of the USDA AmeriCorps objectives seems to be too restrictive; providing for Preservation and Protection of resources should include cultural as well as natural focus.

10. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS:

Omaha:

All training needs have been met or are scheduled to take place in the fourth quarter.

Lincoln:

- A meaningful work plan including training that specifically prepares members to carry out that work plan.
- To teach sensitivity of racial issues, proper conduct, and to clearly define member, supervisor, manager, and director roles and responsibilities.
- For all the overseers of a program, special youth corps leadership skills need to be taught before the members begin service and the work plan begins to be implemented.

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Tecumseh:

Personnel training for all AmeriCorps members may be the best way to avoid problems for future USDA AmeriCorps programs. Clear and concise work plans with a full-time AmeriCorps staff person at the state office would also be beneficial in a successful community service program.

11. MEDIA COVERAGE:

Omaha:

- Dianna Waters editorial, Omaha World Herald
- AmeriCorps Helps Homestead, Beatrice Daily Sun

Lincoln:

- A taped news report and newspaper articles regarding stream stabilization project
- Copies of NRCS newsletter reports on our activities
- A Lincoln newspaper article on work projects

12. OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION:

Omaha:

Groundwater Foundation Letter and Salute
Water Works Letter
Recognition Award - Papio-Missouri River NRD
Diane Nelson Letter
Benson West Thank You Note

Lincoln:

Letters of appreciation

I hope that this information will assist your efforts to administer the AmeriCorps program. Please contact Craig Derickson, Nebraska Project Director, at 402/437-5878, if you have questions or need additional information.



STEPHEN K. CHICK
Acting State Conservationist

For

Enclosures

cc:

Craig R. Derickson, Project Director, GenAd, NRCS, Lincoln SO



AMERICORPS
3rd QUARTER REPORT

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site name: USDA-NRCS

State: Nebraska

Site ID # 94-ADFDC047

Your Name: Craig R. Derickson

Your Position: AmeriCorps Project Director

Telephone number: 402/437-5878

Fax number: 402/437-5327

e-mail address
(if available) -

Date report completed 07/10/95

Reporting Period: 04/01-06/30/95

Program Start-up date: 09/12/94

**MEMBER INFORMATION****FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION**

Number of Members authorized for your site:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>16</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>4</u>
Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	<u>13</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>9</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>4</u>
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	<u>17</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>13</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>4</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	<u>9,394</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	<u>9,339</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:	<u>22,733</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u> </u>

**PART-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION**

Number of Members authorized:

Environmental Corps Members: _____

Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter: _____

Environmental Corps Members: _____

Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Number of Members at beginning of quarter: _____

Environmental Corps Members: _____

Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter: _____

Environmental Corps Members: _____

Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter: _____

Environmental Corps Members: _____

Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Total Hours of Direct Service to date: _____

Environmental Corps Members: _____

Rural Development Corps Members: _____

**VOLUNTEER ASSESSMENT****Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteers**

Total Number of non-AmeriCorps Volunteers:
involved in AmeriCorps service activities in
this quarter _____

Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities:
completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers
in this quarter. _____

**SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THIS QUARTER****1. Staff changes made this quarter:**

no staff changes.

2. Program structural changes made this quarter:

no structural changes.

Number of Members who have left National Service
this quarter.4

Total-to-date

7Number of Members who have gained employment thru their
AmeriCorps Service0



MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 20 **TOTAL EMPLOYED:** 13

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED 9
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED 4

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER

Number of Males	<u>5</u>
Number of Females	<u>8</u>
TOTAL	<u>13</u>

Box 2 - RACE

Number of Caucasians	<u>11</u>
Number of African Americans	<u>2</u>
Number of Native Americans	<u>0</u>
Number of Hispanics	<u>0</u>
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	<u>0</u>
Other	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	<u>13</u>

Box 3 - EDUCATION

Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	<u>0</u>
Number with High School or GED	<u>0</u>
Number with some college	<u>10</u>
Number with college degree	<u>1</u>
Number with Graduate degree	<u>2</u>
Number w/Professional or Trade School	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	<u>13</u>

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER

Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	<u>15</u>
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	<u>2</u>
Number of children	<u>3</u>
Number w/Disabilities	<u>0</u>

**BUDGET INFORMATION****Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps (Local Level Only)**

Project Manager completes this section

Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	<u>33%</u>
Approximate dollar amount	<u>15,000</u>

Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps	<u>0</u>
---	----------

Travel costs for Members & Managers	<u>3,500</u>
-------------------------------------	--------------

Training costs	<u>1,500</u>
----------------	--------------

Supplies	<u>2,000</u>
----------	--------------

Uniform costs	<u>0</u>
---------------	----------

Program Costs (Please explain what these costs were.)	<u>0</u>
--	----------

Partner dollars spent on AmeriCorps

Supplies	<u>3,250</u>
----------	--------------

Travel	<u>2,000</u>
--------	--------------

Training	<u>2,000</u>
----------	--------------

Program Costs	<u>0</u>
---------------	----------

Other	<u>0</u>
-------	----------



PROJECT DIRECTOR COSTS (One per State - Above site level costs only)
Do NOT include any costs already captured by the Project Manager.

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps

Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	<u>33%</u>
Approximate dollar amount	<u>17,160</u>
Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps	<u>103,950</u>
Travel costs for Members & Managers	<u>4,000</u>
Training costs	<u>2,500</u>
Supplies	<u>0</u>
Uniform costs	<u>0</u>
Program Costs (Please explain what these costs were.)	<u>0</u>

Non-Federal Funds Spent
(Explain)

0

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New Jersey

Divider Title: _____



3rd AMERICORPS
QUARTER REPORT

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site name: WATERSHED RESTORATION TEAM

State: New Jersey

Site ID #

Your Name: Carlos F. Henning

Your Position: Deputy State Conservationist

Telephone number: (908) 246-1171, Ext. 122

Fax number: (908) 246-2358

e-mail address
(if available) al6chenning

Date report completed July 10, 1995

Reporting Period: April 1 - June 30, 1995

Program Start-up date: October 17, 1995



MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>24</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	<u>19</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>19</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	<u>21</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>21</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	<u>13,280</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>13,280</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	<u>10,507</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>10,507</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:	<u>25,787</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>25,787</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

To <u>Dee</u>	From <u>New Jersey</u>	# of pages <u>2</u>
Dept./Agency <u>NRC</u>	Phone # <u>908-246-2358</u>	
Fax # <u>202-690-0639</u>	Fax # <u>908-246-2358</u>	
NSN 7540-01-317-7368	5099-101	GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



PART-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized:	<u>1</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>1</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	<u>1</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>1</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	<u>1</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>1</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	<u>310</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>310</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	<u>454</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>454</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service to date:	<u>764</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>764</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>--</u>



MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 25 **TOTAL EMPLOYED:** 25

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	<u>25</u>
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	<u>0</u>

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males	<u>10</u>
Number of Females	<u>15</u>
TOTAL	<u>25</u>

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	<u>20</u>
Number of African Americans	<u>4</u>
Number of Native Americans	<u>--</u>
Number of Hispanics	<u>--</u>
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	<u>1</u>
Other	<u>--</u>
TOTAL	<u>25</u>

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	<u>--</u>
Number with High School or GED	<u>1</u>
Number with some college	<u>6</u>
Number with college degree	<u>18</u>
Number with Graduate degree	<u>--</u>
Number w/Professional or Trade School	<u>--</u>
TOTAL	<u>25</u>

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER	
Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	<u>15</u>
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	<u>1</u>
Number of children	<u>1</u>
Number w/Disabilities	<u>1</u>



SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THIS QUARTER

1. Staff changes made this quarter:

2. Program structural changes made this quarter:

Number of Members who have left National Service
this quarter.

2

Total-to-date

5

Number of Members who have gained employment thru their
AmeriCorps Service

3



BUDGET INFORMATION

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps (Local Level Only)
Project Manager completes this section

Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	5%
Approximate dollar amount	\$ 900
Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps	16,250
Travel costs for Members & Managers	500
Training costs	1,500
Supplies	500
Uniform costs	--
Program Costs (Please explain what these costs were.)	\$19,650

Partner dollars spent on AmeriCorps

Supplies

Travel

Training

Program Costs

Other

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OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: To increase the number of communities that complete water quality inventory by six.

Progress towards meeting this community service objective:

- . Completed stream walks on 10 streams (approximately 80 miles), categorized and mapped potential non-point pollution sources in the Stony Brook-Millstone, South Branch, Musconetcong and Raritan Watersheds.
- . Trained approximately 60 citizens to conduct stream walks.

Objective 2: To improve the wildlife habitat value of 12 sections of streams from low to moderate.

Progress towards meeting this objective:

- . Stabilized approximately 2,000 feet of streambanks using trees and bioengineering techniques to reduce erosion and improve stream water quality and surrounding areas for wildlife habitat. The Governor visited and assisted in planting on one of the sites.
- . Made two large brush piles on one site to enhance wildlife habitat.
- . Identified and prioritized regional wildlife issues in the Stony Brook-Millstone watershed.

07/12/88 10:40 FAX 1 800 240 2558 SCS-NJ 0007

PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Member Development

Objective 1: To encourage 33 percent of the Members to enter environmental careers or curriculum at the end of the first year.

Progress towards meeting this objective:

- . Corps Members' development has ranged from interaction with environmental groups to lunches with recognized leaders in professional groups in the fields of water resources, biology and naturalism.
- . One Corps Member will be hired as Project Manager for the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Management Program.
- . One Corps Member has been hired as Forester for the Morris County Soil Conservation District.
- . One Corps Member is pursuing a naturalist position with a New Jersey park.
- . Two Corps Members are pursuing degrees in the fields of biology and natural resource management to teach or work with an environmental agency or organization.
- . Corps Members' training has consisted of the following:
 - Basic AmeriCorps Training - New Jersey State Commission on National and Community Service
 - CPR - Corporation for National and Community Service
 - Stream Water Chemical Assessment - Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association
 - Rapid Bio-Assessment Protocol - New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
 - Bio-Engineering Techniques - USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Roundtables on Water Quality - New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- . Corps Members have attended one Professional Society and one Environmental Educators Annual Conference.

07/12/83 13:43 FAX 1 808 246 2338 SCS-NJ 008

2. Community Building

Objective 1: To increase the number of communities organizing and supporting cleanup projects from four to 15.

Progress towards meeting this objective:

- . Earth Day - led students from 12 area high schools on stream cleanup at Carnegie Lake in Princeton.
- . Earth Day - Organized citizens in beachgrass planting on dunes in Atlantic, Cape May, Ocean and Monmouth Counties.
- . Earth Day - Worked with other AmeriCorps teams in removing debris from two streams in Morris, Warren, Mercer, Hunterdon and Somerset Counties.
- . Restored trail system - marked and trimmed 12 mile neglected trail system, built and installed 30 sq. ft. of board walk, put up bird houses, constructed and installed 15 ft. foot bridge, removed dangerous dead trees and limbs, restored wildflower trail, assembled and maintained cooperative course.
- . Restored arboretum/environmental center - pruned and planted trees on three acres.
- . Cleaned and planted a garden that is being used in teaching students gardening principles.
- . Created picnic area - removed fences, painted out building, planted grass seed, built picnic tables.
- . Earth Day 1995 Event - 2000 in attendance
 - Led environmental education walks
 - Staffed booths with information for public
 - Held ECOthon for 40 area high school students
- . Organic Lawn Conference - 50 in attendance
 - Conceived of ideas, speakers, format
 - Created marketing materials
 - Facilitated event

3. Other Accomplishments:

- . Led 128 environmental education programs for 2,325 students, which resulted in a 30% increase in programming.
- . Attended and presented at local science fairs.
- . Presented volunteer options to 200 high school students.

3. Other Accomplishments (continued):

- . Staffed natural resource exhibits during Earth Week in two municipalities.
- . Assisted with Envirothon in Mercer County sponsored by Mercer County Soil Conservation District, New Jersey State Soil Conservation Committee and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service for high school students in the state.
- . Assisted Rutgers and Natural Resources Conservation Service to promote stewardship at field days, tours and open houses.

4. Unique Successes or "Great Stories":

- . Met with other AmeriCorps Members from other agencies and organizations in the state. Corps Members compared programs and experiences with members outside of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- . The Hamilton Square Team (Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association) received a \$500.00 grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Community Forestry Program for use in restoring an arboretum at the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association.

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Lack of adequate pay caused ten Members to seek part-time jobs. Three Corps Members left the program for better paying jobs to handle their needs.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? No.

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

Concerns were discussed with Corps Members.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

Locality pay in high cost areas such as New Jersey.

TRAINING ASSESSMENT

PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

Computers with Word Perfect software would aid Corps Members and site manager in developing professional documents.

MEDIA ASSESSMENT

1. NATIONAL IDENTITY ACTIVITIES THIS QUARTER

- . Joel Berg's visit/canoe and field trip in the Pine Barrens.
- . Team leader training in the State Office on June 30, 1995.

2. MEDIA COVERAGE

Picture of Corps Members with Governor Whitman.

3. OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION

Brochures created by Corps Members.

NANCY

This is the third Quarter - AmeriCorps report

Please type and fax to Paula Cole-Tues today

and send her a hard clean copy, place
me in Quarterly folder and to Gail, Irene, Donatien and me

If you have questions on my writing
see Mark

Thanks

Carlo

PS I have also attached the original
from Lloyd Wright

Ok see if Denise can help you with
items ~~page~~ highlighted on pages 154 & 164



June 16, 1995

SUBJECT: Submission of AmeriCorps Third Quarter Reports

TO: State Conservationists

This is a reminder that the third quarter reports are due to NHQ by COB July 10, 1995. The NRCS report will be submitted to the Department by July 13, 1995. The third quarter report format is attached. Please be sure to include the number of non-AmeriCorps volunteer hours.

