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SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THIS QUARTER

Program structural changes made this quarter:

In April, Secretary of Agriculture Glickman put a hold on wetland inventories. Since that time the wetland and riparian area delineation teams have worked on other than wetland inventories. Nine-five percent of the teams' time has been spent on the riparian inventory.

Number of members who have left the national service this quarter:

4

Total-to-date:

15

Number of members who have gained employment through their AmeriCorps service:

14

MEMBER ASSESSMENT
at the end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 43 TOTAL EMPLOYED: 28

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED: 15

TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED: 13

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males:	21
Number of Females:	7
TOTAL:	28

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians:	27
Number of African Americans:	1
Number of Native Americans:	0
Number of Hispanics:	0
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander:	0
Other:	0
TOTAL:	28

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED:	0
Number with High School or GED:	3
Number with some college:	4
Number with College Degree:	21
Number with Graduate Degree:	0
Number w/Professional or Trade School:	0
TOTAL:	28

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:	25
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps:	4
Number of children:	5
Number w/Disabilities:	0

BUDGET INFORMATION

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps (Local Level Only) Project Manager completes this section	
Percent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	75
Approximate dollar amount:	200,000
Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps:	15,000
Travel costs for members and managers:	0
Training costs:	0
Supplies:	0
Uniform costs:	0
Program Costs: (Please explain what these costs were)	0

Partner dollars spent on AmeriCorps	
Supplies:	1,000
Travel:	1,000
Training:	500
Program Costs:	0
Other (Supervision Salaries):	130,000

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	
Percent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	40
Approximate dollar amount:	\$30,000
Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps:	\$110,000
Travel costs for members and managers:	\$ 5,000
Training costs:	\$ 2,000
Supplies:	\$ 500
Uniform costs:	\$ 1,000
Program Costs: (Please explain what these costs were)	None

Non-Federal Funds Spent (Explain)	None
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PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS:

Without much guidance from the national office, we have developed our own training program for members. The following training has been provided:

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES:

Landowners and operators are learning about the benefits of wetlands and riparian areas. Recreational uses of state parks are being restored. Members are providing community service in many aspects of the areas where they live and work. Community service activities are (hours of community service):

- volunteered as a hunter safety instructor (4)
- worked with County Sheriff Department Volunteer Reserves (28)
- refurbished picnic shelter damaged by vandals (120)
- assisted in preparation of display for sport and travel show (8)
- assisted with construction of Boy Scout Shelter (32)
- assisted with Heritage Village Community Development Project (32)
- provided outdoor classroom training (150)
- designed and planned a parking lot and boat ramp (60)
- presented to Lyons Middle School a program on the importance of wetlands (4)
- installed fish habitat using recycled Christmas trees (16)
- worked with the City of Hutchinson zoo (30)
- assisted local residents cleanup ice storm damage debris (100)
- worked with a rest home to cleanup storm damage debris (7)
- helped at a wildlife refuge by cleaning bird houses and conducting a wildlife survey (34)
- assisted with a paper recycling project (12)
- worked with forestry team to build a stream channel restoration project (54)
- stenciled storm drains with "no dumping" signs for the City of Topeka (100)
- assisted local conservation groups with information booth at area farm show (16)
- assisted local conservation groups with information booth at local lawn and garden show (16)
- escorted blood donors to the bloodmobile (8)
- assisted state and federal agencies with mapping for public use areas (13)
- presented wildlife program to Cub Scouts (3)
- presented career day program to Jefferson High School students (4)
- helped City of Valley Falls remove ice storm damage debris from city park and adjacent area (30)
- helped state conservation group with streambank stabilization demonstration at state farm show (5)
- worked with Emporia area Boys Scouts for natural resource project training (67)
- worked with Emporia Middle School to plant trees (30)
- gave a talk on wetlands to the Chapman 5th grade class (3)
- plant cedar trees at Kanopolis State Park (8)
- eleven members and the state facilitator worked with state parks personnel to restore Meade State Park to use by renovating fire damage (450)

- assisted with planting 8500 trees in Ellis, Graham, Rooks and Russell Counties (36)
- made riparian area and wetland benefits presentations to several schools in northwest Kansas (12)
- assisted in setting up a recycling program in the City of Hays (24)
- helped with Big Creek trash clean up day (24)
- assisted with survey and design of Big Creek restoration project (20)
- helped the wildlife biologist plant 5000 trees at the Jeffery Energy Center Wildlife area (20)
- assisted the Kansas Bow Hunters Club plant 7000 trees on the Tuttle Creek Wildlife area (30)
- assisted the wildlife biologist plant 400 trees near the town of Emmit (8)
- participated with the Kansas Commission for Community Service in providing assistance to four community service projects in Topeka during the Community Service Day recognition (250)
- assisted with establishment of an outdoor classroom at Blue Valley High School (36)
- assisted with the construction of a wetland at Tuttle Creek Reservoir (54)
- made a presentation to two elementary schools in Marysville about the importance of riparian areas and stream restoration (18)
- conducted an aquatic training session for the Blue Valley High School "Envirothon" team (8)
- assisted the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks on a stream restoration project in the Konza Prairie Research Area (27)
- served as group leaders for a field day at Meade State Fishing Lake for fifth graders from Cimarron School (18)
- planted trees at Ford County Lake (32)
- gave 18 presentations on wildlife habitat to 550 sixth grade students for Conservation Days at Dillons Nature Center (8)
- gave 18 presentations on surveying equipment and how to stake out a pond to 550 sixth grade students at Conservation Days at the Dillons Nature Center (8)
- assisted with stream bank protection project on West Creek in Greenwood County (36)
- applied weed barrier to tree planting area at Emporia Middle School (26)
- worked with Boy Scouts on conservation projects (62)
- served as group guides for Butler County wildflower tour attended by 240 people (16)
- assisted Emporia Middle School with Outdoor Wildlife Learning Center (8)
- helped with Lyon County Wildflower Tour with an attendance of 35 by serving as group leaders (6)
- organized and participated in intersession classes for 45 Butcher Elementary School students (52)
- assisted state and federal agencies develop digital maps of park areas at Milford Reservoir (6)
- assisted the American Red Cross Bloodmobile (10)
- assisted with park clean up at Kanopolis Reservoir (9)
- assisted with clean up of beach house at Milford Reservoir (24)
- presented a wildlife program to 250 Girl Scouts (4)

- assisted the city of Valley Falls in pumping sewage lagoons (4)
- instructed Valley Falls High School students in the installation of goose nesting and bluebird houses (6)
- worked with Marshall County fair board to help prepare church sponsored concession booth (6)
- worked with Waconda High School Sophomores and Cawker City Elementary School 3rd graders to plant 250 trees (8)
- gave a tour of Horsethief Canyon Park (6)
- provided a program for 40 students on fossils and minerals (4)
- provided a program for 20 Girl Scouts on park management (4)
- provided a wilderness survival program for Boy Scouts (5)
- provided an interpretive fishing clinic (24)
- worked with local merchants on prize donations for fishing clinic
- provided a program at a child care clinic on how people and animals use their senses (6)
- provided an information program at Aylward Ranch for 55 Girl Scouts (8)

Total community service hours add up to over 2400 hours.

Community service activities slowed as members completed their tours of duties during fourth quarter.

- provided outdoor classroom training (9)
- used 8 days to give nature programs at Kanopolis State Park
- helped with 4th of July activities at Webster State Park (8 hours)
- used 60 hours in giving information to park patrons at Perry Reservoir
- provided 8 -11, and 14- digit hydrologic unit boundaries for the State of Kansas
- provided riparian information to Kansas State Extension Forester
- surveyed a waste lagoon for a farmer
- evaluated wildlife habitat on public hunting locations in Reno, Harper, and Kingman counties
- assisted with plant and tree identification for outdoor classroom at Blue Valley High School (9)
- removed and transported old cube style windows from condemned building at Cedar Bluff for use in a historic at Waconda Lake
- member helped save a boating victim's life at Tuttle Creek Reservoir
- member used first aid training to help a car crash victim at Perry Reservoir
- member used first aid training to assist a young girl with a cut foot at Tuttle Creek State Park
- twenty five members gave two hours each of community service to the Kanopolis State Park, August 4

PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Members are learning the value of doing things as a team. Their improved team work skills have been observed on numerous occasions.

State park managers have stated they are very pleased with the state park restoration teams and the significant progress they are making toward park restoration.

During recent wetland oversight reviews, National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) area wetland team leaders praised the contributions made by the AmeriCorps members in support of the Kansas Wetland and Riparian Inventories. Wetland oversight or quality control is carried out by representatives of the four federal agencies (Environmental Protection Agency, Corps of Engineers, Fish and Wildlife Service, and NRCS) that have the lead in wetland activities.

A good network has been developed with non-USDA AmeriCorps projects in the State. The Kansas Commission for National Community Service (Pat Kells) and the state program director for the Corporation for National Community Service (Jim Byrnes) have been helpful in getting our program up and running. We meet quarterly with these two groups to compare notes and learn from other experiences.