Thank you for your cooperation.

LLOYD E. WRIGHT

Director, Community Assistance
and Resource Development

cc: Regional Conservationists



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New Mexico

Divider Title: _____

AMERICORPS

3RD QUARTER REPORT

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site Name: Aztec, NM
State: New Mexico
Site Id #: 94ADDFDC047L31G
Your Name: F. Leon Martinez
Your Position: RC&D Coordinator
Telephone Number: 505-761-4686
Fax Number: 505-761-4624
Date Report Completed: July 5, 1995
Reporting Period: 10-1-94 thru 6-30-95
Program Start-up date: November 28, 1994

Member Information

Number of Members authorized for your site:	<u>3</u>
Rural Development Corps Members	<u>3</u>
Number of Members enrolled at end of Quarter	<u>3</u>
Rural Development Corps Members	<u>3</u>
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	<u>3</u>
Rural Development Corps Members	<u>3</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for Previous Quarter:	
Rural Development Corps Members	<u>1639</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter	
Rural Development Corps Members	<u>1807</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:	
Rural Development Corps Members	<u>3446</u>

PART-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

THERE ARE NO PART-TIME MEMBERS AT THIS SITE

VOLUNTEER ASSESSMENT

NONE

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THIS QUARTER

Staff changes made this quarter:

NONE

Program Structural changes made this quarter:

NONE

Number of Members who have left Nation Service
this quarter

0

Total

0

Number of Members who have gained employment thru their
Americorps Service.

0

MEMBER ASSESSMENT

as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITION: 3 TOTAL EMPLOYED: 3

TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED 3

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 GENDER

Number of Males

1

Number of Females

2

TOTAL

3

BOX 2 - RACE

Number of Caucasians

2

Number of Hispanics

1

TOTAL

3

BOX 3 - EDUCATION

Number with college degree

2

Number with Graduate degree

1

Total

3

BOX 4 - OTHER

Number receiving Health Insurance form NRCS

3

Media Coverage

AMERICORPS ON THE NEWS:

Staff report

Farmington Daily Times, December 14, 1994

Interview

Farmington Daily Times, December 23, 1994

Interview

KBJE-San Juan College, December 23, 1994

Member at town hall meeting-no mention of AmeriCorps on KQBF channel TV 12

Article on town hall meeting with Rep. Richardson
Farmington Daily Times, January 29, 1995

Astec Theater-DAV/AmeriCorps effort

KQAT TV 7, Albuquerque. February 1, 1995 5pm show

Durango Herald

Wed, Feb 6, 1995

The Four Corners Weekly

Feb 18-26, 1995-Vol 3, No.24

The Four Corners Business Journal

March 1995, Vol 3, Issue 3

AmeriCorps in San Juan Co.-The Astec Local News

March 1995, Vol 3, No.3

The Four Corners weekly

March 16, 1995-newsletter about Job Fair for youth-AmeriCorps
as supporter and organizer

The Daily Times

Monday, March 13, 1995-News release about Job Fair-

The Daily Times

Sunday, March 19, 1995-news release about Job Fair-

Press releases:

PSA's for a RECD program, to recruit employers to summer
Job Fair for youth, to invite local youth to participate in
the summer Job Fair for youth.

MEDIA ASSESSMENT

1. NATIONAL IDENTITY ACTIVITIES THIS QUARTER

2. MEDIA COVERAGE

SEE ATTACHED

3. OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

The AmeriCorps members received over time pay when it was supposed to be regular pay. This was not any fault of the members. This problem occurred not only in New Mexico but in AZ and UT.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED?

We hope the problem has been resolved but we will find out on the next pay checks for the members.

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

TRAINING ASSESSMENT

PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

Please specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training or other technical assistance can be provided by USDA, the Corporation for National and Community Service, or other sources to improve you project.

Objectives:

Progress towards meeting is community service objective

Assisted with Business Extension and Retention Project
Assisted in writing CDBG grant
Set up job fair to try to prevent gang membership
Helped with the Communities in Economic Transition Conference
Designed flyers and posters and wrote news releases for a farmers market
Help to expand and educate the public with the Four Corners recycling efforts
Assisted with Work Ethics/School to Work project to establish a work ethics curriculum at San Juan College
Wrote several funding proposals to foundations for project funding

PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Member Development: Progress made in boosting the personal development of members.

Provided computer training
Members have been given more responsibility in projects
Allowed them to find projects and see them to completion
Members have established personal contact networks

2. Community Building: Progress made in meeting your community service objectives.

National Day of Service - at a ranch dedicated to help disadvantaged youth. Assisted with clean-up, painting, laying irrigation system, and educating public about the ranch

Researched and developed a volunteer opportunities program for Halvers House, a home for troubled teenagers

3. Other Accomplishments:

4. Unique Successes or "Great Stories":

BUDGET INFORMATION

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps (Local Level Only)	
Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	<u>15%</u>
Approximate dollar amount	<u>\$2000.00</u>
Travel cost for members & Managers	<u>\$607.87</u>
Training costs	<u>0</u>
Supplies	<u>200.00</u>
Uniform costs	<u>0</u>
Program costs	<u>??</u>

Partner dollars spent on AmeriCorps	<u> </u>
Supplies	<u> </u>
Travel	<u> </u>
Training	<u> </u>
Program Costs	<u> </u>
Other	<u> </u>

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New York

Divider Title: _____



AMERICORPS
3rd **QUARTER REPORT**

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site name: East Aurora

State: New York

Site ID #: 94ADFDC010

Your Name: John Whitney

Your Position: District Conservationist

Telephone number: (716) 652-8480

Fax number: (716) 652-8506 or 652-6007

e-mail address
(if available) nrcsea@localnet.com

Date report completed 7/7/95

Reporting Period: 3/19/95 - 6/24/95

Program Start-up date: 9/11/94



VOLUNTEER ASSESSMENT

Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteers

Total Number of non-AmeriCorps Volunteers:
involved in AmeriCorps service activities in
this quarter

7

Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities:
completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers
in this quarter.

350



MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 5 TOTAL EMPLOYED: 5

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED

TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED

5

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER

Number of Males

2

Number of Females

3

TOTAL

5

Box 2 - RACE

Number of Caucasians

4

Number of African Americans

Number of Native Americans

Number of Hispanics

1

Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander

Other

5

TOTAL

Box 3 - EDUCATION

Number w/out High School Diploma or GED

Number with High School or GED

Number with some college

Number with college degree

5

Number with Graduate degree

Number w/Professional or Trade School

TOTAL

5

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER

Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS

5

Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps

Number of children

Number w/Disabilities



PROJECT DIRECTOR COSTS (One per State - Above site level costs only)
Do NOT include any costs already captured by the Project Manager.

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps	(previously included)
Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	_____
Approximate dollar amount	_____
Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps	_____
Travel costs for Members & Managers	_____
Training costs	_____
Supplies	_____
Uniform costs	_____
Program Costs	_____
(Please explain what these costs were.)	

Non-Federal Funds Spent
(Explain)

Objectives Section

Objective: (state objective)

To use Geographic Information System (GIS) technologies to develop, acquire, and distribute high quality natural resource, demographic, and infrastructure data to support local community planning, resource protection, and growth management efforts.

Progress towards meeting this community service objective

- 1). During the third quarter, AmeriCorps members increased the pace of distribution of data acquired from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the National Heritage Registry and others to support local community planning and resource protection work. Data layers include NYS DEC *Freshwater Wetlands*, NYS DEC *Ecozones*, USDA NRCS 11 digit hydrologic unit (watershed) boundaries, NYS Real Property Services *School Districts*, and a number of other layers. Digitizing of tax map parcels has been completed for two additional townships (total of 7 to date) 80 sq. miles (total, approx. 280). Members developed new procedures for digitizing the watershed boundary maps in order to improve the quality and accuracy of the computerized data.
- 2). Efforts are now well underway towards the goal of creating a series of county-wide special district maps including Agricultural Districts, Water Districts, Sewer Districts, Fire Protection Districts, School Districts, etc. to assist communities in resource protection and planning projects. Members work with the Western New York Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation has resulting in the mapping of approximate 150 mature surviving trees in Western New York (members are using GPS technologies to facilitate data collection). "Old growth forest" areas in Western New York are being mapped in partnership with a team of local researchers. Members digitized forest inventory data for the Seneca Nation of Indians in cooperation with SNI staff, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. Forest Service to support improved management of the Nation's currently over-harvested forest resources.
- 3). National Wetland Inventory and NYS DEC wetland maps and/or electronic data were distributed to eight communities and agencies in the project area. Distribution of tax parcel map data is also being completed and AmeriCorps members are participating in discussions of how the data will be maintained in the future. Fifteen complex GIS maps and associated data for the Seneca Nation of Indians' Forest Management Plan were prepared. Seneca Nation staff has requested AmeriCorps members to use our global positioning satellite unit to map the locations of bald eagle nesting sites on the reservations and to record the locations of approximate 150 abandoned natural gas wells that need to be mapped and evaluated prior to closure of the wells.
- 4.) Third quarter publicity regarding data and assistance available through AmeriCorps has resulted in distribution of data to a total of 15 Erie County communities and agencies in support of both specific project analysis and general community planning. Three local communities have requested AmeriCorps member to work on a regular basis in their facilities to assist their staff in implementing GIS. SEE SAMPLE CORRESPONDENCE AND DATA REQUESTS ATTACHED.

(complete this sheet for each objective)

Objectives Section

Objective: (state objective)

To assist NRCS and Soil and Water Conservation District staff with planning and application of soil and water conservation measures.

Progress towards meeting this community service objective

AmeriCorps members have helped with planning, survey and design of a total of three wetland restoration projects, two additional runoff management projects (total four), two additional manure management projects (total four), three planned grazing systems, and county-wide dry hydrant installation planning. Members have also helped with the evaluation, planning, and design of 20 ponds for rural fire protection, recreation, and wildlife habitat enhancement.

Planning efforts are underway for two (2) major conservation treatment projects for the next AmeriCorps class: a.) a roadbank revegetation demonstration project, and b.) a riparian corridor protection and enhancement project.

AmeriCorps members and Earth Team volunteers assisted with the annual monitoring of 58 miles of streambank stabilization work throughout the Buffalo Creek Watershed. Work was completed in record time and members are developing maps to help the project sponsors target their repair activities. AmeriCorps members and Earth Team volunteers are helping to complete necessary underground utility notifications for projects underway through the field office. They are also helping to complete data requests for cultural resource sensitivity in the area of planned project activity in order to minimize the potential for disturbance of significant archeological resources.

(complete this sheet for each objective)

PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Member Development: Progress made in boosting the personal development of members.

In addition to regular on-the-job training focussed on GIS, cartography, and community planning and resource management, members completed NRCS cultural resource training modules 1-7 and introduction to ecological principles 1. Members, volunteers, and staff also participated in two (2), four hour "outward bound" type team building, group problem solving, and self-esteem development activities at a ropes and high wire course maintained by the Gow School, a local boarding school for boys with dyslexia and other learning disabilities.

2. Community Building: Progress made in meeting your community service objectives.

1. AmeriCorps members assisted in installing Arc/Info GIS software at the SUNY College at Buffalo (Buff. State) in order to establish an instructional laboratory which will also be available as another GIS data development worksite during the next AmeriCorps term. Both students and faculty will receive training and project support through AmeriCorps members.
2. Members recruited 5 new Earth Team volunteers to assist with GIS and conservation projects and provided training and support to volunteers.
3. A set of 15 resource maps were prepared to support the forest management planning needs of the Seneca Nation of Indians in a cooperative project with SNI staff and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
4. A GIS demonstration was held in the Council Chambers of the SNI's William Seneca Administrative Chamber to demonstrate how GIS can benefit planning and management of Seneca resources.
5. Members led four workshops on GIS for watershed and resource management at the Great Lakes Student Summit attended by over 250 students and teachers from throughout the Great Lakes Basin in the U.S. and Canada.
6. Members prepared and staffed a display for the Buffalo Heritage Festival and 4 other community events including "Vision for Tomorrow" and a community watershed forum.
7. Maps and/or electronic data were prepared and transmitted to five local communities and agencies to improve their local resource management data and map files in order to enhance local resource protection and planning.

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

We could have been even more efficient in developing and distributing GIS data with additional partner worksites and with a more efficient and reliable computer in the Field Office

Keeping up with reporting requirements is a major challenge.

Recruiting for next year should have begun two months ago. We still do not have final clearance to begin recruiting.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? Not entirely.

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

- We are still waiting for the new NRCS computer to be installed. At last report, GRASS GIS software was not fully functional for digitizing with our present equipment (our S.O. and specialists and Fort Collins are working on the problem).
- Three additional AmeriCorps/Earth Team worksites have been established with local partners for the next AmeriCorps season
- Receiving report requests directly, instead of through the S.O. has helped to resolve some problems

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

Reporting requirements need to be further streamlined, computerized, and standardized. A brief, monthly narrative might be more efficient and timely than a long, quarterly report. A narrative would also be a part of normal management functions instead of a major additional report.

We already record timekeeping and personnel information for payroll purposes. We should be able to extract appropriate reports from this data instead of having to do locally tallied reports every few months.