Specific project accomplishments are:

Wildlife and Parks Teams:

Kanopolis Reservoir:

- installed 163 international signs
- installed 2 wind warning devices
- cleaned and painted park workshop
- planted 150 cedar trees
- installed 6 fishing regulation signs
- placed fish structures (cedar trees) in the lake
- cleaned and repaired 25 bluebird boxes
- pulled flight feathers and banded 60 geese
- built 24 wood duck boxes
- rebuilt 30 picnic tables
- installed drain pipes in 4 beaver dams
- trapped and relocated beaver causing damage to the park
- built two information shelters
- assisted high school student with research project
- assisted with snow removal
- repaired park vehicles
- assembled and transported 24 geese nesting structures
- repaired and modified 8000 feet of fence
- repaired water crossing
- cleared 16,000 feet of trail
- captured and relocated prairie dogs to flood damaged areas
- dug and transplanted 40 trees
- planted trees in wildlife area
- moved picnic tables and refuge containers above high water area
- repaired and installed courtesy fishing docks
- picked up flood debris
- renovated hiking trails
- installed sales display at park office
- worked with fisheries biologist to obtain walleye eggs
- assisted with controlled burn on 15 acres
- installed gate and repaired water crossing on multi-use trail
- repaired four goose nesting structures
- rebuilt information shelter
- painted four trail signs
- repaired 300 feet of swimming beach rope
- removed fence from wildlife refuge

- cut dead trees on wildlife refuge
- planted grass on the wildlife refuge
- planted trees in nursery at Wilson State Park
- marked grills and buoys at Wilson State Park
- repair pit toilets at Ottawa State Fishing Lake
- repaired park facilities damage by hail storm
- worked at noxious weed control at Wilson Wildlife Area
- planted food plots at Wilson Wildlife Area
- place weed barrier around newly planted trees
- installed two wood duck boxes
- renovated the fish cleaning station
- assisted with installation of water line and electric line in new Lovegrass area
- planted 300 seedling trees at Otoe nursery
- mowed three acres and used a weed eater on three miles
- picked up trash along shore line, five miles
- performed trail maintenance on three miles of nature trail
- repaired five vandalized sites in the park
- tore out one-half mile of old fence
- repaired and cleaned up the goose pen from the high water of the 1995 spring flood
- cleaned up one mile of flood debris on the wildlife refuge
- posted 100 public hunting signs in the public wildlife area

Wilson State Park:

- removed protective wire and support ropes from transplanted trees
- assisted fisheries biologist with walleye netting and egg collection
- assisted with tree and flood debris removal
- transplanted numerous cedar trees in campgrounds
- rebuilt fee collection booth
- moved back picnic tables, trash barrels, and picnic shades after the high water went down, 100 each
- picked up trash along three miles of shore line
- stained two information signs
- mowed and used a weed eater on 2 acres
- sprayed 50 camp pads
- moved two information shelters
- repaired one parking lot and one gate
- picked up trash in the wildlife area, 20 acres
- sprayed 20 acres of noxious weeds
- mowed 10 acres of Johnson grass
- disc up 10 acres of Johnson grass

Webster Reservoir:

- installed 60 feet of fence and gate to control hunting access
- installed barrier posts to control access to 4 wildlife areas
- repaired damaged gates and fence at Sheridan Wildlife Area
- cleaned flood debris from 106,000 feet of reservoir shoreline
- repaired park maintenance equipment
- cleaned campsites and support facilities and stocked with firewood in preparation for hunting season

- mulched new trees
- cut and removed over 150 flood damaged trees
- placed cut trees in reservoir for fish habitat
- assisted fisheries biologist with trout stocking
- constructed over 100 brush piles for wildlife habitat
- assisted wildlife biologist with deer survey
- rebuilt 6 damaged picnic shelters
- repaired boat docks
- removed damaging trees from Rooks State Fishing Lake Dam
- assembled gill nets for fishery biologist
- picked up debris at Rooks State Fishing Lake shoreline
- refinished 20 picnic tables
- cleaned, organized and inventoried park supply storage facility
- repaired 10,500 feet of fence
- repaired flood damaged boat docks
- repaired flood damaged picnic tables
- repaired damaged fences
- put up signs closing roads due to 1995 flood
- made 1995 flood damage survey
- replaced trees killed by flood damage
- restored campground gravel surface material
- restored fire-rings damaged by flood waters
- restored campsite markers
- restored shower houses for full camping use
- weighted handicapped fishing pier to prevent flood damage
- worked with landowners and wildlife biologist to make tree and shrub plantings on private lands
- participated in controlled burn for a wildlife area in the park
- prepared fishing nets for use by the fisheries biologist
- constructed a predator control fence at the geese area and limited access area
- **repaired and relocated 67 picnic tables and grills from camp sites due to 1995 flood**
- **cleaned and repaired five restrooms and shower houses damaged by the 1995 flood**
- **repaired and replaced signs and boundary markers from floods and vandalism**
- **picked up 10 tons of debris caused by the 1995 flood**
- **did repair on vehicles used in flood area**
- **cleaned and repaired plumbing damaged by flood at the park office**
- **repaired two Waconda shelters**
- **helped build two miles of fence at Cedar Bluff**
- **cut and moved two tons of firewood**
- **repaired and cleaned five miles of road, and two parking lots**
- **posted ten signs closing roads due to flooding**
- **dug and sprayed 10 acres of musk thistle**
- **cleaned 10 camp sites and recreational areas of stickers**
- **transported equipment for fisheries**
- **cleaned debris from spillway at Rooks State fishing lake**
- **replanted 5 acres of grass in park campsites damaged by flooding**
- **replaced all 20 signs and boundary markers at Sheridan Wildlife Area**
- **built two information shelters at Sheridan Wildlife Area**

- helped rebuild trout screen, torn out by flooding, at Webster Stilling Basin
- redesigned and replaced all signs and boundary markers damaged by flood at Webster Wildlife Area
- cleaned and repainted electrical boxes at campsites damaged from 95 flooding
- cleaned and repainted pedestals and floors on shelters that were under water
- marked and labeled high water levels at various areas in the park

Glen Elder Reservoir:

- repaired 79,000 feet of fence
- assembled and finished picnic tables and shelters
- cleaned camp grounds
- completed deer survey
- prepared fire break
- repaired road
- repaired and maintained park vehicles and equipment
- assisted with computer input of park agricultural permits
- cleaned up and burned trees at the camping sites
- installed 45 stone posts
- installed fish habitat (cut trees) at Lovewell Reservoir
- installed fish habitat (cut trees) at Glen Elder Reservoir
- repaired 15 gates
- conducted two wildlife surveys
- installed 300 signs
- rebuilt a toilet facility
- prepared 25 bags of grass seed
- cleaned restrooms
- conducted weekly public use surveys
- routed, stained, and painted seven signs for shooting range
- assisted fisheries biologist fertilize and transport 20-20 million walleye eggs to the hatchery
- planted 10,000 trees as replacement for trees lost due to flood damage
- planted 11 five gallon buckets of acorns
- constructed 5 barricades
- transported 3 truck loads of debris to landfill
- sprayed 100 acres of park to control musk thistle
- planted 100 acres of grass
- assisted with vehicle repair and maintenance during bad weather days
- mowed 100 acres of first year grass planting
- formed and poured concrete for 228 feet of sidewalk to make three vault toilets handicap accessible
- sprayed noxious weeds and Johnson grass and musk thistle
- sandblasted, painted and shingled two vault toilets at Jewell State Lake
- conducted duck and goose brood surveys on Glen Elder Reservoir
- repaired, mowed and planted grass at shooting range after 1995 flood
- landscaped dirt and planted grass at three vault toilets
- completed four public surveys
- cleaned up debris after the 1995 flood

- mowed roadsides and parking areas
- assisted fisheries biologist install two fish feeders at Jewell State Lake

Perry Reservoir:

- installed 15 people control signs
- erected one large informational kiosk
- repaired one informational kiosk
- updated 6 informational kiosks
- cleared trees and brush from 22,000 feet of marsh dikes
- constructed over 100 brush piles for wildlife habitat
- removed ice storm tree debris from 26,000 feet of roadway
- repaired marsh outlet control structure
- conducted two deer surveys
- conducted four waterfowl surveys
- conducted two hunter surveys
- cleaned and repaired 4 geese nesting structures
- repaired 100 picnic tables
- painted 40 trash containers
- removed two courtesy docks
- planted two park flower plots
- installed 200 Christmas trees in reservoir for fish habitat
- repaired 18 rest rooms
- assisted fishery biologist set nets at Atchison State Lake
- repaired 1300 feet of fence at Green Wildlife Area
- cleared 5000 feet of hiking trail at Green Wildlife Area
- repaired and cleaned bluebird houses
- constructed boat ramp at Brown State Fishing Lake
- cleared limbs from 1300 feet of road at Brown State Lake
- constructed 1200 feet of fish habitat at Brown State Lake
- cleaned and organized workshop at Shawnee State Lake
- cleaned Shawnee Lake shoreline and camp grounds of brush and debris
- planted 8 trees at Shawnee State Lake
- repaired a floating dock
- repaired and repainted 4 rest rooms
- removed 6 tons of scrap iron from park
- repaired one bridge
- repaired 2.5 miles of boundary fence
- control burned 300 acres for improved wildlife habitat
- assisted fisheries biologist in test netting
- repaired 18 wildlife food plots for planting
- conducted pheasant crow count survey and quail whistle count survey
- mowed 44 miles of access road and 3 miles of horse trail
- mowed four miles of marsh dike
- assisted Canada Geese release and banding at Lassiter Marsh
- constructed and placed eight road barricades during period of high water
- sprayed noxious weeds on 100 acres
- mowed 240 acres of picnic area and camp sites
- recorded traffic information from two counters
- constructed and placed 6 picnic tables
- clean up of Shawnee State Fishing Lake picnic area and shoreline
- rebuilt one courtesy boat dock