We'd save additional time by reporting only changes from original member assessment information.

Correspondence and requests should go directly to project site managers instead of having to go through S.O.s. Even when things work well, we lose precious response time and increase pressures on staff at all levels when requests have to pass through extra hands and across extra desks.



TRAINING ASSESSMENT

PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

Please specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training or other technical assistance can be provided by USDA, the Corporation for National and Community Service, or other sources to improve your project.

AmeriCorps Members

Team building, conflict management, TQM, basic civics, cultural awareness and sensitivity, media relations, business writing, internet & e-mail procedures, introduction to soil and water conservation

GRASS (specific to E.A. site)

Arc/Info

Map design

Project Managements and Directors

AmeriCorps reporting requirements, forms, and project planning juggling



AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

March 31, 1995

Doug Muchoney
Conservation and Resource Center
National Zoological Park
Smithsonian Institution
Front Royal, VA 22630

Dear Mr. Muchoney:

I am writing in response to the article regarding "Free GIS Training, Equipment" in the Winter 1995 edition of *Land Trust Alliance Exchange*.

The goal of the new national AmeriCorps program is to serve local communities. Our AmeriCorps team uses GIS technology to aid area municipalities and agencies in developing more effective land use planning, resource protection, and growth management procedures. Our project partners in GIS activities include the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Erie County Soil and Water Conservation District, and Inteligis Corporation (a non-profit GIS organization). GIS work has also been coordinated with the Seneca Nation of Indians, Western New York Land Conservancy, the American Chestnut Foundation, and the NYS Office of National and Community Service.

The GIS project described in the article would provide an ideal opportunity in the continuing goal to serve with our partners as "GIS Ambassadors" in Western New York.

At your earliest convenience, please send an application and additional information to the above address.

Sincerely,

Lisa Matthies
AmeriCorps

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

March 31, 1995

Peter Wendel
Vision for Tomorrow
300 Main Place Tower
Buffalo, NY 14202-3797

Dear Mr. Wendel,

I have read with great interest various articles and brochures on the community-based objectives of Vision for Tomorrow.

As a member of the AmeriCorps/USDA team, I believe we share your goal of improving the quality of Western New York through a grassroots community effort. The focus of our AmeriCorps program is to provide assistance to local community organizations using Geographic Information System (GIS) technologies to digitize data and create specialized maps.

Data coverages we have in our GIS include wetlands, school districts, political boundaries, waterways, and roads for Erie and Niagara Counties. This data in conjunction with information specific to Vision for Tomorrow can provide useful visual tools for presentations, publicity, and analysis.

Please contact AmeriCorps if we can assist you. We look forward to working towards making the Vision for Tomorrow process a success in Western New York.

Sincerely,

Lisa Matthies
AmeriCorps

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Conservation Service



AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

MEMBERS:
Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

April 5, 1995

Peg Harper
Senior Marketing Representative
Environmental Systems Research Institute
Suite 305
100 Conifer Drive
Danvers, MA 01923

Dear Ms. Harper:

The USDA/NRCS AmeriCorps program in East Aurora, NY is in the process of developing strategies for increasing community awareness of GIS and ARC/INFO applications.

AmeriCorps is a new national program committed to providing service to local communities. We are a five member team working under the direction of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's district conservationist in Erie County, New York. Our unique goal in Western New York is to provide GIS expertise in a cooperative effort with other nonprofit agencies and to assist in the dissemination of environmental data to local communities.

As members of the Western New York ARC/INFO Users Group, we realize many agencies and companies wanting to convert data to GIS may invest in ARC/INFO due to its power and versatility.

Currently, our AmeriCorps worksite does not have an ARC/INFO system. Since the majority of GIS agencies in Erie County use an ARC/INFO platform, the optimal way to provide community service is by using the same system. Due to various financial and administrative limitations, we are unable to acquire software except by donation.

To support our community based, public service goals, we are requesting that ESRI consider donating site licenses for ARC/INFO and ArcView2 to our AmeriCorps worksite. If ESRI is unable to donate the software directly, we would greatly appreciate your providing us with the names of organizations that may offer donations to nonprofit service organizations.

Enclosed is a brochure describing AmeriCorps/Team USDA as well as the East Aurora site's weekly work plan and community building/service objectives for your review and reference.

Thank you for your time and assistance. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Melissa L. Brice
USDA NRCS/AmeriCorps

encl.

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Julio Olimpio, ESRI Regional Office Manager



AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
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John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

April 6, 1995

Deborah Guard
Seneca County SWCD
Academy Square
12 North Park St.
Seneca Falls, NY 13148-1422

Dear Ms. Guard:

Enclosed are the copies of the East Aurora AmeriCorps' project records, project logs, and GRASS 4.0.3 Standard Operating Procedures that you requested. Please note that some of the procedures are specific to our NRCS office system so you may have to make modifications.

The address you requested for Integrity Instruments is as follows:
Integrity Instruments
1900 Rte. 240
West Falls, NY 14170

If you have any questions please contact John Whitney or AmeriCorps at (716) 652-8480.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Gangemi
USDA NRCS/AmeriCorps

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

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Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
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Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

Contact: Lisa Matthies

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release- April 18, 1995

The USDA/AmeriCorps Team based at the East Aurora district office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service has geographic and natural resource data available for Western New York community organizations and agencies at no cost. Through the use of Geographic Information System (GIS) technology, AmeriCorps has created or acquired the following computer data:

- ❖ Wetlands in Erie and Niagara Counties delineated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory
- ❖ Wetlands in Erie and Niagara Counties delineated by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- ❖ A School District map of Erie County that follows parcel lines
- ❖ Tax Parcel boundaries and Real Property Information System parcel labels for the Towns of Wales, land, Sardinia, North Collins, and Collins (so far). Included are fire, water, and sewer districts, political boundaries, and rights-of-way.
- ❖ Roads, waterways, political boundaries in Western New York from the U.S. Census Bureau TIGER files.

All data can be plotted at scales most effective for the user's needs as paper maps or exported by computer to organizations having GIS capabilities.

Using GIS, AmeriCorps members can also create maps displaying more than one of the listed data coverages to customize maps based on the user's needs. For example, a map showing parcel lines overlaid with wetlands has been created of the Town of Wales. This type of map is especially important and effective in resource management and land use planning. Members of the AmeriCorps/USDA program can also provide initial instruction in GIS and are available for demonstrations of GIS technology and its applications in community planning and resource management. Activities are under way to computerize soil maps from the published *Soil Survey of Erie County, New York*. This data should be available for northern Erie County by next fall.

Any agency or community organization interested in more information about AmeriCorps activities or obtaining the available maps at no cost can contact AmeriCorps/USDA at 652-8480.

The five members of the AmeriCorps/USDA Team are Melissa Brice of Clarence, Michael Gangemi of Hamburg, Lisa Matthies of Alden, Jeff Rosier of Arcade, and Betsy Vazquez of Lancaster. Their term with the national service AmeriCorps program ends in July. Recruiting activities will begin soon for the next AmeriCorps class, tentatively scheduled to start in September.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA Office of Communications at (202) 720-5881 (voice) or (202) 720-7808 (TDD).

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity employer.



AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

April 24, 1995

Linda Shaffer
US Fish and Wildlife Service
9720 Executive Center Dr.
Suite 101
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

Dear Ms. Shaffer,

As per our telephone conversation, enclosed is a tape cartridge containing the DLG data coverages for Erie and Niagara Counties USFWS National Wetland Inventory maps. Also included are lists of the files on the tape, the quadrangle names for the counties, the attribute labels, and our version of the coverage metadata.

Several things should be noted about the coverages:

- ❖ Several of the quadrangles are only partially digitized as they contained portions of counties that were not in our project area.
- ❖ The eastern portion of the Tonawanda Creek was digitized as a polygon.
- ❖ The attributes may be incompatible with your labelling scheme. Please refer to the enclosed list of labels for comparison.
- ❖ Quality control was completed by making check plots of each quadrangle and comparing it to the original wetlands map.
- ❖ The patched versions of the counties are also provided.

Final processing of the coverages was performed on GRASS4.0.3. The files were converted to DLG-3 format by the GRASS command **v.export**. This command creates two files for each coverage. The files with the ".att" extension contain the attribute data while the files without the extension contain the digital data.

I hope you find these files useful in that they may eventually be incorporated into your country-wide wetlands database.

As I indicated in our conversation, please send us your quadrangle specific metadata for Erie and Niagara Counties.

We would appreciate it if the tape cartridge was returned or reimbursement was given in the form of a replacement cartridge. If you have any questions, please contact AmeriCorps at (716) 652-8480.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Gangemi
USDA NRCS/AmeriCorps

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
enclosure



MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

April 24, 1995

Robert C. Walter
American Society of Landscape Engineers
Buffalo Section Chair
c/o Town of Amherst Planning Department
5583 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221-5499

Dear Mr. Walter,

AmeriCorps members will attend the Buffalo Heritage Festival at Cathedral Park with the Buffalo Section ASLA. For our display, we will need two chairs and a table (6'x3'). We will bring the display board, display materials, and handouts.

Once again, our exhibit will focus on natural resource preservation and will include topographic, wetland, and soil maps of Erie County, and a series of air photos of Buffalo showing land use changes and urban development from 1938-1990.

Enclosed is a copy of the seedling planting instructions you requested. This flier can be distributed with the tree seedlings.

Please contact me with final arrangements for the festival.

Sincerely,

Lisa Matthies
AmeriCorps

encl.

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Natural Resources
Conservation
Service**
(formerly Soil Conservation Service)

50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, New York 14052-2185
(716) 652-8480
(716) 652-8506 (fax)

Contact: John Whitney

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release - April 25, 1995

Earth Team Makes a Difference in Natural Resource Conservation

The Earth Team volunteer program at the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in East Aurora provides excellent opportunities for members to support their community and help to protect local soil and water resources.

While gaining practical experience in soil and water conservation, volunteers learn about themselves and what issues are most important to them. The Earth Team program is designed to match volunteer's interests with local conservation projects. An atmosphere for personal development and teamwork is encouraged.

In the East Aurora office, the team works with District Conservationist John Whitney, the USDA/Americorptm members, and Erie County Soil and Water Conservation staff on projects like computer mapping and the survey, design, and installation of conservation measures for area farms.

April 23-29 is National Volunteer Week. The NRCS commends Earth Team members Mary Choi, Jennifer Hejaily, Laura Kracker, Tom Wightman, Brian Shroeder, Harold Madsen, and Bob Hurd for their work. "As part of the Earth Team, I am exploring my options for a career path and gaining job skills while benefiting my community with volunteer service," says Jennifer Hejaily. We all get a tremendous sense of satisfaction out of knowing that we are helping to conserve natural resources throughout Erie County.

If you are looking for an opportunity to gain experience in the area of natural resource conservation by volunteering for the Earth Team, please contact the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service) at 652-8480.



MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

April 27, 1995

James B. Jones, P.E.
Project Engineer
Town of Tonawanda
2919 Delaware Avenue
Kenmore, NY 14217

Dear Mr. Jones:

As per your request, enclosed are the 3.5" floppy disks containing the DXF data coverages for both the US Fish & Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Wetland maps in UTM Zone 18 for the Town of Tonawanda. Metadata documentation provided to us by NYS DEC that corresponds to the DEC wetland data and our version of the metadata for the USFWS wetland data are also included. Please refer to the documentation when using the data.

Final processing of the coverages was performed on GRASS4.0.3. The files were converted to a DXF format by the GRASS command **v.export** and transferred to one of two floppy disks using the **tar** command. **Tona_fws.dxf** refers to the USFWS data while **tona_dec.dxf** is the name of the NYS DEC data.

We appreciate your request and hope that the data will be of great use to your town. If you have any questions please feel free to contact our office at (716) 652-8480.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Gangemi
USDA NRCS/AmeriCorps

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

encl.



MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

May 3, 1995

Robert Fakundiny
State Geologist
New York State Museum, State Education Department
3122 Central Education Center
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12230

Dear Mr. Fakundiny,

I am writing on behalf of the five person AmeriCorps national service team based at the Natural Resources Conservation Service in East Aurora, NY. Our main objective is to promote and support the use of Geographic Information Systems in resource management and community planning. Since our service term began in September we have digitized data layers including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory for Erie and Niagara Counties, tax parcels and special districts for five towns in Erie County, and a forest management map series for the Seneca Nation of Indians and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

One data layer we would like to incorporate into the regional GIS database is the Niagara Sheet of the Quarternary Geology of NY. We can digitize this map if it has not already been done. We are also willing to digitize the complete map series of the Quarternary Geology of New York State (if it does not currently exist in digital format) with the understanding that the data and supporting "metadata" would be made publicly available. If the map series is available as digital data we would like information on obtaining a copy.

Our office has one paper map of the Quarternary Geology of New York, Niagara Sheet, dated 1977. If we do digitize this map, we are interested in purchasing an updated version if one exists, or a version with higher cartographic control suitable for digitizing, such as a mylar copy or a series of individual topographic quads.

Please contact me or one of the other AmeriCorps members on the status of the Quarternary Geology of NY map. We look forward to hearing from you soon so we may pursue this project.

Sincerely,

Lisa Matthies
AmeriCorps

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

May 3, 1995

Thank you for your interest in the 1995-96 AmeriCorps/Team USDA Program based at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in East Aurora, NY. AmeriCorps national service is a full time commitment to 'getting things done' in America. Enclosed is information on the national AmeriCorps program as well as a summary of the objectives of our specific AmeriCorps site.