- repaired three restrooms
- cleaned up Lyons State Fishing Lake shoreline, camping area, and restrooms
- installed eighteen signs for traffic and people control
- assisted in designation of a swimming area
- clean up of picnic areas, camp sites and restrooms at Osage State Fishing Lake
- updated information material on two kiosks
- pumped 1,320,000 gallons of water into marsh for teal habitat
- checked twenty two agricultural leases for crop compliance
- installed ten vehicle control signs
- mowed three marsh dikes
- seeded 150 acres of marsh with Japanese millet
- removed 50 signs from refuge area
- placed marsh outlet boards in three water control structures
- checked silt line on 25 miles of Neosho River by canoe
- stored 15 picnic tables for the winter
- mowed 9 acres of parking areas
- removed ten hazardous trees from campgrounds
- constructed habitat at Osage State Fishing Lake
- mowed camping area at Osage Fishing Lake
- cleaned debris from Osage Fishing Lake
- Lyons State Fishing Lake
 - seeded 40 acres of shoreline
 - picked up debris from shoreline
 - removed brush and trees from dam
 - painted three restrooms
- Shawnee State Fishing Lake
 - mowed five miles of roadside
 - mowed 40 acres of camping area
- Perry Wildlife Area
 - conducted one waterfowl survey
 - treated ten parking areas to control vegetation
 - disked six food plots for dove management
 - mowed ten miles of interior roadsides
 - cleaned silt off two boat ramps
 - mowed six food plots for dove management
 - put up 15 vehicle control signs
 - disked and seeded 10 acres of wheat for habitat
 - placed water level control boards in one marsh outlet
- Tuttle Creek State Park
 - provided 60 hours of information to park patrons

Milford Reservoir:

- cleaned up ice storm debris from Pott. 2 SFL
- cleaned up Pott. 2 SFL shooting range
- preparing sites for building 3/4 of a mile of fence on Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area
- opened 1 1/2 miles of roads from ice storm debris at Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area
- helped fisheries division put in trout habitat at Tuttle Creek State Park
- replaced directional and boundary signs at Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area

- put up bird feeders at 4 nursing homes in Marshall County
- cleared the trees off 1/2 mile of the Nemaha Dam
- helped build wall extensions for lift stations in the state park
- picked up trash along shoreline of Rocky Ford Fishing Area and Pott. 1 fishing area
- applied stain to 20 benches for the chapel in the state park
- put 2 new seats on pit toilets at the Nemaha Wildlife Area
- made mulch out of Christmas trees for the state park
- general maintenance of the chain saw and tree planter and other wildlife area equipment
- established 200 feet of walkway along bank of trout stream for better fisherman access in the Tuttle Creek State Park
- aided fisheries biologist in stocking 1400 rainbow trout in streams below Tuttle Creek Dam
- applied 2 loads of sand to 2 miles of icy roads at Pott. 2 SFL
- put 4 loads of rip-rap into wash-out on the Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area to help prevent soil erosion
- planted 2 acres of new waterways to brome and native grass on the Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area
- cleared trees, prepared sites and planted 10 acres of native grass west of Blue Rapids
- helped the parks clean out the beach house to get ready for the summer concession stand
- helped wildlife biologist prepare 4 floating nest structures to be placed at Tuttle Creek State Park
- retrieved plow from TCRR wildlife area and prepared it for operation
- picked up pallets and trash from Pott. 2 SFL
- received defensive driving training and conflict and resolution training
- assisted in placing boat dock in the Tuttle Creek River pond area
- helped build a staircase in the park office
- made approximately 105 cement patties for sinking fish habitat in Tuttle Creek Reservoir
- repaired 1300 feet of access road at Tuttle Creek Wildlife area
- installed historical sign at Pillsbury Crossing area
- two members attended 8 hours of burning training
- applied herbicide to flood damaged areas to prevent spreading of noxious weeds
- performed a controlled burn on the Pillsbury Crossing Wildlife area
- constructed a 120 foot ramp at Rocky Ford Fishing area for improved public and emergency access
- constructed a boat ramp at Pott. #1 recreation area
- cleared debris from park roads following wind storm
- assisted personnel with office renovation at Blue Rapids office
- placed gravel on Pott. #1 & #2 recreation area roads
- restore Pott. #2 access road drainage structures
- assisted with public use survey for Pott #1, Pott #2, Rocky Ford, and Pillsbury Crossing public use areas
- repaired and installed a fish feeder at the Tuttle Creek State Park below Tuttle Creek Dam
- **pond area**
- **helped build a staircase in the park office**
- **cleaned and maintained four restrooms and two shower buildings**

- picked up a ton of trash
- cleaned and painted 100 barbecue grills and fire rings
- painted 150 signs, gates, shelters, and boat ramp lanes
- performed maintenance on nature trails
- developed a comprehensive system of sign and marker maintenance

Wetland and Riparian Area Teams:

Dodge City:

- completed remote sensing for Ford County
- remote sensing underway for Meade County with 6 townships completed
- completed remote sensing for over 50 percent of Gray County
- completed remote sensing for Hodgeman, Meade, and Ness Counties
- participated in numerous site visits to comparison sites to acquire field data to verify remote sensing observations
- **completed preliminary work in preparation for a remote sensing inventory of Clark, Lane, and Finney Counties**
- **assisted in establishing 15 comparison sites to acquire field data of soils, vegetation, and hydrology to support the remote sensing observations**
- **completed Gray County remote sensing process**

Topeka:

- wetland inventory completed for Douglas County
- riparian inventory completed for Douglas County including 105 transects covering 800 miles of riparian habitat
- gathered, identified, mounted and verified 80 wetland plant specimens for use by the NRCS area staff
- started wetland inventory for Shawnee County
- riparian inventory started for Osage County
- riparian inventory completed for Shawnee County including 102 transects
- completed riparian inventory for Osage County
- utilized state of the art Ortho/digital photography and stream layer data in Osage County to apply GIS technology in the riparian inventory
- begin riparian inventory for Hillsdale watershed
- assisted with the oversight review of riparian inventory for Douglas, Osage, and Shawnee Counties
- **completed riparian inventory, off site and on site collection data, for Osage county**
- **completed the riparian inventory for the Hillside Water Quality Project in Johnson, Douglas, Franklin and Miami counties**
- **completed riparian inventory for the Spring Straight and cedar Creek watersheds in Jackson, Jefferson, and Nemaha counties**

Manhattan:

- completed 390,000 acres of remote sensing for Riley County
- assisted with 50 on-site wetland field reviews
- completed riparian inventory Riley County including 80 transects
- completed 23,000 acres of remote sensing for Republic County

- completed 25 percent of the riparian area inventory for Geary County
- completed off-site riparian mapping for Geary, Marshall, Pottawatomie, and Republic Counties
- completed remote sensing for Republic County (437,000 acres)
- completed transects for Geary County (80)
- completed 30 transects for Pottawatomie County
- completed 25 transects for Marshall County
- **off site mapping for the riparian inventory was completed in the following counties: Clay, Cloud, Dickinson, Ellsworth, Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Nemaha, Ottawa, Saline, Wabaunsee, and Washington**

Emporia:

- completed the riparian area inventory for Lyon County including 50 transects and all points marked with GPS
- riparian area inventory completed for 125,000 acres in Morris County
- completed the remote sensing for Lyon County (360,000 acres) and Morris County (450,000 acres)
- riparian area inventory completed for Chase, Marion, and Woodson Counties
- riparian area inventory completed for about one half of Allen County
- completed 35 vegetative transects for Morris County riparian inventory
- riparian inventory completed covers about two million acres
- **completed riparian mapping for the following counties: Allen, Wilson, Butler, and Greenwood the four counties comprise an area of about two million acres completed the vegetative transects for the inventory in Morris County**

Hutchinson:

- completed remote sensing for Rice County (330,000 acres)
 - remote sensing is underway in Harvey County
 - assisted staff biologist and soil scientist develop resource information
 - completed off-site riparian inventory for Harvey, Kingman, McPherson, Pratt, Reno, Rice, Sedgwick, and Stafford Counties
 - completed eighty three on site transects to establish quality control for the riparian inventory
 - assisted Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks set up three vegetative comparison sites in Rice County
 - completed riparian inventory in the following counties: Barber, Barton, Commanche, Edwards, Harper, Kiowa, Pawnee, Rush, and Sumner, or 14,408 miles of rivers and streams.
- total off-site riparian inventories completed by the team equal approximately 24,110 miles

Hays:

- held informational meetings with producers in Rooks County to explain the work of the team
- completed 75 transects for Rooks County riparian inventory
- completed all off-site determinations for Rooks County wetland inventory
- discovered 262 potential wetlands in Rooks County
- completed riparian mapping for 25 townships in Ellis County
- completed off-site determinations for Ellis County
- sent all of riparian inventory access letters to owners
- completed 12 riparian inventory transects for Ellis County
- completed over 70 road checks of signatures/potential wetlands
- all Ellis County data entered into wetlands program
- started Trego County inventories
- completed riparian transects in Russell County
- completed riparian area mapping in Gove, Graham, Logan, Osborne, Russell, Sheridan, Sherman, Thomas, Trego and Wallace Counties
- assisted Kansas Wildlife and Parks install weed barrier
- **riparian mapping completed in the following counties: Smith, Phillips, Norton, Decatur, Rawlins, Cheyenne**
- **the completion of the afore, the total number of counties mapped totaled 18 by the team**
- **Riparian transects completed in these counties: Graham, Osborne, Russell, Ellis, Trego, Gove, Logan, Wallace**
- **Several days were spent mounting and identifying plants Area V Herbarium**

Watershed Area Delineation Team:

- thirty-one 8-digit hydrologic unit area delineations have been completed using 600 USGS quadrangle maps
 - drafted 8-digit hydrologic unit area maps used for the delineation of the 11-digit and 14-digit hydrologic unit areas
 - traced, scanned and filed the completed 8-digit, 11-digit, and 14-digit hydrologic unit area boundaries
 - checked the finished 8-digit hydrologic unit areas incorporated in the hydrologic unit area database
 - completed an additional twenty-five 8-digit hydrologic unit area delineations including tracing, scanning, checking and filing the maps mapping to date has involved the use of over 1000 USGS quadrangle maps
 - **thirty-one 8-digit hydrologic unit area delineations have been completed using 600 USGS quadrangle maps**
 - **drafted 8-digit hydrologic unit area maps used for the delineation of the 11-digit and 14-digit hydrologic unit areas**
 - **traced, scanned and filed the completed 8-digit, 11-digit, and 14-digit hydrologic unit area boundaries**
 - **checked the finished 8-digit hydrologic unit areas incorporated in the hydrologic unit area database**
 - **completed an additional twenty-five 8-digit hydrologic unit area delineations including tracing, scanning, checking and filing the maps mapping to date has involved the use of over 1000 USGS quadrangle maps**
- Completed the drawing of the 8-,11- 14-digit hdrologic unit boundaries for the state of Kansas.**

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
US DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

AMERICORPS PROJECTS

1996

STATE: KANSAS Name USDA/AMERICORPS
Phone: (913) 823 4539

Code	Project	Measurement
HA	Home*A*Syst	no. of assessments no. of practices changed
HC	Handicap Access	no. of feet restored new no. of miles restored new
HS	Housing	no. of units
IPM	Int. Pest Mgt	no. of sites no. of acres
IR	Irrigation	no. of acres gallons of water saved no. of users
NM	Nutrient Mgt	no. of plans completed no. of acres treated other
NT	Nature Trails	no. of feet restored new no. of miles restored new
OC	Outdoor Classroom Installed	no. enhanced no. of new sites installed
PM	Plant Materials	no. of plants propagated no. of trees planted no. of other plants planted no. of greenhouses installed other
✓ PR	Park Restoration	no. of parks restored 5 no. of acres restored 4,000 other
RCY	Recycling	no. of projects amount and type of recyclables
REC	Recreation	no. of sites no. of plans no. and types of activities conducted
RF	Reforestation	no. of acres no. of trees planted
RI	Road Improvement	no. of miles no. of linear feet
RR	Riparian Restoration	no. of acres
RT	Rails to Trails	no. of miles

IN

Objectives Section

Objective: (state objective) Work with Schools and local Civic clubs and groups to provide natural resources education and projects that transfer education to the land.

1. **Progress towards meeting this community service objectives**
The team has made excellent progress in reaching the overall goal in a short period of time. As a team, they have worked on the state of Indiana Environthon project, also as a team, they just finished up an urban reforestation program at a local park here in Marion County, Indiana. They planted over 675 trees to help beautify the area. The team has an ongoing outdoor classroom project in Shelby County, Indiana, also a Greenway project and also working with other agencies to revamp and make ready a Pathway to Water Quality area of one-half acre that well over 50,000 people will pass through at the State Fair in Marion County, Indiana. They are also working on a Backyard Tree program in Hendricks County, Indiana. This project will service well over 100 homes. They are going from door to door to get people involved. They are also preparing a video on environmental education that will be shown to 300+ teachers and administrators in schools, civic clubs and other groups.
2. **Primary accomplishments in meeting community building objectives.**
The team is using a hands on approach and personal appearances to make contact with community leaders and other service organizations to help build relationships and promote environmental education. They have started to help by doing planning and design for outdoor labs, as well as helping the city work to beautify their parks by planting trees, as well as other vegetations which helps to beautify and prevent erosion.
3. **Primary accomplishments in meeting Member development objectives.**
The members are meeting each month as a team, this is helping them to accomplish the goals that they have set for themselves as well as the objectives that the organization has set.
They are also being trained in computer skills, as well as receiving conservation education training at a teacher's workshop. They have also had First Aid/CPR training. In the near future, they will be receiving training in time management as well as Intro to NRCS, and TQM.

(complete this sheet for each objective)

PROBLEM ASSESSMENT

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.

N/A

NATURE OF PROBLEM

Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

N/A

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED?

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

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

6013 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana 46278
(317) 290-3200

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION VIA FACSIMILE MACHINE

TO:

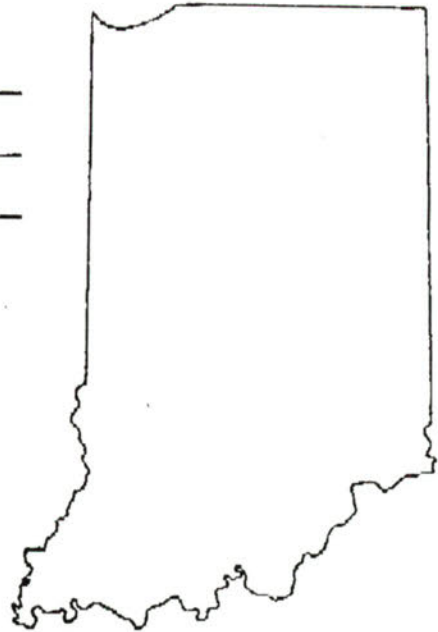
Joel Berg

DATE: 11-20-95

FACSIMILE PHONE NUMBER: (202) 720-4614

FROM:

Indiana



SUBJECT:

Americorps Quarterly Report

THIS TRANSMISSION CONSISTS OF 30 PAGES INCLUDING THIS HEADER PAGE.

OUR FACSIMILE PHONE NUMBER IS 317-290-³³⁹⁹~~3225~~ (COMM).

IF THERE ARE PROBLEMS WITH THE TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CALL: _____



AMERICORPS
4th QUARTER REPORT

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site name: USDA-NRCS

State: INDIANA

Site ID # 94ADFDC047

Your Name: FRED H. REAVES

Your Position: Human Resources Specialist

Telephone number: 317/290-3205

Fax number: 317/290-3399

e-mail address
(if available) _____

Date report completed: October 20, 1995

Reporting Period: July 11, 1995 - September 30, 1995

Program Start-up date: May 22, 1995

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>5</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>5</u>
Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>5</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>5</u>
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>5</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>5</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>930</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>930</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>1850</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>1850</u>
Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:	
Environmental Corps Members:	<u>2780</u>
Rural Development Corps Members:	<u>2780</u>

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

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

Total Number of non-AmeriCorps Volunteers:
involved in AmeriCorps service activities in
this quarter 86

Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities:
completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers
in this quarter. 250

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



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.

0

Total-to-date

0

Number of Members who have gained employment thru their
AmeriCorps Service

0



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	<u>1</u>
Number of Females	<u>5</u>
TOTAL	<u>5</u>

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	<u>5</u>
Number of African Americans	_____
Number of Native Americans	_____
Number of Hispanics	_____
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	_____
Other	_____
TOTAL	<u>5</u>

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	<u>3</u>
Number with Graduate degree	<u>2</u>
Number w/Professional or Trade School	_____
TOTAL	<u>5</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>4</u>
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	<u>1</u>
Number of children	<u>2</u>
Number w/Disabilities	_____

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



Objectives Section

Objective: (state objective) To work with schools and local civic clubs and groups to provide natural resource education and projects that transfer education to the land.

Progress towards meeting this community service objectives

- Americorps members have been conducting tours of the Pathway to Water Quality educational exhibit at the Indiana State Fair. These tours have been presented to over 200 Indianapolis area students to help them understand the importance of conservation practices.
- Began construction of outdoor lab classroom and wetland area at Waldron Elementary school. Design was drawn up by Americorps member.
- Assisting several elementary teachers in setting up a traveling conservation library for Hendricks County schools.
- Working on constructing inner city gardens in neighborhoods and working with them on keeping gardens clean and the placement of the gardens. Worked with Indianapolis Housing Authority to get project started.

(complete this sheet for each objective)

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

AmeriCorps members have attended Introduction to NRCS course, wetlands workshop, Project Learning Tree and Wild curriculum training. Some have attended NRCS region team meetings.