As a present AmeriCorps member with the East Aurora NRCS Office, I can tell you the opportunity to serve local community organizations, agencies, and municipalities is rewarding as well as challenging. Our time is spent working with community leaders in project coordination and development, creating data layers using GIS technology, and helping implement soil and water conservation practices.

The 1995-96 service term will begin in September 1995. We are looking for five (5) diverse individuals with specialized skills in computer science and Geographic Information Systems technology, a broad educational background including environmental and natural sciences, and a dedication to community service. Strong written and verbal communication skills are also helpful. Due to the technical nature of the program, applicants should have at least some college education.

Your name and address have been added to our AmeriCorps mailing list. As soon as we receive applications for the 1995-96 service term from Washington, D.C., we will send one to you. If you haven't received an application by the end of May, please call our office.

Once again, thank you for your interest in AmeriCorps national service with the East Aurora NRCS!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Lisa Matthies'.

Lisa Matthies
AmeriCorps

John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

May 18, 1995

Conrad Holton
148 North Lake Avenue
Troy, NY 12180

Dear Mr. Holton,

Enclosed is the landuse map of the Town of Sardinia that you requested. If you feel that the map is an appropriate illustration for your article, we would be very pleased if it was published. Also enclosed is the background information on our AmeriCorps Program you requested. If further information is needed, please contact AmeriCorps at the above address.

If the landuse map is used in your article, the caption should have the following information:

Landuse map of the Town of Sardinia, Erie County, NY
Prepared by the USDA NRCS/AmeriCorps in cooperation with Inteligis Corporation.
Completed 5/17/95 using Arc/Info 7.0.2
Data Source: Erie County Tax Maps prepared by the Dept. of Finance, Division of Real Property.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Michael A. Gangemi'.

Michael A. Gangemi
USDA NRCS/AmeriCorps



AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

MEMBERS:
Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

May 23, 1995

Steve Goldstein
Senior Sales Representative
1 Global View
Troy, New York 12180

Dear Mr. Goldstein:

The AmeriCorps program in East Aurora, NY in partnership with the Erie County Soil and Water Conservation District, is actively providing assistance to Erie County communities through the application on GIS technologies and the development and distribution of computerized demographic and natural resource data.

AmeriCorps is a new national program committed to providing service to local communities. Our five member working under the direction of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's district conservationist in County, New York. Our unique goal in Western New York is to provide GIS expertise in a cooperative effort with other nonprofit organizations and government agencies and to assist in the dissemination of environmental data to local communities.

After attending a recent MapInfo desktop mapping seminar, we realized many agencies and companies planning to convert data to GIS may invest in MapInfo due to its power, versatility and enhanced ability to relate data spatially.

Currently, our AmeriCorps worksite does not have a MapInfo system. Since some of the GIS agencies in Erie County use a MapInfo platform, the optimal way to provide community service is by using the same system. Due to various financial and administrative limitations, we are unable to acquire software except by donation.

To support our community based, public service goals, we are requesting that MapInfo consider donating site licenses for Windows MapInfo and MapInfo Arclink version 3.0 to our AmeriCorps worksite. Also New York State's streetinfo, GDT five digit zip code boundaries and Erie County's census tract boundaries map series would facilitate planning for natural resources in the community. If MapInfo is unable to donate the software directly, we would greatly appreciate your providing us with the names of organizations that may offer donations to nonprofit service organizations.

Enclosed is a brochure describing AmeriCorps/Team USDA as well as the East Aurora site's weekly work plan, community building/service objectives, and a brief project list for your review and reference. Thank you for your time and assistance. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Melissa L. Brice
AmeriCorps

encl.

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez
June 2, 1995

Jerry Hiller
Village Administrator
Village of East Aurora
571 Main St.
East Aurora, NY 14052

Dear Mr. Hiller,

I am writing in response to the article concerning radon awareness in an early April edition of the *East Aurora Bee*. As an AmeriCorps member based at the East Aurora office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, I believe we have resources available that can support the Village's radon awareness grant.

The goal of our AmeriCorps program is to actively assist in local community planning and resource protection through the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). With GIS, we can create custom maps based on the geographic data we create and/or have stored on the computer. For example, we can create a map of the Village of East Aurora displaying areas with a potential of high radon levels, if radon data is available. This type of map would be ideal for public displays and presentations.

Also available through our office are soil maps, soil type descriptions, and air photos of the Village which can aid in educating village residents about radon and the local environment.

If you are interested in these resources, or know additional ways AmeriCorps can help make the Village's radon awareness project a success, please contact me at 652-8480.

Sincerely,

Lisa Matthies
AmeriCorps

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

June 14, 1995

Deborah Galloway
Town Clerk
Wales Community Center
12345 Big Tree Rd
Wales, NY 14169

Dear Ms. Galloway:

The East Aurora AmeriCorps team is in the process of expanding the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's map reference files to include local towns and villages throughout Erie County in order to enhance our ability to provide effective and efficient assistance to Erie County communities.

AmeriCorps is a new program committed to providing service to local communities. We are a five member team working under the direction of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's district conservationist John Whitney in East Aurora, New York. One of the service objectives of our AmeriCorps team is to promote the use of Geographic Information Systems (computer maps) by producing map layers beneficial to the community.

Additionally, if we can be of assistance in updating your community's map resources, please contact our office at 652-8480. Some examples of electronic or paper maps available include:

- ❖ Wetlands in Erie and Niagara Counties mapped by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory
- ❖ Wetlands in Erie and Niagara Counties mapped by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- ❖ School districts in Erie County following parcel lines
- ❖ Tax Parcels boundaries and Real Property Information System parcel labels for the Towns of Collins, Holland, North Collins, Sardinia and Wales (so far). The tax parcels data includes Real Property Information System labels, fire, sewer, and water districts; rights-of-way and political boundaries.
- ❖ Roads, waterways, political boundaries in Western New York from the U.S. Census Bureau TIGER files

One valuable service we can offer is to provide a set of local maps, all at the same scale. Additional data layers are being developed and assembled regularly. We will keep you posted.

se send us a copy of your town or village map at your earliest convenience. Thank you
your time.

Sincerely,

Melissa L. Brice
USDA/NRCS AmeriCorps

cc: John Whitney, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

From: Jeff Rosier
AmeriCorps

**USDA Natural Resources
Conservation Service
&
Erie County Soil and Water
Conservation District**

Questions? Call (716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506

50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, New York 14052-2185

To: Steve Parkanski

Company:

Fax 645-2329 Phone

Address:

Date: 7/3/95

Time: 10:15 AM

Pages: (including this one)

Message:

Dear Steve,

I am writing in regard to the deer - vehicle collision project in the Town of Amherst. AmeriCorps would be glad to assist with the project by providing the GPS unit and staff. The 19th and 20th of July would work well for us. Please contact us with the times and meeting place, etc. We are looking forward to working with you.

Sincerely,


Jeff Rosier

AmeriCorps

You Are Invited To
An
AmeriCorps
GIS Community Service
Open House

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory
Erie County, New York**

Coverage: erie.fwswet

Description: This coverage displays wetlands in Erie County, NY, delineated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Completion Date: Original paper and mylar maps were digitized September 1994 to February 1995

Creator: 1994-95 AmeriCorps/USDA Team, East Aurora, NY

Type of Coverage: GRASS vector file with polygons and lines; and separate dig_cats attribute file

Source of Information: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory paper and mylar quadrangles for Erie County.

Note: The Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory series was prepared by stereoscopic analysis of high altitude aerial photographs taken in 1978, 1981, and 1982. Wetlands were identified in accordance with *Classification of Wetlands and Deep-Water Habitats of the United States* (An Operational Draft), Cowardin, et al, 1977.

Projection and Map Units: Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) in meters

Method of Preparation: Manual digitizing using GRASS4.0.3 of each quadrangle. Wetland labels on the paper and mylar maps were used to label the digital wetland data. Checkplots of each quadrangle were created for arc and label quality control. Checked digital quadrangles were joined to create one complete Erie County wetland coverage.

Usage Notes: 1. Wetland label codes correspond to the Wetland Legend located on National Wetland Inventory paper maps. This legend must be used in conjunction with the electronic data for specific wetland descriptions.
2. Federal, State, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that in this inventory. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, State, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may effect such activities.

Location: GRASS4.0.3 in usr3/erie/PERMANENT

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory
*Niagara County, New York***

Coverage: niagara.fws wet

Description: This coverage displays wetlands in Niagara County, NY, delineated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Completion Date: Original paper and mylar maps were digitized February 1995 to April, 1995

Creator: 1994-95 AmeriCorps/USDA Team, East Aurora, NY

Type of Coverage: GRASS vector file with polygons and lines; and separate dig_cats attribute file

Source of Information: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory paper and mylar quadrangles for Niagara County.

Note: The Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory series was prepared by stereoscopic analysis of high altitude aerial photographs taken in 1978, 1981, and 1982. Wetlands were identified in accordance with *Classification of Wetlands and Deep-Water Habitats of the United States* (An Operational Draft), Cowardin, et al, 1977.

Projection and Map Units: Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) in meters

Method of Preparation: Manual digitizing using GRASS4.0.3 of each quadrangle. Wetland labels on the paper and mylar maps were used to label the digital wetland data. Checkplots of each quadrangle were created for arc and label quality control. Checked digital quadrangles were joined to create one complete Niagara County wetland coverage.

Usage Notes: 1. Wetland label codes correspond to the Wetland Legend located on National Wetland Inventory paper maps. This legend must be used in conjunction with the electronic data for specific wetland descriptions.
2. Federal, State, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that in this inventory. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, State, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may effect such activities.

Location: GRASS4.0.3 in usr3/erie/PERMANENT



MEMBERS:

Melissa L. Brice
Michael A. Gangemi
Lisa A. Matthies
Jeffrey R. Rosier
Betsy D. Vazquez

AMERICORPS™/USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-8480
Fax (716) 652-8506



John R. Whitney
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

GIS SERVICES PROVIDED BY AMERICORPS

❖ GIS DATA

All data can be plotted at scales and sizes most effective to the user's needs as paper maps or exported by computer to organizations with GIS capabilities:

Wetlands in Erie and Niagara Counties delineated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory

Wetlands in Erie and Niagara Counties delineated by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

School districts in Erie County following parcel lines

Tax parcels boundaries and Real Property Information System parcel labels for the Towns of Wales, Holland, Sardinia, North Collins, and Collins (so far). Included are fire, water, and sewer districts, political boundaries, and rights-of-way

Roads, waterways, political boundaries in Western New York from the U.S. Census Bureau TIGER files

❖ DIGITIZING

AmeriCorps members have access to digitizing boards and GIS software (GRASS, ARC/INFO, PC ARC/INFO).

Geographically-referenced information not available in GIS format- especially natural resource data- will be digitized upon request, based on priorities at the time.

❖ DATA TRANSFER

Exporting and importing GIS data as *dlg* and *dxg* files
Exporting data to UNIX and DOS systems

❖ INITIAL INSTRUCTION IN:

ARC/INFO including Arcedit, Arcplot, Arctools, AMLs
PC ARC/INFO, ARC/VIEW
GRASS including MAPGEN and LTPlus

For more information, please contact our office.

AmeriCorps/USDA DATA REQUEST LOG

DATE: ____/____/____

ORGANIZATION: _____

CONTACT NAME(S): _____

PHONE #: _____

FAX #: _____

MODEM #: _____

E-MAIL #: _____

USER'S GIS OR GRAPHICS SOFTWARE SYSTEM:

FILE FORMAT:

- ☐ ARCINFO
- ☐ MAPINFO
- ☐ AUTOCAD
- ☐ GRASS
- ☐ OTHER _____

- ☐ FIG
- ☐ DXF
- ☐ GRASS
- ☐ OTHER _____

DATA COVERAGES (INCLUDE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS):

- ☐ USF&WS NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY
- ☐ NYSDEC WETLANDS
- ☐ SCHOOL DISTRICTS
- ☐ TAX PARCELS
- ☐ USCB TIGER FILES: ROAD OR POLITICAL BOUNDARIES
- ☐ OTHER _____

MEDIA:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| ☐ PAPER | ☐ 3 1/2" OR 5 1/4" HD DISKETTE |
| ☐ MYLAR | ☐ 1/4" TAPE CARTRIDGE |
| | ☐ OTHER TAPE CARTRIDGE _____ |

MAP SIZE(S): _____

QUANTITY: _____

MAP SCALE(S): _____

INTENDED USE:

- ☐ COMMUNITY RECORDS MANAGEMENT
- ☐ DEMONSTRATIONS/PRESENTATIONS
- ☐ INVENTORY & EVALUATION (i.e., SITE REVIEWS, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT)
- ☐ NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
- ☐ OTHER _____

DUE DATE: ____/____/____

DATE DELIVERED: ____/____/____

ASSISTED BY: _____

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

North Dakota

Divider Title: _____



AMERICORPS
THIRD QUARTER REPORT

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site name:	Valley City, ND	
State:	North Dakota	
Site ID #	94ADFDC047	
Your Name:	Jeff Printz	Richard Bentaas
Your Position:	Program Manager	Program Director
Telephone number:	(701) 252-1460	(701) 250-4761
Fax number:	(701) 252-9068	(701) 250-4420
e-mail address (if available)	nd600a!rlb	
Date report completed	6-30-95	
Reporting Period:	April 1 - June 30	
Program Start-up date:	September 15, 1994	



MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:	
Environmental Corps Members:	
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>5</u>
Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	<u>4</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>-</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>4</u>
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	<u>4</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>-</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>4</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	<u>1780</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>0</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>1780</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	<u>2136</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>0</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>2136</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:	<u>7046</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>0</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>7046</u>

**PART-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION**

Number of Members authorized:	<u>None</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u> </u>
 Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	<u>None</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u> </u>
 Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	<u>None</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u> </u>
 Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	<u>N/A</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u> </u>
 Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	<u>N/A</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u> </u>
 Total Hours of Direct Service to date:	<u>N/A</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u> </u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u> </u>



VOLUNTEER ASSESSMENT

Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteers

Total Number of non-AmeriCorps Volunteers: 0
involved in AmeriCorps service activities in
this quarter

Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities: 0
completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers
in this quarter.



SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THIS QUARTER

1. Staff changes made this quarter:

None

2. Program structural changes made this quarter:

None

Number of Members who have left National Service
this quarter.0

Total-to-date

1Number of Members who have gained employment thru their
AmeriCorps Service0

MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 5 **TOTAL EMPLOYED:** 4

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	<u>0</u>
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	<u>5</u>

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males	<u>2</u>
Number of Females	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	<u>4</u>

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	<u>3</u>
Number of African Americans	<u>1</u>
Number of Native Americans	<u>1</u>
Number of Hispanics	<u>1</u>
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	<u>1</u>
Other	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	<u>4</u>

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	<u>1</u>
Number with High School or GED	<u>3</u>
Number with some college	<u>1</u>
Number with college degree	<u>1</u>
Number with Graduate degree	<u>1</u>
Number w/Professional or Trade School	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	<u>4</u>

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER	
Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	<u>3</u>
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	<u>1</u>
Number of children	<u>1</u>
Number w/Disabilities	<u>0</u>

NORTH DAKOTA



BUDGET INFORMATION

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps (Local Level Only)
Project Manager completes this section

Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	<u>20%</u>
Approximate dollar amount	<u>\$8,300.00</u>
Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps	<u>\$1,100.00</u>
Travel costs for Members & Managers	<u>\$1,803.00</u>
Training costs	<u>\$17,655.00</u>
Supplies	<u>\$800.00</u>
Uniform costs	<u>\$240.00</u>
Program Costs (Please explain what these costs were.)	<u>---</u>

Partner dollars spent on AmeriCorps

Supplies	<u>0</u>
Travel	<u>0</u>
Training	<u>0</u>
Program Costs	<u>0</u>
Other	<u>0</u>



NORTH DAKOTA

PROJECT DIRECTOR COSTS (One per State - Above site level costs only)
Do NOT include any costs already captured by the Project Manager.

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps	
Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	10%
Approximate dollar amount	<u>\$5,515.00</u>
Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps	<u>\$3,266.00</u>
Travel costs for Members & Managers	<u>\$131.00</u>
Training costs	<u>--</u>
Supplies	<u>--</u>
Uniform costs	<u>--</u>
Program Costs	<u>--</u>
(Please explain what these costs were.)	

Non-Federal Funds Spent
(Explain)

--

NORTH DAKOTA
OBJECTIVES SECTION

OBJECTIVE 1

Objective: Objective #1 was to complete 40 tracts per Member of wetland scope and effect targeted toward areas with the greatest potential to reduce downstream flooding.

Field or office scope and effect determinations have been completed on 231 tracts by the four AmeriCorps Members to date. This exceeds the original target of 200 tracts by 15 percent.

NORTH DAKOTA
OBJECTIVES SECTION

OBJECTIVE 2

Objective: Objective #2 was to coordinate 50 public meetings emphasizing the topic of sealing abandon wells.

The AmeriCorps Members participated in numerous well sealing promotions and demonstrations. However, it was determined that the existing interest being exhibited by the public in well sealing was already at a level that was beyond the ability of the technical assistance available. Therefore, it was decided to cancel the planned public informational meetings.

To offset the cancellation of this objective, the AmeriCorps Members concentrated on various Signature Projects both as a group and singly. These projects are detailed on the enclosed Signature Projects Plan of Work.

NORTH DAKOTA

OBJECTIVES SECTION

OBJECTIVE 3

Objective: Objective #3 was to coordinate a minimum of 50 public informational meetings centering on the wetland certification process.

Early in 1995, Secretary of Agriculture Glickman established the policy that no new wetland certifications would be completed unless requested by the producer. This essentially prevented the completion of this objective.

As with objective #2, additional signature projects dealing with flood related concerns were completed as a substitute for objective #3.

NORTH DAKOTA

PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Member Development:

As of the third quarter, a total of 1177 hours of training has been provided to the remaining four AmeriCorps members. Primarily, this training was of a technical nature which expanded the Members abilities to interpret and assimilate new material.

In addition to the formal training, the AmeriCorps meetings allowed the Members to interact with each other as well as individuals from various levels within NRCS, state and local government. This interaction greatly increased the individual Members' communication skills and their abilities to cooperate with people representing various view points and goals.

Since the initial orientation in September of 1994, I have witnessed a marked increase in the confidence level of each Member and the communication skills of a couple of the Members. These skills will greatly enhance each Members effectiveness as they continue their education.

2. Community Building: As indicated previously, due to the change in agency policy, not all of our original objectives were attainable. Therefor, the AmeriCorps Members turned their attention and energies to completing various signature projects which emphasized flood recovery and/or prevention.

Enclosed (Enclosure #1) is a detailed plan of work outlining the specific accomplishments. To briefly summarize, the AmeriCorps Members completed the following projects.

1. Aneta City Park Clean-up
2. Harwood Trail Court Clean-up
3. Devils Lake Flood Hazard Survey
4. Devils Lake Watershed Delineation
5. McVille Dam Bank Stabilization
6. Silver Lake Watershed Inventory

In addition to these flood related projects, the Members worked on additional projects with community benefit. These included:

1. Grand Forks American Elm Survey
2. North Dakota Winter Show
3. Richland County Living Snow Fence

NORTH DAKOTA

3. Other Accomplishments:

The other accomplishments of the AmeriCorps Members in North Dakota are summarized in enclosure #1, *North Dakota AmeriCorps Signature Projects 1995 Plan of Work*, dated June 30, 1995. This plan of work provides detailed information regarding each of the signature projects.

4. Unique Successes or "Great Stories":

Of the nine signature projects completed by the AmeriCorps Members in 1995, one especially stands out as an example of the cooperative effort between AmeriCorps, NRCS Field Offices, state and local governmental agencies, providing community assistance in a time of need.

The Devils Lake Flood Hazard Survey provided an opportunity for the AmeriCorps Members to have an immediate impact on local residents of Devils Lake. As a result of the record high water levels in Devils Lake, many homes were, and are still threatened by flooding. The AmeriCorps Members, in conjunction with personnel from Ramsey County Emergency Management, State Water Commission and local NRCS field office, completed a flood hazard survey of the most threatened homes in the immediate flood prone area. This survey information was used by Ramsey County Emergency Management to develop contingency plans for constructing flood prevention dikes to protect the most threatened structures. It also allowed the Emergency Manager to prioritize dike construction thereby ensuring that the most threatened homes received immediate attention.

NORTH DAKOTA

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Working relationships with staff from within NRCS regarding the AmeriCorps Program have been excellent. Everyone involved in the program have been extremely helpful and very prompt at getting answers and providing assistance. Paula Jones and Dee DiFiore have both been extremely helpful throughout this first, somewhat difficult year.

However, it has been our experience, and the experience of several of our Members, that just the opposite is true when dealing with the staff at the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). We have had a great deal of difficulty obtaining prompt responses to answers regarding uniforms, forbearance on school loans, and child care. In one instance, it took three weeks to receive a call back from the Corporation regarding a question about the status of the uniform sweatshirts. Dealing with the CNCS has proven to be probably the most frustrating portion of the entire program.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED?

We have basically had to work around the situations and create our own solutions to the problems. In the instance of child care, the agency provided a Member with the funds needed to pay for child care until the problem with CNCS could be resolved. The Member has since reimbursed these funds to the agency.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION?

Somebody in a leadership role at the CNCS needs to communicate to the staff at the Corporation that their role is to assist the agencies and Members.

North Dakota AmeriCorps
Completed Signature Projects
June 30, 1995

1. Aneta Community Park Clean-up
Aneta, ND

Contact persons: Joni Hamilton, AmeriCorps Member

Participants: Joni Hamilton
Jack Dahl
Craig Herman
Jessica Krumwiede
Aaron Aarestad

Dates: Completed in November of 1994

Project Objective: A number of American Elm trees in the Aneta Community Park had died from Dutch Elm disease. These trees were in various stages of decay. Falling branches were considered a threat to health and property. The branches which had already fallen were making the park area unattractive and unusable. The trees needed to be cut down and hauled away. However, the population of Aneta consists primarily of elderly people unable to do the heavy lifting which this park clean-up required.

Project status: Project was completed as planned in November of 1994. News article was prepared by Joni Hamilton and Earl Erickson and was published in the Feb. 9th, 1995 issue of the Aneta Star newspaper. (copy attached)

2. Harwood Trail Court Clean-up
Harwood, ND

Contact persons: Joni Hamilton, AmeriCorps Member
Earl Erickson, DC, NRCS

Participants: Joni Hamilton
Jack Dahl
Jessica Krumwiede
Craig Herman
Aaron Aarestad (assisted fall of 1994)

Dates: Initial clean-up completed Nov. of 1994
Final clean-up scheduled for June 26 - 30, 1995

Project Objective: Harwood Trailer Court was severely impacted by the flooding which occurred during the summer months of 1993. In 1994, the trailer court was purchased by the Lake Agassiz Regional Council, and the residents relocated to a less flood prone area. In the fall of 1994, the Americorps members assisted the Lake Agassiz Regional Council by making the remaining trailer houses accessible to facilitate disposal.

In the spring of 1995, the Americorps Members will return to the site to complete clean-up (if needed) following removal of the trailer houses.

Project status: Initial phase completed. Additional clean-up completed by Members on June 26-30 and July 5 - 7.

3. Devils Lake Flood Hazard Survey Devils Lake, ND

Contact persons: Jessica Krumwiede, AmeriCorps Member
Darryl Turcotte, SC, NRCS
Tim Heisler, Coordinator - Ramsey Co.
Emergency Management

Participants: Jessica Krumwiede
Jack Dahl
Craig Herman
Joni Hamilton

Dates: Completed January 23 - 27, 1995

Project objectives: Devils Lake water levels are presently at near historically record high levels. High water levels are, or will be, threatening homes and outlying buildings. The information gathered during this survey will help in planning the flood relief measures to benefit the people along Devils Lake.

The survey will involve recording elevations of homes (first floor and ground level), identify elevations of out buildings, wells and sewers, identify homes affected at various elevations, assist Emergency Management Coordinator in dispersing the information to the affected individuals and assist with public information campaign related to potential flooding of Devils Lake in 1995.

Project status: Project was completed January 23 - 27, 1995. News article appeared in Devils Lake paper the following week. (copy attached)

Additional survey work was completed by the State Water Commission with assistance from three AmeriCorps Members on May 10 & 11, 1995.

**4. Devils Lake Watershed Delineation
Devils Lake, ND**

Contact person: Jessica Krumwiede, AmeriCorps Member
Darryl Turcotte, SC, NRCS

Participants: Jessica Krumwiede

Dates: February 1 - April 30 1995

Project Objective: Delineate small watershed areas on topographic maps for use in development of small watershed treatment projects within the Devils Lake watershed. Overall objective is to reduce or slow down runoff from surrounding watersheds in order to lower water levels in Devils Lake thereby reducing overall flood damages.

Project Status: Watershed delineation was completed on 80% of the watershed (30 out of 37 maps completed).

**5. American Elm Survey
Grand Forks County**

Contact Person: Joni Hamilton, AmeriCorps Member
Rich Axvig, DC, NRCS

Participants: Joni Hamilton

Dates: February 1 - April 30 1995

Project Objective: The project is to record and map the remaining American Elms in neighborhoods that have experienced high losses due to Dutch Elm disease infections in the past few years. The surveyor will methodically canvass each private and public parcel to record remaining healthy elms. The addresses will then be recorded in a computerized file.

Project Status: Completed

NORTH DAKOTA

6. North Dakota Winter Show
Valley City, ND

Contact person: Craig Herman, AmeriCorps Member
Carol Peterson, DC, NRCS

Participants: Craig Herman
Jack Dahl
Jessica Krumwiede
Joni Hamilton

Dates: March 6 - 9, 1995

Project objectives: Increase public awareness and
support for the AmeriCorps Program.

AmeriCorps Members will assemble the national
AmeriCorps display at the ND Winter Show and
have at least two Members present to interact
with the public. They will answer any
questions the public may have regarding the
program and provide brochures to any
interested individuals.

Project status: Completed as planned.

7. Larimore Dam Arboretum
Larimore, ND

Contact person: Joni Hamilton, AmeriCorps Member
Rich Axvig, DC, NRCS

Participants: Joni Hamilton
Craig Herman
Jack Dahl
Jessica Krumwiede

Dates: April 24 - 28 1995 (2 days; tentative date)

Project Objective: The Larimore Dam is a major
recreational area in Grand Forks County. The
arboretum at the Larimore Dam was established
in the early 1980s and is used heavily by
local schools and other organizations as an
outdoor classroom.

In order to continue to serve as an quality
outdoor classroom, the trees and shrubs
within the arboretum need to be pruned and
the area requires some general maintenance.
Due to limited budget and staff, the local
Water Resources Board is unable to perform
this needed maintenance.