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

Have met with various community groups, teachers and businesses to establish contacts and cooperation in working on projects.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



MEDIA ASSESSMENT

1. NATIONAL IDENTITY ACTIVITIES THIS QUARTER

2. MEDIA COVERAGE

3. OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION

Produced first Indiana Americorps video.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Americorps 1995
Steve Mackey
September 29, 1995

HIGHLIGHTS OF AMERICORPS
CALENDAR
OF EVENTS

August 2, 1995

Americorps meeting (Satellite Broadcast) 9:30AM

August 3, 1995

Went to Noblesville to help Jenny survey area for outdoor classroom. Completed The Pathway to Water Quality write-up for Mike McGovern's approval check.

August 4, 1995

Worked out at Waldron elementary. No other Americorps members present.

August 7, 1995

Work day at the State Fair. The Pathway to Water Quality.

August 8, 1995

Video production of the first Indiana Americorps Video. Video production was done at Purdue University in the Agronomy department.

August 9, 1995

Finished video production of the Americorps Video at Purdue University.

August 11, 1995

Work day at the State Fair. The Pathway to Water Quality.

August 14, 1995

Work day at the State Fair. The Pathway to Water Quality.

August 16, 1995

White Waters Regional meeting. Continued work on the matrix to establish regional priorities and short comings.

August 23, 1995

Introduction to NRCS seminar held in Indianapolis.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

August 24, 1995

Introduction to NRCS seminar held in Indianapolis.

August 29, 1995

Americorps meeting at the State Office.

September 6, 1995

Sandi Jones led Urban Bus Tour. An Americorps project which was highly successful. The tour educated builders and developers about Rule 5. All Americorps members were present.

September 7, 1995

Construction of the outdoor classroom and dance floor at Waldron elementary. Americorps members were present.

September 12, 1995

Stony Creek education forum. Lasted two days with all Americorps members present and educating middle school children about the environment.

September 13, 1995

Second day of the Stony Creek forum. Took video production shots for the next Americorps video.

September 14, 1995

Last day of the Stony Creek forum.

September 18, 1995

Beginning of construction of the wetland in the Waldron outdoor lab project.

September 19, 1995

Met with Morristown elementary school officials about construction of an outdoor lab for the children at their school. This was highly successful. Plans are being drawn up by myself and will be submitted to the school board for approval by October 6th.

September 20, 1995

Pathway to Water Quality. State Fairgrounds. School Tours and presentations given by all Americorps members.

September 25, 1995

Continued construction of the wetland at Waldron elementary.

September 26, 1995

Pathway to Water Quality. State Fairgrounds. School Tours and presentations given by Americorps members.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

11/20/95 16:35 317 290 3399
09/29/95-08:20 317 398 0805

NRCS INDPLS
SHELBY CO FSA -->151/2903399

012

September 28, 1995

Worked at the Farm Progress Show with DC Edie Atkinson.
Another Americorps member Sandi Jones was also present.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

11/20/95 16:38 317 290 3399
09/29/95 08:20 317 398 0805

NRCS INDPLS
SHELBY CO PSA -->1017490000

013

MORRISTOWN OUTDOOR LAB

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Proposed 1st year plan of Morristown School's Outdoor Laboratory. Goals of first year include, but not confined to, the following:

- 1. Define present boundaries of proposed Lab.(attached) with planting of white pines(evergreens) to serve as windbreak and outline of area to be served for first 1-3 years,.*
- 2. App. 60 3-5 ft. evergreens are needed for east, north, and west boundaries. Larger trees are needed because area is presently a high-traffic one in the summertime. Softball field presently extends app. 150 feet on north and northwest side of proposed Lab.*
- 3. Splitrail fencing will serve as a southern boundary between lab and natural area of vegetation in present treeline. Barbed wire fence will continue to serve as legal boundary between school property and private land. This southern area of natural trees, bushes, etc., will serve as cover for small animals. We will intersperse this with wildflowers and bushes to serve as food for said animals.*
- 4. Split-rail will be placed app. 15 feet from present barbed fence.*
- 5. Minimally, 2 picnic tables to serve as aid to students and community in visiting the lab. These will be placed to south of shelter, already in place.*
- 6. Minimum of 3 bird feeders placed at NW, SE, and SW corners.*

2nd Year (Refer to numbers on proposed Lab. Plan attached)

1. **Create a Weather Station in Area 5.**
2. **Add 3-4 working tables (picnic, flat-walkup, etc.).**
3. **Add about 75-100 feet of native Indiana trees (maple, tulip, etc.)
to area 3.**
4. **In area 12, app. 15 by 15 feet of native grasses(nature-watch
area).**
5. **Area 9, garden plots for individual classroom responsibility.**

3RD YEAR PROPOSED OUTDOOR LAB

- 1. Extend Outdoor Lab to N + NW area presently serving as softball field .
Proposal to extend Northern most area app. 150 ft. east, and
extending western edge app. 75 ft. north. This will define the entire
areas of the Lab.**

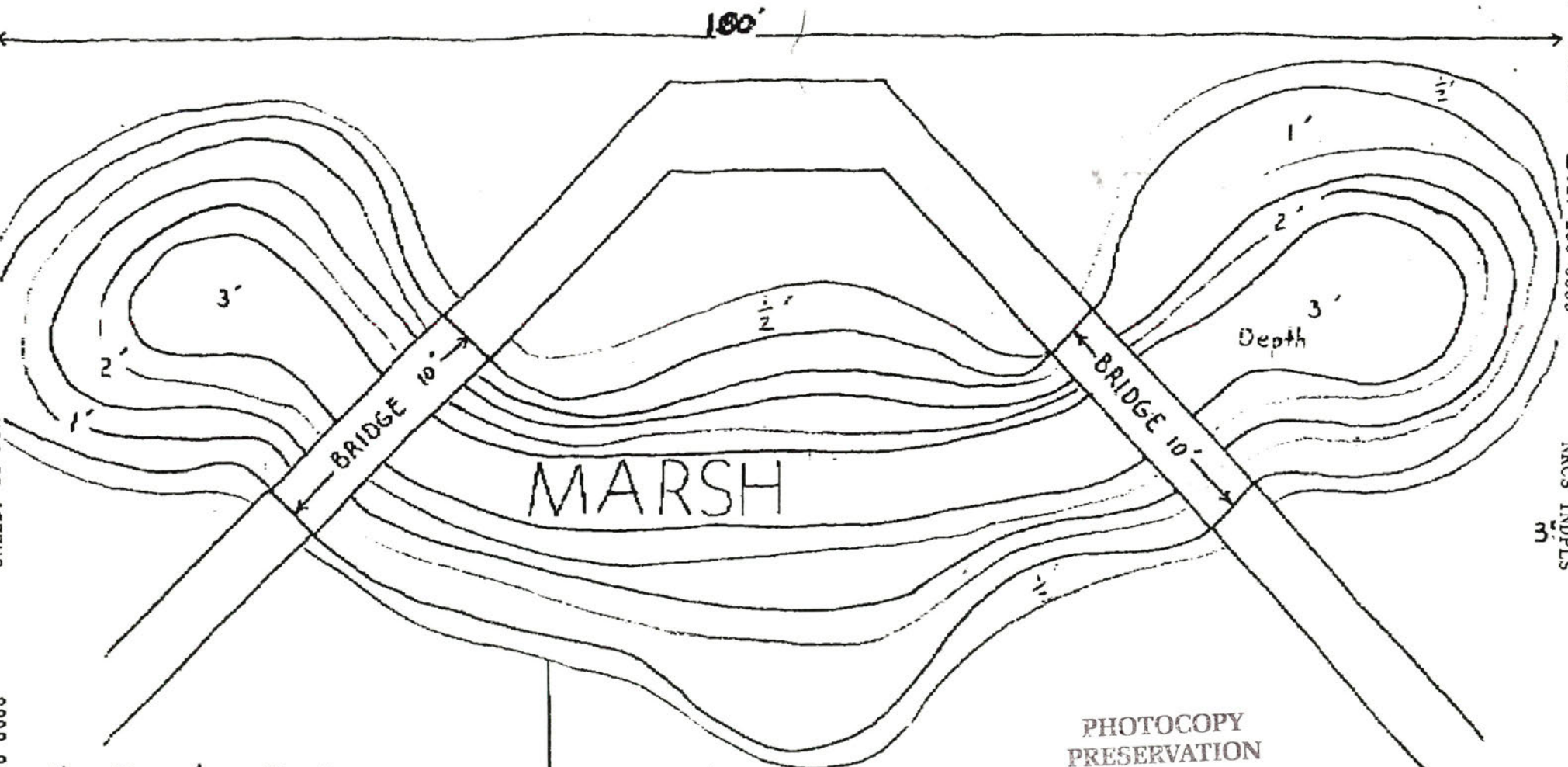
- 2. This will entail disbandment of present fencing that surrounds said
softball field. This will add app. 700 sq. ft. to the lab. Area will ~~the~~
require extensive work in the present softball field, which should be
done before bordering with windbreaks. (possible to addition present
fence to surround the future pond)**

- 3. Total length will be app. 250' on the South, 200 ft. on the east, 150 ft.
on the west. 160 ft. on the north**

4th Year Proposed Outdoor lab

The 4th year on, will involve on-going projects to fill in and supplement areas of the Lab. These projects could include:

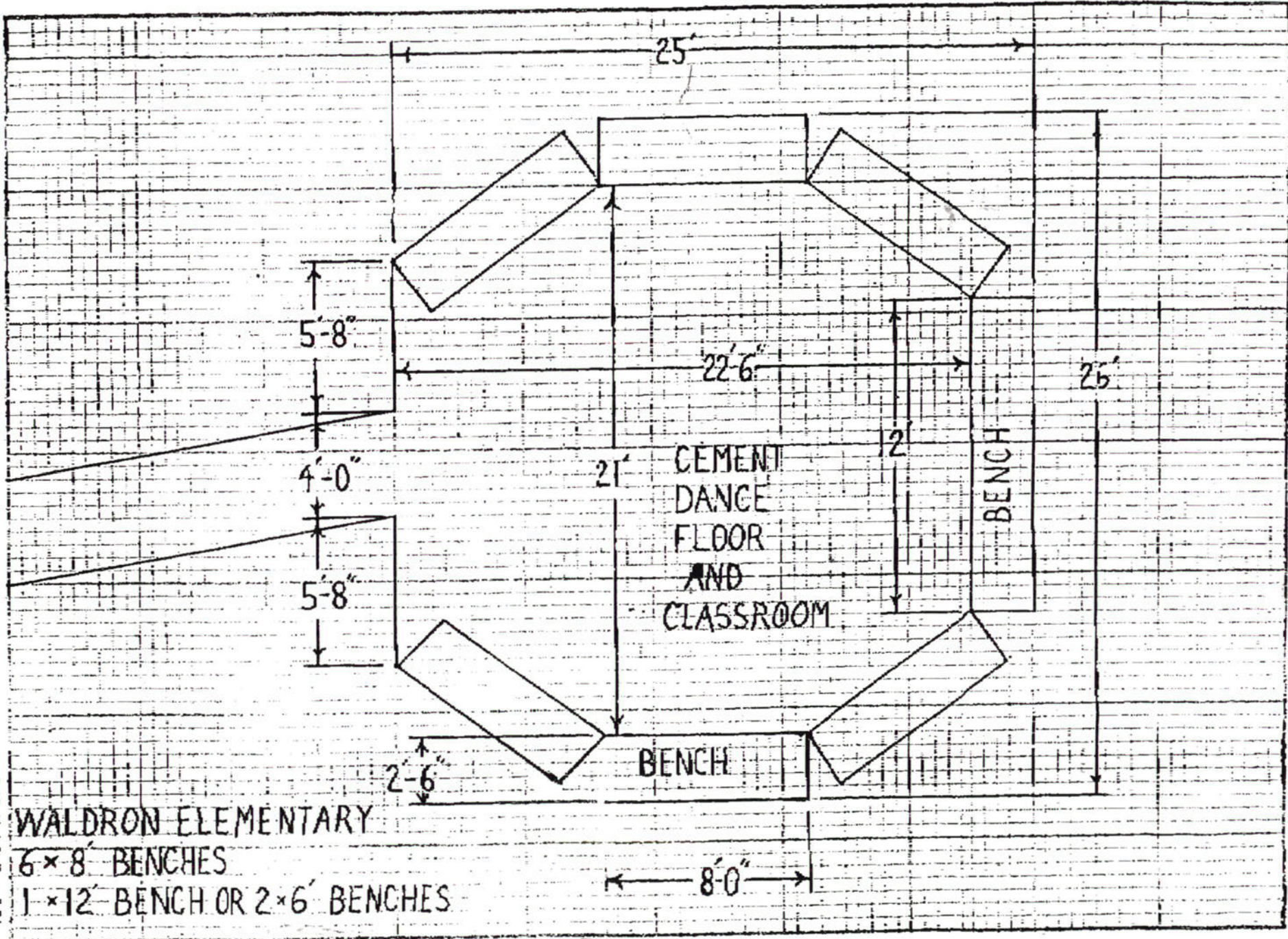
- 1. archaeological dig site*
- 2. walking trail*
- 3. firs pits*
- 4. fenced in pond*
- 5. planting areas for teach grade level*
- 6. archery range*
- 7. larger shelter*



PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

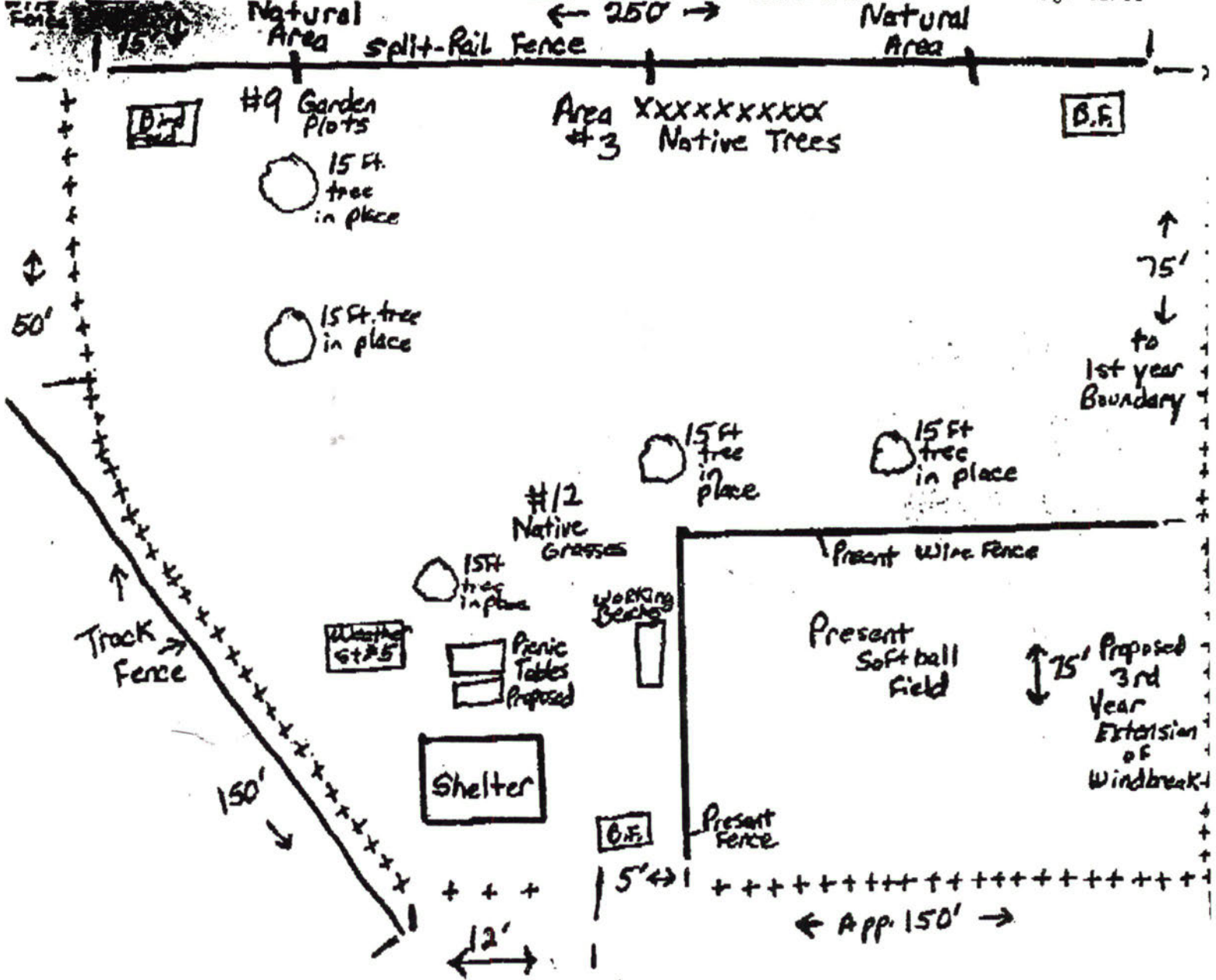
Waldron Elementary Marsh
 Remove Top Soil 1st.
 Excavate to Depth.
 Replace Top Soil around outer edge or stockpile for flowerbed use.
 Pat Down
 Get vegetation in as quickly as possible to avoid sediment erosion to center channel.
 In Construction 9/27/95

0000 020 110 07:00 06/67/60



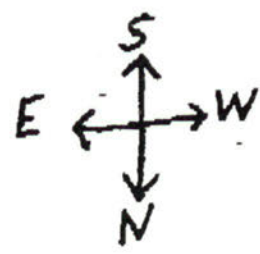
IN-ENG-30 2/21 Rev. 6/71

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION



PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

+ = White Pines



NOTE: Sketch
Not official drawings
Not to Scale

Proposed Outdoor Laboratory
for

Morristown Schools

Friday, August 24, 1995

30 cents a B page

College testing scores increase, but not enough, says state superintendent Page 3A



A whole new ballgame Change is the name of the game as local football teams prepare for season. Page 1B

On target County woman, but national archery

Newspaper for all the people

Shelbyville

THE SHELBYVILLE NEWS

Pupils dig into good earth

Nature centers sprout as new teaching tools

By SAM BLACK Staff writer

County Dept. of Education here means leaving their desks and putting their boots and a few more on the ground. Tripton Elementary School students left their desks, leaving papers and washing bottles, and have their resources at the school's outdoor nature center. And Waldron Elementary School plans to do the same.