AmeriCorps Members duties would primarily involve the pruning and trimming of the trees and shrubs within the arboretum. Training as to the correct procedures would be provided by local staff.

The timing of this project is designed to coincide with 25th anniversary of Earth Day. Local NRCS staff would coordinate media coverage.

Project status: Project completed April 19 & 20.

8. McVille Dam Bank Stabilization
McVille Dam, Nelson County

Contact persons: Jessica Krumwiede, AmeriCorps Member
Dean Stenseth, DC, NRCS

Participants: Jessica Krumwiede
Joni Hamilton
Craig Herman
Jack Dahl

Dates: May 1 - 5, 1995

Project objective: Establish vegetative barriers along shoreline of McVille Dam. When established, these vegetative buffer strips will stabilize the banks, reduce or eliminate bank erosion, improve water quality and act as a buffer by removing of agrichemicals from subsurface water which moves through the rooting zone prior to entering these reservoirs.

Project status: Plantings completed on May 24, 1995.

9. Silver Lake Watershed Inventory
Sargent County

Contact person: Jack Dahl, AmeriCorps Member
Lucky Huether, DC, NRCS

Participants: Jack Dahl
Craig Herman

Dates: May 15 - 19, 1995

Project Objective: Silver Lake is a major recreational area in Sargent Co. During this inventory process, the Americorps Members would inventory the watershed area (128,640 acres), recording information regarding watershed health. This would include such information as water movement within the watershed (both natural and man assisted) culvert size, sediment load in culverts and road ditches, land use and farming practices (including tillage practices, residue levels, road ditch farming, etc.).

Project status: Inventory of watershed was completed on May 25th, 1995. Inventory data (including watershed boundary, water flow patterns and culvert size) were compiled on county road map and provided to Sargent Co. Soil Conservation District.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

P. O. Box 1458
Bismarck, ND
58502-1458

Subject: PDM - AmeriCorps -
Third Quarter Report

Date: July 7, 1995

To: Paula Cole Jones
AmeriCorps Program Coordinator
USDA - NRCS
Washington, DC

File Code: 390

Attached is North Dakota's third quarter AmeriCorps Report.



RICHARD L. BENTAAS
Project Director

Attachment

cc: w/attachment
R.L. Clark, STC, NRCS, Bismarck, ND
W.J. Hartman, DSTC, NRCS, Bismarck, ND
G.R. Krause, ASTC (P), NRCS, Bismarck, ND
R.D. Sando, ASTC (WR), NRCS, Bismarck, ND
J.L. Gross, AC, NRCS, Devils Lake, ND
T.E. Coleman, AC, NRCS, Jamestown, ND
T.J. Gisvold, AC, NRCS, Dickinson, ND
J.L. Printz, PROG MGR, NRCS, Jamestown, ND

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

Ohio

Divider Title: _____



3RD AMERICORPS
QUARTER REPORT

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site name: Darby Creek Watershed Rural Dvlpt

State: Ohio

Site ID # 94ADFDC047L285

Your Name: Tracey Ann Betts

Your Position: AmeriCorps Participant / Team Leader

Telephone number: (614) 852-4004

Fax number: (614) 852-4771

e-mail address
(if available) mwnet!sfrankli!maresch

Date report completed 7/7/95

Reporting Period: 4/1/95 - 6/30/95

Program Start-up date: 10/3/94



MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>0</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>6</u>
Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>6</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>0</u>
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>6</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>0</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	<u>1968</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>0</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>1968</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	<u>3072</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>0</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>3072</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:	<u>6912</u>
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>0</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>6912</u>



VOLUNTEER ASSESSMENT

Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteers

Total Number of non-AmeriCorps Volunteers:
involved in AmeriCorps service activities in
this quarter

380

Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities:
completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers
in this quarter.

828

* See attached *

PART-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

N/A

Number of Members authorized:

Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:

Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Number of Members at beginning of quarter:

Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter: _____

Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter: _____

Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: _____

Total Hours of Direct Service to date: _____

Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: _____

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THIS QUARTER

1. Staff changes made this quarter:

None.

2. Program structural changes made this quarter:

Formation of a team leader, shift to highly motivated self directed team.

Number of Members who have left National Service this quarter.

0

Total-to-date

0

Number of Members who have gained employment thru their AmeriCorps Service

★

★ none at present, recommendations are being made.
Members returning to school in the fall

4



MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 6 **TOTAL EMPLOYED:** 6

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED 0
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED 6

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males	<u>4</u>
Number of Females	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	<u>6</u>

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	<u>4</u>
Number of African Americans	<u>0</u>
Number of Native Americans	<u>0</u>
Number of Hispanics	<u>2</u>
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	<u>0</u>
Other	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	<u>6</u>

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	<u>0</u>
Number with High School or GED	<u>—</u>
Number with some college	<u>2</u>
Number with college degree	<u>3</u>
Number with Graduate degree	<u>0</u>
Number w/Professional or Trade School	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	<u>6</u>

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER	
Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	<u>3</u>
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	<u>0</u>
Number of children	<u>0</u>
Number w/Disabilities	<u>1-disabled veteran</u>



PROJECT DIRECTOR COSTS (One per State - Above site level costs only)
Do NOT include any costs already captured by the Project Manager.

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps

Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps
Approximate dollar amount

5%
\$ 5,000⁰⁰

Cost for any other Federal employee spending
time on AmeriCorps

\$ 10,000⁰⁰

Travel costs for Members & Managers

—

Training costs

\$ 1,000⁰⁰

Supplies

\$ 2,000⁰⁰

Uniform costs

—

Program Costs

—

(Please explain what these costs were.)

Non-Federal Funds Spent
(Explain)

\$ 10,000⁰⁰

STATE AGENCIES & THE NATURE CONSERVANCY HAVE SHARED
OFFICE SPACE & SUPPLIES WITH SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS.



BUDGET INFORMATION

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps (Local Level Only)
Project Manager completes this section

Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps
Approximate dollar amount

10%
\$ 4500-

Cost for any other Federal employee spending
time on AmeriCorps

\$ 4500-

Travel costs for Members & Managers

Ø

Training costs

Ø

Supplies

Ø

Uniform costs

Ø

Program Costs

\$ 9000-

(Please explain what these costs were.) *

* Dollar amounts are based on 10% of normal salary for Project Manager and
6 District Conservationists, 1 soil conservationist.

Partner dollars spent on AmeriCorps

N/A

Supplies

Travel

Training

Program Costs

Other

AMERICORPS 3RD QUARTER REPORT

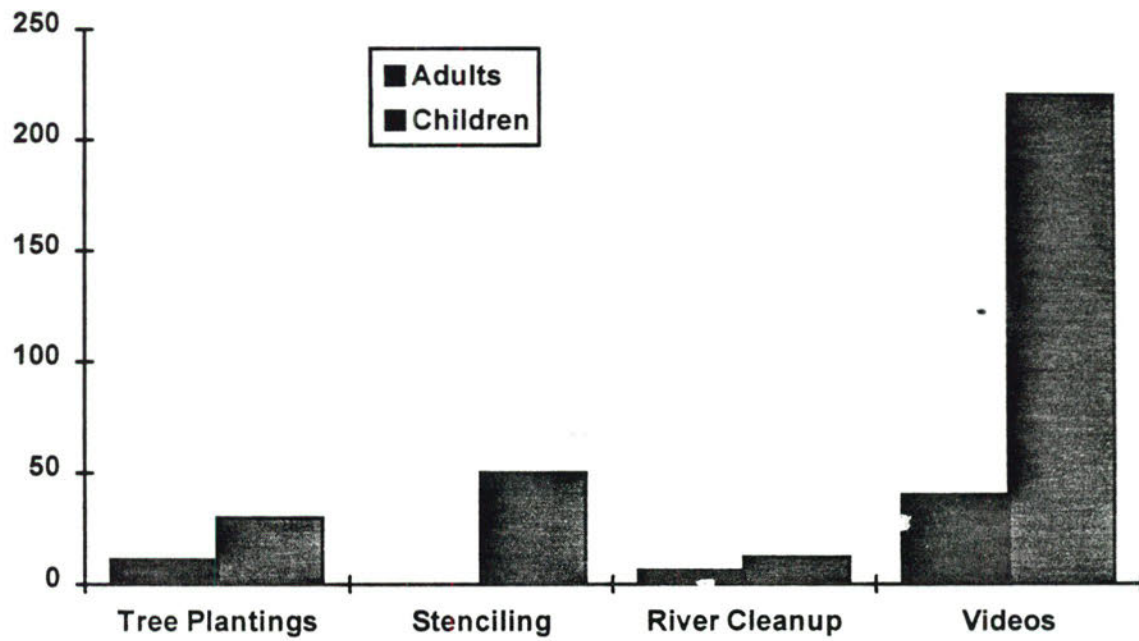
1 April 1995 through 30 May 1995

Volunteer Assessment

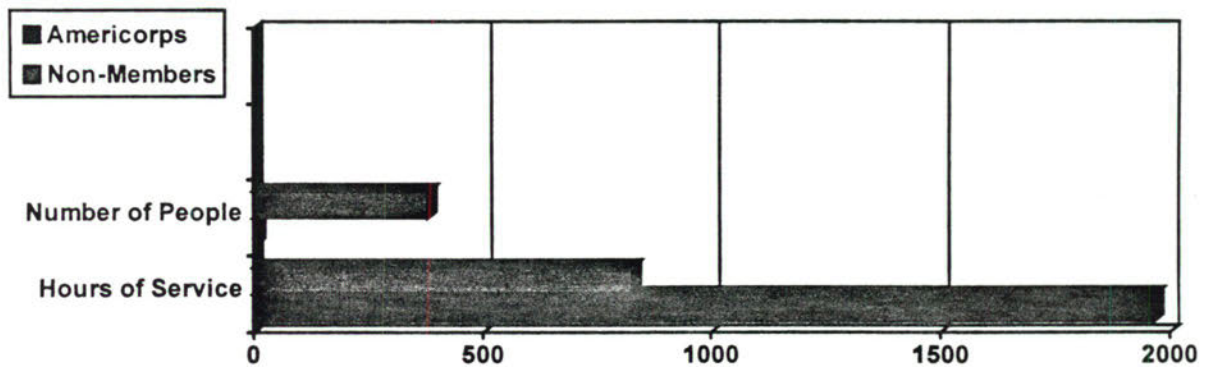
Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteers Documentation

Activities with which Non-AmeriCorps Members were involved:

*Tree Plantings:			<u>Total Hours:</u>
Adults: 11	Children: 30	Avg.: 4 hr. each	164
*Outdoor Education:			
Adults: 2		Avg.: 5 hr. each	10
*River Cleanup:			
Adults: 6	Children: 12	Avg.: 4 hr. each	72
*Tillage Transects:			
Adults: 2		Avg.: 6 hr.. each	12
*Connecting Ohio's Watersheds Conference:			
Adults: 5		Avg.: 6 hr.. each	30
Stream Corridor Inventory:			
Adults: 2		Avg.: 5 hr.. each	40
Storm Drain Stenciling:			
Adults: 0	Children: 50	Avg.: 4 hr.. each	200
**Videos:			
Adults: 40	Children: 220		300
* Denotes Activities Which Were Completed			828
** Nine videos reached completion this quarter			



ADULTS AND CHILDREN INVOLVED WITH VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES



AMERICORPS HOURS VS. VOLUNTEER HOURS

PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Member Development:

Progress was made in boosting the personal development of members in many ways during the third quarter. With the formation of a team member as the "team leader", the team began to focus on becoming a self-directed highly motivated team. Relying upon the program director and manager not in a supervisory capacity, but in an advisory capacity, where the "team" was provided with assistance in accomplishing goals. The "team" began to hold monthly staff meetings in a neutral environment, where they utilized techniques learned in the Total Quality Management Training to attempt to resolve conflicts and meet objectives. In the instances where the team was unable to resolve conflicts amongst the members, meetings were held with the Project Director and Manager. During the third quarter, meetings continued to be held with the Project Manager, but the monthly staff meetings increased in importance.

This focus on becoming a self-directed team boosted the self esteem and confidence of each individual member as they were expected to contribute in a positive way at the meetings. The meetings had an agenda which was adhered to and attempted to address the needs of the team as a whole, as well as the individual members. These meetings provided an arena for the members to schedule activities, update each other on projects, and voice concerns or opinions. The National Service Day activities held at the Metro Park also served to boost the confidence of the team members, as it was nice to be acknowledged for our hard work.

2. Community Building:

Progress was made in meeting the community service objective through informational presentations of the "AmeriCorps Video" at the local Soil and Water Conservation District Board meetings in the watershed. Members provided assistance to the Extension offices by helping with storm drain stenciling, a project which has reached over 600 households (see media documentation).

Throughout the program, members have utilized local high school students, scout groups and college students to accomplish projects. These local volunteers have starred in the videos, picked up litter along the creek, stenciled storm drains, passed out flyers, inventoried the stream corridor and educated children along side the AmeriCorps members.

3. Other Accomplishments:

During the third quarter, a seep was found in an abandoned landfill in the headwaters of Big Darby. This seep was later found to be leaching toxic waste into a tributary, and was brought to the attention of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) by one of the members, Steven Flint. The effects of this action will bring about an increase in water quality in the tributary, as well as an increase in the quality of life for the residents of the area surrounding the landfill.