Over field trips, Tripton teachers have used the nearly 1-acre nature center to teach everything from science to reading to art, and is currently working on a nature center of its own, and expects to have it completed next year.

"We will teach the basics, but we want to expand the curriculum to incorporate more than just math and science," Assistant Principal Bob Hillon said. "It's a jumping-off point for a lot of different activities."

At Waldron, a nature center allows the same type of plants and rocks they discover and write about what they see. Students take their pictures to the library to study a praying mantis or a colorful butterfly they witnessed, Tripton third-grade teacher Phillipy said.

The nature center at Waldron gives students a better understanding of the balance of nature, Hillon said. They learn that a plant breathes through its leaves, and if they pull the leaves off the plant, it might die, he said.

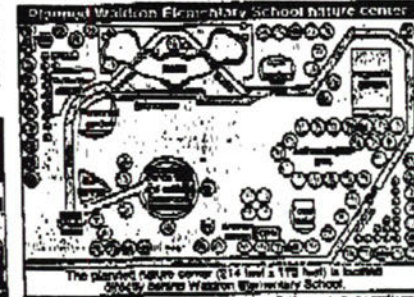
"It's just a meaningful when you're outside," Hillon said. "If you see a bug, you study it. You don't squish it. If you see a snake, you study it. You don't kill it."

But a nature center isn't limited to studying plants, weather and bugs, he says. The school can take her kids outside for reading lessons.

In the center's log cabin, students gain a better understanding of how chemistry from Little



A class of Tripton Elementary second-graders examine the different elements of the earth in the school's nature center on Wednesday. Teachers regularly use the center as part of their classes.



Triton's center gets \$1,200 grant

By SAM BLACK Staff writer

Bob Hillon wants all of his students to have access to Tripton Elementary School's nature center.

Hillon said the school received a \$1,200 grant Wednesday from the Disc First Foundation of Shelby County to begin building a raised, wood walkway to make the school's nature center accessible to people in wheelchairs.

"Wheelchairs roll roughly or aren't used at all over the uneven dirt and grass at the center. Though the school has no children in wheelchairs, the school had had to work with wheelchairs in the past, Hillon said he wants to make



Triton Elementary School second-grader Nichole Archer uses a bug sucker to capture a bug off a flower Wednesday in the school's nature center.

Nature acre a study in frugality

By SAM BLACK Staff writer

Triton Elementary School's nature center is a study in budgeting and green engineering, said former Principal Tony Strangeway.

Strangeway, who became principal at Waldron Elementary School in February this year, started developing the nature center five years ago. His own money has been used to develop

With donations and volunteer work, the nature center has developed into an outdoor classroom for hands-on teaching.

Before the nature center was built, the area was a playground, surrounded by the school buildings on three sides and a fence on the fourth.

But the playground was rarely used. It was just a grassy area and the ground was often too wet for play. Teachers

took their students to the largest playground on the other side of the school.

Strangeway said he had read about nature centers at schools and decided the courtyard would be better used as an outdoor classroom.

A mid-1800s log cabin was the first structure of the nature center, moved to the school in 1991. Strangeway had moved the cabin behind Lee's Inn.

4000 projects earn approval

By SABINE VON... Staff writer

Opposition to the plan was not planned, but it was planned between the Johnson County and Shelby County approval. The Department of Administration is also working with other agencies to get the project approved. The project will be a public-private partnership. The project will be a public-private partnership. The project will be a public-private partnership.

The plan is a scaled down version of Americorps drawn plans for the Waldron Elementary outdoor lab. This is excellent publicity for us and conservation education.

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

During the second quarter the Americorps team worked at the Pathways to Water Quality display, acted as facilitators at the Hamilton County Conservation Field Day (Jenny Slavin), helped Waldron Elementary School lay mulch on a path and put in cut telephone poles as a fence along the edge of the path and their outdoor learning center (Steve Mackey), assisted Sandi Jones with her Urban Bus Tour Project, and helped Diana begin work on her inner city gardens project.

In addition to projects the entire group has done, Diana Meer, Jeffifer Slavin and I attended facilitator training for Project Learning Tree.

In regards to my individual projects, I have been working on a booklet of activities that can be used in an outdoor classroom. Diana has been a tremendous help on this project. She and I have both been going through materials already present in our respective offices and collecting/creating new ones.

In addition, I have been compiling materials for two conservation libraries and have already gotten a response. Mrs. Vandamier asked that the library be set up in her classroom. On September 25th Diana helped me set the library up in Mrs. Vandamier's classroom and I spoke with teachers during their lunch that same day about the library. We also added consumable materials, such as posters and pamphlets, that the teachers can check out and request copies of if they are interested in having their own copy. The library will stay at Danville North Elementary for two weeks so that teachers may have ample opportunity to check materials out of it.

I will also be assisting Carol Ford, an Avon resident with Avon Upper Elementary's outdoor classroom and a conservation badge for her Brownie troop. I will continue to assist Pittsboro and White Lick Elementarys once they have "settled in" for the semester.

Seslie R. Vanigan

Objective Section-Jenny Slavin

1. Progress towards meeting this community service objective

AmeriCorps aided the partnership of conservation organizations in maintaining and running a Pathway to Water Quality educational exhibit at the Indiana State Fair. Topics included urban erosion control, farm animal waste management, forestry, irrigation, soil profiles, abandoned well capping, wetlands, filter stripping, watershed management and high residue farming. We are currently continuing the use of the site as an educational facility for Indianapolis area schools. AmeriCorps will have educated over 200 students at completion.

AmeriCorps is currently assisting with the planning and building of a 30 acre Environmental Education Center for the entire Noblesville School District. We are working with principals, teachers, park departments, school board members, parents, and students. The center will be used by all grades and teachers in the district as an interdisciplinary opportunity to promote stewardship, respect, and an understanding of their environment. The site will be open for public use at designated times where students, onsite naturalists, will be in charge of running tours.

AmeriCorps is currently assisting with the planning and development of an outdoor classroom for Adams Elementary and Sheridan Middle Schools in Sheridan, Indiana. We will also train teachers on interdisciplinary utilization of the lab as well as how to adjust existing curriculums.

AmeriCorps is currently organizing a cooperative effort between the Indianapolis Water Company, Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Natural Resource Conservation Service to conduct an investigative water quality analysis of the Morse Reservoir watershed in Noblesville, Indiana.

AmeriCorps contacted local parks departments to organize one day conservation projects for the Boy Scout's Good Turn Day, September 15, 1995.

The AmeriCorps gave presentations on pond environment and riparian forest zones for fifth grade Conservation Days in Hamilton County. We presented AmeriCorps as well as the subject matter to 709 students and over 60 parents and teachers.

2. Primary accomplishments in meeting community building objectives

In the case of the Noblesville School District's environmental education center, approximately 6000+ students of all ages will attend the center at least once a year. Also, the Noblesville Parks Department will be using the facility for summer adult and youth education programs.

The connection was made between the Indianapolis water company, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Tipton and Hamilton Co. Soil and Water Conservation Districts due to the water quality analysis organized and implemented by AmeriCorps.

3. Primary accomplishments in meeting Member development objectives

I received extensive training for the skills I need to accomplish the objectives of which we are meeting. Examples: wetlands workshop, conservation camp, Project Learning Tree and Wild Curriculum training, as well as on the job training with the NRCS and the SWCD staff.

I have had the opportunity to work with many different people towards a common positive goal.

My project planning, organization, and leadership skills are constantly under the gun with every new project. I feel as though I could organize a UN conference with ease!



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

PROJECT LEARNING TREE WORKSHOP →

30 people will probably be trained via PLT.

PATHWAY TO WATER Quality

390 students will have taken the tour. ~~over~~

About 20 teachers and parents assisted.

Handicap students were also assisted through PWD.

INNER CITY GARDENS

I have been in contact with around 20 people trying to set up the ~~garden~~ gardens. If they are completed over 400 people will reap the benefits.

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM ACTIVITY BOOKLET

Although this also is not yet completed, all the schools in all five counties will have access.

**AMERICORPS
QUARTERLY REPORT #2**

**Diana Sue Meer
Americorp Member - Rural Development Team
USDA - NRCS - Indianapolis
September 25, 1995**

OBJECTIVE: Our Americorps team is focusing on environmental education as discussed in the previous report. We are still working on many of the same projects and developing and brainstorming on more. For example:

Three of the members of the team just finished Project Learning Tree facilitator training in order to help put on workshops for interested teachers. We already have a workshop scheduled with a local university to show what we learned!

Leslie Flanigan and I are diligently working on putting together a booklet with outdoor classroom activities. I am trying to learn the curriculum guidelines so the teachers can use our activities to fulfill these needs. This has been a very long process of going through file cabinets and pulling all of those long lost activities and information. It has really proved to be interesting and fun. This is going to be a winter project because much organization needs to be done. We want to do this correctly and in a way that the teachers will use it, so we are taking it very slowly and getting a great deal of input. The eventual goal would be a notebook that teachers can buy for a small fee to cover the printing.

The Pathway to Water Quality school tours are under way. For a total of six days spread over three weeks, the Americorps members will be at the state fair helping kids to understand more about soil and water conservation. Each member wrote a one page write-up to use as a guideline for the kids. My area includes talking about why wetlands are a valuable resource and what they can do to stop erosion. We have only been out there for one day so far, and it was very enjoyable. I learned a great deal about what the kids were being taught, and I hope they learned a little something from me.

I, personally, have been kind of a travelling helper to Leslie and Jenny in the other counties. Since Marion County is such a large county and since it already has an environmental education specialist, there is not too much I can do in the way of environmental education. (which is my interest) The activity packet I spoke of earlier is something that has not been done before so I am working with education in that aspect. However, Leslie in Hendricks County is doing a travelling Conservation Library for her schools. I have been helping her a great deal because that is very interesting to me. Since my county has so many schools, a library would not be feasible. I have also been helping Jenny bring together some materials for a library she wants to start in Hamilton County.

1. Progress: My original project, inner city gardens, is still under construction. I do believe that I am making some progress. I have gotten to know the neighborhood directors and my excitement seems to rub off on them. They know my voice now because I have called them so much to try to get this project off the ground. Jenny, Leslie, and I all went out to the projects one day to find out exactly where the gardens should be placed. We found so many materials that we can use that they are calling junk. They have telephone poles that will be used for raised garden beds and also people that will operate chainsaws and roto-tillers. We got permission to do pretty much anything the neighborhoods want!! I am planning on trying to involve the other Americorps teams and maybe the Indianapolis Clean City Committee to help out with an inner city clean-up day. There is a great deal of glass all around the complexes and a lot of trash. If the

neighborhoods help us clean up then maybe it will stay clean. If not, then we will just clean it up again. I am not going to quit until this project is going full steam.

As a team, we have worked on several other projects in other counties. Jenny got us all involved with Conservation Days in Hamilton County. It was a great time to teach kids about conservation and to actually see what they know. We played a game and took the kids around a pond. We have also been helping Steve in Shelby County with Waldron's outdoor classroom construction. As you can see, we are very busy!

NATURE OF PROBLEM: Everything seems to be going rather well, but I have noticed a three to two split in the team. It appears to me that two members are only concerned with finding other jobs so they do not really seem to care or take part in others projects. There seems to be complaining that is bringing the whole team down. I just think that Americorps should be stressed as a commitment, not just as a job until something better comes along. The idea of Americorps was to develop people. I know it is not a high paying job, but I have enjoyed myself and believe it is a valuable experience that will help me in graduate school. That's all.

From: Sandi Jones <in391!sjones>
Subject: quarterly report
To: in1000!freaves
Date: Tue, 19 Sep 95 14:52:56 EDT

Quarterly Americorps Report to Fred Reaves
>From Sandi Jones, Americorps Team Member

Objective: Our focus continues to be environmental education. Our goal continues to be increasing environmental awareness in our community and serving needs not currently being met by other members of the Conservation Partnership team. Our reward will be extensive training in project management, leadership and team cooperation.

My list of projects for this quarter (which may differ slightly from other team members) includes the following (completed and in progress): (1) Coordinate Urban Bus Tour, Marion County (completed) (2) Host Educational Tours at Pathway to Water Quality (3) Hamilton County Conservation Days, Stoney Creek Farm (4) Inner City Garden Project, Marion County (5) Waldron Elementary School Outdoor Classroom Project, Shelby County (6) Marion County Fair Display (completed)

1. Progress: (1) A discussion meeting was held on July 21 with Doug Wolf, IDNR, John South, Hamilton County SWCD, and Bill Howard, Marion County SWCD to discuss plans for an urban bus tour. Americorps team members Diana Meer, Steve Mackey and myself were present. A site in Hendricks County was chosen as the principal stop on the bus tour. A letter inviting district staff and county supervisors within the central Indiana region to participate in the tour was prepared and sent out the last week of July. The first of two meetings with Chuck Foggatt, the developer of Forest Commons in Hendricks County, our principal tour stop, took place on July 27. This meeting proved to be most encouraging. Mr. Foggatt was excited about his site being included on the tour and offered to assist us in any way possible. He noted that he would discuss as much or as little as we would like, and was even willing to work with the other developers on the agenda if necessary. In exchange for a free lunch, he stated that he could now motivate his people to get things done one to two weeks ahead of schedule to be ready for our tour date. What more cooperation could we ask for? Two other sites were chosen in Marion County to be included on the tour and John Parry, Urban Forestry Specialist for IDNR was invited to talk at one of the sites. Arrangements had to be made for a tour bus, refreshments, box lunches and a meeting place inside Eagle Creek Park where the group could stay for lunch. A special brochure promoting the event was sent to approximately 750 engineers, developers, contractors, and planning professionals from Marion, Johnson, Hendricks, Hamilton, Boone, Hancock, Morgan, Monroe, Madison and Delaware Counties. Certificates of completion were prepared for those participants who requested them. The bus tour was held on September 6, 1995. Approximately 55 people attended. The visitors came from both the public and private sector. Several topics were discussed, centered around the tour's theme, "Reducing the Impact of Development on the Environment, including: individual building lot sediment controls, seeding, mulching, use of erosion control

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retention pond management.

(2) Americorps team helped with final preparations at PWQ prior to the Indiana State Fair. Two days were spent with Greg Gerke helping to transplant wetland plants. During the State Fair each of the Americorps team members worked one to days at the Pathway. Fine tuning of the PWQ write-ups was completed just in time (?) for the fair. A tentative schedule for the educational tour host days of September 19, 20, 26, 27 and October 3 and 4 has been prepared. Approximately 350 students are expected to tour the Pathway on these dates. Americorps members will coordinate the one-hour program and act as guides for the student visitors.

(3) Hamilton County Conservation Days were held at Stoney Creek Farm on September 12, 13 and 14. Americorps team members presented a simple 15-minute program on the benefits of riparian zones for water quality on September 12 and 13. We had eight fifth-grade classes come through on the 12th and ten fifth-grade classes come through on the 13th. We overheard a few of the kids say that our stop was the most fun!

(4) All five team members met with Martin Williams of the Indianapolis Housing Authority on July 19 to discuss the possibility of an inner city garden project. Diana will lead this project, and by suggestion of Mr. Williams, will focus the effort on three neighborhoods in Center Township. A meeting was held on July 25 with community leaders of one of the neighborhoods. Diana, Steve, Leslie and I were present for that meeting. The two women that we spoke with were excited about the possibility of us working with them on this project. They had worked with a student from Purdue University's extension service in the past but had to end the program when funds ran out. We will need to plan this effort carefully so that it can continue after we are gone.

(5) Jenny, Diana and I joined Steve for a workday at Waldron Elementary on July 17, spreading mulch on the path in the outdoor classroom. The mulch was donated by a local landfill in the Shelby County area and consisted partly of manure. The mulch had to be shoveled out of a truck and spread over the path. Several children were present to help with this effort. Imagine the interesting comments that the children made in reference to this hard, smelly job! With the promise of a cookout at one of the teacher's homes, everyone worked hard all during the morning. Lunch was postponed until after 1:30 p.m. so the job could be finished. Our reward: hot dogs and hamburgers cooked on the grill! Another workday was held on August 22. All five Americorps team members were present in their best set of work clothes for this event. The Shelbyville News media was scheduled to come by the site at Waldron for a photo shoot and write-up for a feature newspaper article on the outdoor classroom project. With the help of most of the sixth graders at Waldron, a top layer of wood chip mulch was spread over the path with haste and the five Americorps team members barely broke a sweat!

(6) The final details of the three-dimensional fair display were completed during the week of July 17, including sanding, painting and gluing assorted groundcover materials and buildings in place. The finished display could easily pass for a

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professional job! Diana and I helped Julie set up the display at the Marion County Fair on July 25.

2. Primary accomplishments: The Americorps team presented environmental education to approximately 450 fifth-grade students as part of Hamilton County Conservation Days on September 12 and 13. Americorps members handled the details for an urban bus tour of Marion and Hendricks Counties on September 6. Approximately 55 people attended from both the public and private sector.

3. Primary accomplishments in meeting member development objectives: All five Americorps members completed "Introduction to NRCS" training on August 2, 23 and 24. All five members have ongoing, worthwhile projects within their own counties, but have found the time to work together on team projects as well. Team members have learned whom to call on for help with certain activities. For example, Leslie is preparing a packet on environmental education for school teachers in Hendricks County and has provided assistance to Diana and Jenny who would like to do the same in their own counties.

NATURE OF PROBLEM: Communication within the Americorps team is better than communication with outside conservation team partners. PWQ write-ups were done with little or no guidance. When we actually showed up to work the fair, no one was quite sure where we fit in. By working together as a team under Jenny's leadership at the Hamilton County Conservation Days, however, we put together a simple, informative program for the fifth-grade visitors that ended up being the most enjoyable for the kids!

TRAINING ASSESSMENT: Since I consider builders and developers to be primary targets for environmental education, I am very interested in attending one of the Rule 5 Seminars planned for the last week of September. I am also interested in attending the Wetlands training workshop offered through the Sierra Club. No other specific training needs are noted at this time.

$$\begin{array}{r} 744.5 \\ 252.0 \\ \hline *492.5 \end{array}$$

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