Steven also brought to the attention of the proper agencies another situation, this one directly on Big Darby, where a landowner was dumping commercial turf fertilizer into the floodplain. This situation was referred to the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA).

The team has expanded the stream corridor inventory from Pickaway County to include the rest of Big Darby. The inventory occurring in the remaining counties of the watershed is being done on foot, and includes the notification of all landowners to the when, where and how of the project. This inventory is

unique as it is highly specialized and detailed, statistics are being logged every one-tenth (0.10) mile along the corridor. Statistics being logged include items such as corridor widths and types of vegetation, good fishing spots, known dumping areas, scenic vistas, unstable streambanks and diversity of aquatic and terrestrial species. Approximately 50% of Big Darby will be inventoried at the end of the third quarter.

Lastly, over the months an increased level of acceptance among the many agencies, departments and partners towards the AmeriCorps team has come about. These entities are seeing the work "getting done" and are appreciating the efforts being made by the team. It is interesting to note the network which is forming among the various agencies involved with the protection of the Darby Creek Watershed, and to see how that was facilitated, in part, by the highly motivated efforts of the AmeriCorps team to remove bureaucratic and hierarchical boundaries. As the personnel of diverse agencies have witnessed this phenomena, they too have made an attempt to simplify their work efforts and break through these boundaries.

3. Unique Successes or "Great Stories"

AmeriCorps has experienced many unique successes throughout the program, one could consider the fact that all six members are still involved to be a unique success! The reason behind this phenomena is related to the administrative support that was given to the members toward reaching the goal of becoming a self-directed team, receiving assistance from the project administrators, not direction. This unorthodox method of leading the team, coupled with the Total Quality Management training, resulted in a high degree of motivation and creation of a mindset of working together to resolve conflict. This was quite a task, considering the level of diversity existing amongst the team members.

The video team has provided the Darby Creek Watershed with many high quality productions that will be of great use to the Partners. For many years to come, thousands of children and adults will be educated with the Stream Quality Monitoring video, farmers will see the benefits of alternative Off-Stream Watering Devices, and Agency and Department personnel will be able to learn from the expertise documented in the Stream Ecology video. Also, many Native American history buffs will be enthralled with the video production of the Native Americans who lived on Darby Creek.

The Darby Creek Watershed had an interesting visitor this quarter, Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior Bruce Babbitt. Secretary Babbitt made a stop at Battelle-Darby Metro Park where he took part in a discussion with local landowners, Agency and Department officials, Darby Creek Association, educators and farmers. He then had an opportunity to get into Big Darby Creek and participate in some stream quality monitoring. Secretary Babbitt was impressed by the commitment to the preservation of the creek and took great interest in the role that AmeriCorps plays.

Training Assessment:

Training of participants in the third quarter was no longer necessary, except in the field of the editing equipment. Daniel explained to Michael how to utilize the equipment which was rented.

Members of the team feel that a "hotline" should be provided at the Washington level which would be utilized to answer any specific questions that a member may have. Many times a question would have to be referred to a higher level more than once, thus increasing the chances for mis-communication and inaccurate information. If there was an 800 number, it would be easier to have questions answered on a more timely basis.

OBJECTIVES:

1. & 2. THE PRINCIPAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE:

HECTOR SANTIAGO

A. Two participants will work at the task of keeping field maps updated and work in the field to check map accuracy related to the installation of best management practices (BMP's). Work with the riverkeeper to inventory the Big and Little Darby Creeks and their tributaries for riparian cover and identify problem areas where point and non-point pollution enters the stream. Assist Soil and Water Conservation Districts to do survey and design work for conservation BMP's in the rural areas and to work with county engineers in checking BMP's on urbanizing areas.

SUMMARY

Looking back on the past three months, I am very pleased to see that much has been accomplished. As for my responsibilities to the team and our objectives, I feel that much of what was targeted has been completed. My primary involvement has been in the design of best management practices within the Darby Creek Watershed, inventorying the stream and its riparian corridor, monitoring the water quality by seining for indicator species of macroinvertebrates, mapping for various partners, identifying newly urbanized areas or those areas in the process of being developed, and checking for the use of best management practices on those urbanizing sites. In addition to the previous, I also became much more involved in community service and public outreach. All in all, I experienced some of my most intense weeks at work during the third quarter.

BMP'S

During the month of May, I concluded all survey and design work. After months of surveying 8 grassed waterways, 6 wetlands, 3 ponds, 3 animal and numerous tile surveys, I ended the design season with a 2 acre wildlife wetland that I designed entirely on my own. These projects mentioned do not include a handful of training sessions. These BMP's will do their part in maintaining the water quality of Darby Creek.

STREAM CORRIDOR INVENTORY

Before being cut short by an extremely wet Spring season, Steven Flint and I continued upstream on foot through Franklin and Madison counties. Including Pickaway County, we have inventoried over 35 miles of Big Darby, half the total Big Darby Creek miles. Heavy rains and nasty deerflies have hampered our efforts.

STREAM QUALITY MONITORING

Along with Steven Flint and Kimberly Grimm, I have assisted ODNR Scenic Rivers in monitoring the water quality in Darby Creek. So far our results have been pleasing. We've found Darby water to be excellent at most reference sites.

OPERATION: FUTURE MAPPING

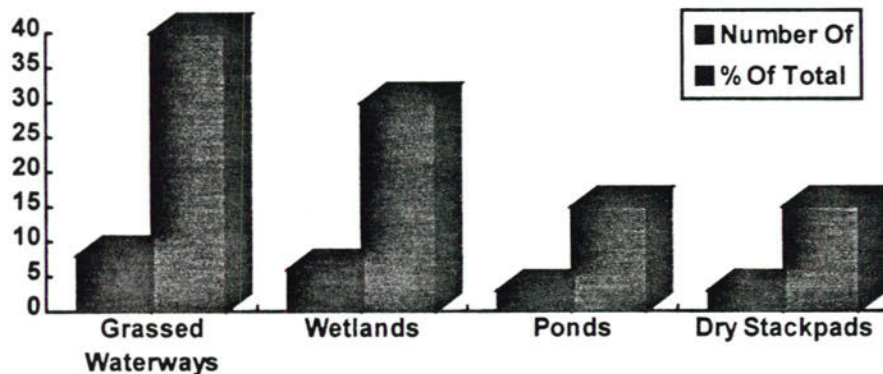
Finally, I completed and presented six maps showing the geographic representation of OFA members within the Darby watershed. I did explain certain limitations, namely the fact that those who either weren't on the roster I received or did not participate in CFSA programs may not be included. Even so, I designed the maps to be easy to add-on to. It should be very easy to update the maps for in the future.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND OUTREACH

My newest endeavor this Spring has been reaching out to the citizens of the Darby watershed and educating them about the importance of the stream and increasing stewardship towards the stream. This has been done through teaching children about stream quality monitoring with Linda Pettit, seining for macroinvertebrates and talking about stream ecology with Tim Taylor of the Metroparks, and through storm drain stenciling with Steven Flint. All three of these tasks have involved communicating with people of the watershed in hopes of establishing a positive rapport with them.

PICKAWAY COUNTY URBAN SURVEY

Kimberly Grimm and I spent numerous hours in search of new urban development in Pickaway county at the request of the District Conservationist. We found that unlike Franklin county, which has a serious urban explosion problem, Pickaway has a different type of urbanization. Instead of large shopping centers and subdivisions, the Pickaway county urban sprawl is made up of mainly single home lots, far from each other and well within ideal development conditions. We suggested that at this time the best way to deal with the new developers is to kindly inform them on lawn establishment and Darby through flyers and personal contacts.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES COMPLETED--3RD QUARTER

KIMBERLY GRIMM

SUMMARY

In the third quarter I have spent the majority of my time participating in educational outreach programs throughout the watershed. I have spoken to approximately 1800 adults and children in activities ranging from stream quality monitoring to reading hours at the local libraries. In addition to these activities, I have assisted my team members in meeting their objectives in activities such as stream corridor inventory, Darby clean ups, tree plantings and video production.

PROGRAM OUTREACH

As stated in the summary, I have spoken to approximately 1800 adults and children this quarter. I accomplished this through many days of working with the local Education Specialists at SWCD's throughout the watershed. Programs include; Arbor Day with 130 Union County 4th Graders, Exploring the Environment with 150 1st Graders in Franklin County, Stream Quality Monitoring with approximately 300 children of all ages and indoor Stream Quality Monitoring with 165 elementary students in Franklin County, Macroinvertebrate Mayhem with 80 6th Graders in Franklin County schools, 120 adults at the Agriculture stop of the Connecting Ohio's Watershed Tour, Summer Reading at Union County Library with 112 children, a canoe trip in Union County with 25 farmers, and assisted with " Kids & the Environment " where I spoke with approximately 750 parents and children.

STREAM CORRIDOR INVENTORY

I assisted Hector Santiago and Steven Flint with the Corridor Inventory this quarter for approximately four (4) miles. Efforts were severely hampered by heavy rains and the inventory will continue in the 4th quarter.

PICKAWAY COUNTY URBAN SURVEY

Hector Santiago and I spent many hours in search of new development in Pickaway County, where the Urban encroachment varies from Franklin County in that it consists mostly of single family dwellings scattered about versus the large scale subdivisions in Franklin County. As Hector stated, it was our recommendation that a fact sheet or booklet on management practices in the watershed be distributed to landowners when they move in.

PRAIRIE RE-ESTABLISHMENT

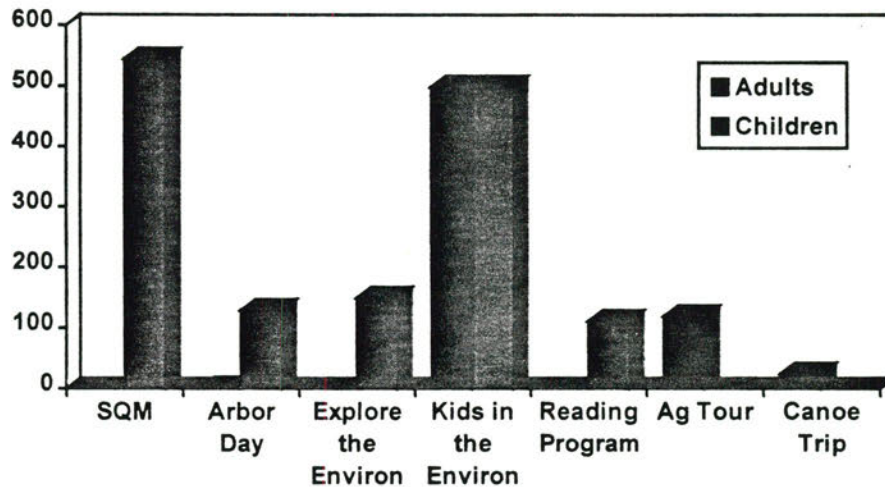
I assisted The Nature Conservancy in the re-establishment of native prairie grasses in an area along Big Darby which was experiencing severe gulley erosion. This experiment was highly successful, because of the use of " Enviromats ", Band-Aid like mats that covered the seeds, allowing for optimal germination.

WATERSHED MAILINGS

I provided assistance to the Madison SWCD by creating a landowner mailing list that was utilized to reach the approximately 700 landowners in the Madison and Champaign Counties in the Watershed. These landowners were sent a copy of the " Darby Farmer ", a newsletter updating them on events in the watershed.

VIDEO PRODUCTION

I assisted Michael Bright with the filming of two (2) videos in the third quarter, the Soils video and the Stream Quality Monitoring video by providing technical assistance for camera angles and being videotaped with children.



ADULTS AND CHILDREN BENEFITING FROM OUTREACH PROGRAMS-3RD QUARTER

2. PRODUCE 5 HIGH QUALITY VIDEOS

DANIEL TURNER/MICHAEL BRIGHT-THE VIDEO TEAM

SUMMARY

Daniel and Michael have spent a great deal of time shooting on location and editing the footage in the newly formed editing room in the state office. They have worked together, not only to establish this editing room, but to complete nine (9) video projects by the end of the third quarter. Videos completed and placed in the video "library" include;

1. Stream Quality Monitoring Video produced in conjunction with the Education Specialist at the Franklin SWCD to be used in the classroom prior to outdoor activities,
2. Off-Stream Watering Video produced in conjunction with the Union and Logan SWCD's, used to inform livestock farmers of alternatives,
3. Soils Instruction Video produced in conjunction with the Area 3 Soil Scientist, to be used to educate students about soils and about the Envirothon competition,
4. AmeriCorps At Work Video produced in conjunction with the team which has been utilized since its completion early in the quarter to educate local SWCD board members, agency and

department personnel, non-profit organizations and anyone else who would watch it, about what AmeriCorps has been "getting done" over the course of the program,

5. "Thank You" Video produced in conjunction with the River Keeper, this production was given to the Central Ohio Contractors Association, Franklin County Board of Health and Central Ohio Solid Waste Authority, as a means of thanking them for their generosity,
6. Pickaway Best Management Practices Video produced in conjunction with Pickaway County District Conservationist documenting the "goods and bads" of BMP's installed in the county,
7. Prairie Burn Video produced in conjunction with the Madison SWCD and local fire department which illustrates a prairie burn,
8. Ticknor Speech at Connecting Ohio's Watershed Conference videotaped at the request of the Area 4 Area Conservationist, and
9. Babbitt Speech at Battelle-Darby Metro Park produced at the behest of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District.

Daniel and Michael are also working in the editing phase of three more video projects;

1. Stream Ecology with USEPA,
2. Native Americans on the Darby for the Ohio Historical Society, and
3. Landforms propounded by the Area 5 Soil Scientist.

Daniel and Michael have utilized approximately 300 volunteers on these videos, including elementary and high school children, landowners, agency and department personnel, and non-profit groups to star in the videos they have been producing. Countless members of the community for years to come will learn from these high quality, exciting videos. The completion of this unorthodox objective will be one of the more "unique successes" of the program.

In addition to the video work the pair have been doing, they have also assisted other members in the completion of their objectives through participation in the Corridor Inventory, entering of the corridor landowner list at Madison SWCD and mailing of Darby Farmer Newsletter. Michael has shown the AmeriCorps at work video to the Pickaway SWCD Board, while Daniel is submitting the video to the local Public Access television channel to be shown to the viewing public in the fall of 1995.

3. ONE PARTICIPANT TO WORK WITH THE TREES/TURN KEY PROGRAM AND WORK WITH THE VENDOR IN ESTABLISHING RIPARIAN CORRIDOR BUFFER STRIPS

Tracey Ann Betts

Summary

The third quarter marked the first full quarter in which I acted as “team leader”. I also had more opportunities to plant seedlings and educate over 300 adults and children. I sat in on a Stream Team meeting at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, where I had the chance to speak about AmeriCorps and my activities to the Chiefs of the individual departments. I provided assistance to the Franklin County Service Forester by completing seven (7) forestry management plans, and attended a meeting of the Quality Steering Team where we formed the new Mission and Vision Statements for NRCS. I have also provided assistance to the video crew as I participated in the filming of the “Native Americans on the Darby” video and the “Stream Ecology” video.

TEAM LEADER

This included formation of both the second and third quarterly reports, chairing the monthly staff meetings and acting as liaison between the Project Manager and the team. This role has served to broaden my organizational and leadership skills, provided opportunities for honing my conflict resolution abilities, and markedly increased my level of knowledge with the computer programs utilized in the formation of the quarterly reports. As team leader, in an attempt to meet the community service objective of informing the public of our progress, I coordinated with the six local SWCD boards to have team members show the “AmeriCorps at Work” video at monthly meetings, two (2) Boards saw the video in the third quarter.

CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENT

Early in the quarter, I had the chance to plant approximately 955 seedlings along the banks of Big and Little Darby. With these tree plantings came the opportunity to educate 30 children and 6 adults as to the importance of revegetating the riparian corridor with native species and resource conservation. I also had the opportunity later in the quarter to check the seedling mortality where I found a high success rate among the hardwoods, very promising considering the wet spring we had. At the invitation of The Nature Conservancy, I participated in the re-establishment of native prairie grasses along the banks of Big Darby in an area with severe gulley erosion. The results, were very promising, due mostly in part to the use of the “Enviromat” Band-Aid like netting which protected the seeds from the heavy rains.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the educating that I did during the tree plantings, I spoke to 40 children at an Elementary School in Franklin County about animal adaptations, 120 children along the creek for “Darby Days” about the effects of non-point pollution on a watershed, 150 sixth graders at Battelle-Darby Metro Park about the importance of macroinvertebrates in a stream and assisted in stenciling the storm drains in one subdivision in Franklin County. I also spoke to the Franklin SWCD Board at a monthly meeting about the AmeriCorps program and showed the video “AmeriCorps at Work”.

LANDOWNER OUTREACH

I assisted the Madison SWCD and Office of NRCS with the editing and mailing of the Darby Farmer newsletter to approximately 700 landowners in Madison and Champaign Counties. I also submitted an article in the newsletter notifying people about an upcoming clean-up along Big Darby.

I am also in the process of a Wooded Corridor Inventory which will be used to update the Hydrologic Unit maps. At the end of the third quarter, approximately 25% of Big Darby and 25% of Little Darby are completed.

I began work on fact sheets covering Streambank Stabilization Alternatives at the request of the Stream Team and the Franklin SWCD District Conservationist.

CONNECTING OHIO'S WATERSHEDS CONFERENCE

Beginning in the second quarter, I became a member of the conference planning committee. During the third quarter, I assisted in the conference proceedings in a number of ways, including checking in the conference participants, assisting with the poster session set-up and hosting the urban development portion of the field tour, where approximately 120 adults were educated.

4. ONE PARTICIPANT TO WORK ASSIST THE DARBY CREEK ODNR SCENIC RIVER COORDINATOR AT THE FIELD LEVEL

Steven Flint

Summary

My word! These weeks are rolling by! Despite urological surgery and a sprained knee, I have tried to stay productive. I will be the first to admit these ailments have hampered my level of performance, but I intend to make up for it in the remainder of my tenure as Riverkeeper.

ON THE RIVER

Six (6) corridor litter clean-ups were scheduled and completed in the third quarter, utilizing twenty-two (22) volunteers. These volunteers included local high and middle school students, Ohio State University School of Natural Resources Students (OSU-SNR), a local Cub Scout pack and Nature Conservancy staff. Also volunteering to help with the clean-up was Christian Marsh, Aide to USDI Secretary Babbitt. Mr. Marsh canoed Big Darby the next afternoon where we discussed the AmeriCorps program and the role of the Riverkeeper. These clean-ups occurred along with the approximately 110 hours of litter patrol that I did alone and with the help of the other participants. I have also been working closely with the local Division of Wildlife (DOW) officers to report dumping violation, five (5) violations were reported to Franklin and Madison Counties DOW.

I planted approximately seventy (70) native species of seedlings along the banks of Big Darby with the help of a volunteer from The Nature Conservancy and from the OSU-SNR. Species planted included Oaks, Beech and Maples.

Providing assistance to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, I helped to investigate a logging operation on the banks of Big Darby in Milford Center.

I assisted the team with the Stream Corridor Inventory before the heavy rains hit. We have completed approximately 45% of the Big Darby inventory.

CURB STENCILING PROJECT

This project has occurred as a means of providing assistance to the OSU Darby Extension office with their project utilized to educate landowners owning homes in subdivisions in the watershed. Stencils and paints were donated and used on the storm drains by over 40 volunteers from local schools and scout groups. The volunteers also placed flyers on the doors of the houses to inform them of the project and the importance of not dumping litter into the curb inlets. This project was completed for one subdivision where 320 curb inlets were stenciled.

PESTICIDE MONITORING

Approximately eighty-two hours were spent monitoring pesticide application in the urbanized areas of the watershed during the third quarter. In this time, I witnessed twenty-seven (27) violations of Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) Law. These violations were all documented and the information conveyed to the ODA.

EDUCATION

I had the pleasure of educating 15 adults and 112 children this quarter about the ecology of the watershed. This included two (2) teachers and one hundred twelve (112) students from local middle and high school Environmental Science classes, where I spoke about the Darby and spring wildflower identification, and one day spent with USDI Secretary Babbitt where we spoke at length on Darby and the role AmeriCorps is playing. Being a member of the Ohio Smallmouth Alliance, I also spoke at a monthly meeting where I informed the ten (10) members of the Alliance of the Federal and State programs available for use in water quality enhancement. A local Columbus, Ohio newspaper journalist also interviewed me for an article where we discussed the fertilizer contamination and the landfill seep.

VIDEO PROJECT

With the help of the video crew and the other team members, I produced and distributed a video in which I thanked the Central Ohio Contractors Association, Franklin County Board of Health and Solid Waste Authority for their generous donations of a dumpster and complimentary pickup/hauling certificates during the Spring Clean-up.

DARBY CREEK ASSOCIATION

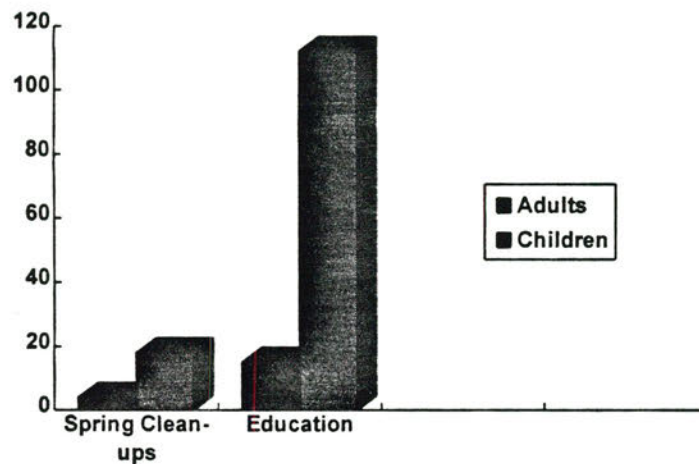
On two (2) occasions I toured the watershed with the president of the Darby Creek Association, where I showed him "the good, the bad and the ugly", as well as a tour of a Waste Water Treatment Plant that has been failing during heavy rain events.

LANDFILL SEEP

Many hours were spent this quarter monitoring, filming and documenting the new seep at the landfill in Union County. I had occasion to accompany members of the Columbus media, television and newspaper, to the site to assist them in compiling respective reports on the problem. I also spent time with Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and United States EPA doing remedial investigation and feasibility studies.

FERTILIZER DUMPING

Acting on a tip from a concerned landowner, myself and another team member drove into Union County to check on a site of possible fertilizer contamination along Big Darby. When we pulled along side in the berm, we both noticed a discoloration of the water in the drainage ditch, a pile of smoldering debris and a newly bulldozed hole in the wooded corridor. I spent approximately thirty-two hours (32) documenting and investigating this operation which contaminated Big Darby during the heavy rains that fell this spring. I have worked closely with Ohio EPA on this issue and have documented all steps taken.



RIVERKEEPER OUTREACH--3RD QUARTER

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

①

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

Constant changes in reporting format, hinders participant performance and consumes valuable time.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? No.

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

flexibility and adaptation to changes, at the field level.
acknowledgement of problem to administrative staff.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

Consistency: create one standard format for the reporting procedure, and stick with it.



PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

②

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

participant conflicts.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? yes.

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

N/A.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

The Project Director (Wayne Maresch) is highly skilled in the field of conflict resolution, lines of communication between members, project manager and project director were kept open.



PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

3

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

Uncertainty of program extension.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? No.

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

Application for program extension was filed, and awaits funding. This waiting, lapse in time between programs is frustrating to people trying to schedule.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

funding of programs at the departmental level. ie:
each department/division has one (1) Ameri Corps member.

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

4

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

Inconsistencies within N.R.C.S., lack of direction, shorthanded staff, many times it was attempted to use an AmeriCorps member for a Non Darby project.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? Yes.

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

The project was implemented during a time of great change at U.S.D.A., N.R.C.S. workers felt threatened by the introduction of AmeriCorps members as budgets were tightened and jobs scrutinized. AmeriCorps members were kept informed of this mindset, and stayed focused in their mission to "get things done."



PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

5

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

Agency people attempting to use AmeriCorps members on non-Darby Creek Watershed activities.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? No.

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

Members were empowered to create their own schedules and to be vocal when asked to do work "out of the watershed." Members (agency personnel) were also asked to inform project manager of any instances where this happened.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

Inform all agencies/departments involved with project that, aside from initial training, members are to be involved only with Darby Creek Watershed activities

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

6 40 hours sick leave is inadequate. Members become burned out, need a small amount of administrative leave.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? No.

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

Acknowledgement of situation to administrative personnel.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

A 40 hour administrative leave period could be held for each participant, and released at the discretion of the project manager, on an as needed basis.

Babbitt says Darbys are example to all

Official urges saving Clean Water Act

By Kevin Mayhoo
Dispatch Staff Reporter

U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt drank in the beauty of the Big Darby Creek and spat out a warning that Washington could pollute the clear water.

Babbitt visited the stream yesterday on the eve of debate on reauthorizing the Clean Water Act. The U.S. House is scheduled to open discussions today.

Republicans would gut the act, returning the country to the days when the Cuyahoga River burned, Babbitt told a group of about 40 landowners and river enthusiasts.

"The success of the Darby Creek is an example of what we should be doing all over the country," Babbitt said.

To have clean streams such as the Little and Big Darby creeks so close to a large city is rare, he said. The cooperation and efforts of farmers, environmentalists and communities along the watershed also are rare, he noted.

"I'd like to put that in a bottle and take it around the country."

The Darby creeks receive federal and state protection, mostly because of the efforts of local groups. The waterways, which meander through six counties, are among Ohio's cleanest and most diverse. More than 40 species of freshwater mussels — including two endangered species — and more than 100 fish species are found in the creeks.

Babbitt walked along the water. With Columbus Metro Parks and Ohio Natural Resources officials, he then donned waders and seined up

fish, crayfish and aquatic larvae.

Bill Conklin, a farmer who helped spearhead the efforts to keep the Darby clean, said the education that the farmers received from environmentalists and vice versa was a key to their cooperation.

"Don't just say, 'Do this, this and this.' Teach us ... the streams are alive and well because we're doing a good job on the farms."

Babbitt said that the preservation of the Darbys has included three key ingredients: the commitment of the people who live along the creeks, good science and federal laws that set pollution standards.

"What is under attack in Congress is the science and the standards," Babbitt said.

He said Republican legislators are trying to abolish the science — by abolishing the likes of the National Geological Survey — under the guise of cutting the budget.

"Standards can be modified, but don't roll them back," he said. "If the standards become voluntary, as proposed, standards will be lowered."

Pollution allowances will then become another enticement in the competition among communities and states for business and development, he said. "Polluters will shop around and locate where the standards are the lowest."

"That was our experience before the act was first passed," Babbitt said. "It's the reason the Cuyahoga River burned and that Lake Erie was a dead sea."

■ Photo / 1B