

FOIA MARKER

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

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Americorps

Series/Staff Member: General Files

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 24225

FolderID:

Folder Title:

USDA [Department of Agriculture]/Americorps - Clinton Libray Copies - FY95 Quarterly Progress Reports - OR-TN [Oregon-Tennessee] [3]

Stack:

S

Row:

66

Section:

1

Shelf:

6

Position:

3

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
HARLAN FIELD OFFICE
207 N. MAIN STREET
HARLAN, KENTUCKY
40831

PHONE: 606-573-2838

FAX: 606-573-7677

DATE: 4-10-95
NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET 3
TO: John Harris
DEPT./AGENCY NRCS
FAX NUMBER 615-736-7135

FROM: Rodney Hendrickson

MESSAGE Answers to questions are
listed on page 3. Please let me
know if any additional information
is needed.

AMERICORPS QUARTERLY REPORTS

TIME PERIOD: December 1 through March 31, 1995

DUE DATE: April 10, 1995

1. **NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH**
2. **NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE CURRENT QUARTER**
3. **NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM.**
4. **TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED**
5. **TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING**
6. **PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**
This is the most important item in the quarterly report. Responses should be concise, quantifiable, measurable and show how much has been done towards the service objectives.
7. **PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**
Expanded on #5 above using narratives, quotes and stories to show how service your project has performed has begun meeting your community service objectives. Also specify, other important service you have performed that "gets things done" in your community. Tell what progress you have made in boosting the personal development of the Members or helping local communities build their long-term infrastructures.
8. **PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER**
We assume that the amount of work accomplished in subsequent quarters will exceed progress made during the program start up. What will you accomplish in the 2nd quarter that you were not able to do in the 1st?
9. **PRIMARY CHALLENGES**
Please be candid in specifying any challenges, problems, or disappointments you have faced, as well as what steps you, your Members, NRCS, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to either rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future.
10. **PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS**
Specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training, or other technical assistance can be provided by NRCS, USDA, CNCS or other sources to improve your project.

TOTAL P.02/02

TOTAL P.02

AMERICORPS QUARTERLY REPORTS

Time Period: December 1 through March 31, 1995

Due Date: April 10, 1995

1. Number of members enrolled at the time of the launch. 1
2. Number of members enrolled at the end of the current quarter. 1
3. Number of members terminated from the program. 0
4. Total number of hours of direct service performed. 720
5. Total number of hours in training. Approximately 128 hours
6. Progress towards meeting community service objectives: Employee has made over 20 home and farm visits in the community. Citizens have been informed on where to get agriculture and horticulture assistance.
7. Primary accomplishments. See 6 above
8. Projected outcomes for next quarter. Workshops, farmer training, community service.
9. Primary challenges Well satisfied
10. Primary training and technical assistance needs: Surveying, water quality, water testing, livestock management.

TELECOPIER TRANSMITTAL

TO: John HarrisFAX # 615-736-5472FROM: Della CoxDATE: 11-7-95TIME: 3:33pm

We are transmitting 2 pages, including this Telecopier Transmittal cover page. If you should have any problems, please contact Della.

NOTES: _____

CHARGE CODE: _____ AUTHORIZED BY: _____

AMERICORPS QUARTERLY REPORTS

TIME PERIOD: December 1 through March 31, 1995

DUE DATE: April 10, 1995

1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH
2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE CURRENT QUARTER
3. NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM.
4. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED
5. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING
6. PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
This is the most important item in the quarterly report. Responses should be concise, quantifiable, measurable and show how much has been done towards the service objectives.
7. PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Expand on #5 above using narratives, quotes and stories to show how service your project has performed has begun meeting your community service objectives. Also specify, other important service you have performed that "gets things done" in your community. Tell what progress you have made in boosting the personal development of the Members or helping local communities build their long-term infrastructures.
8. PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER
We assume that the amount of work accomplished in subsequent quarters will exceed progress made during the program start up. What will you accomplish in the 2nd quarter that you were not able to to date?
9. PRIMARY CHALLENGES
Please be candid in specifying any challenges, problems, or disappointments you have faced, as well as what steps you, your Members, NRCS, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to either rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future.
10. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS
Specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training, or other technical assistance can be provided by NRCS, USDA, CNCS or other sources to improve your project.

AMERICORPS QUARTERLY REPORTS

TIME PERIOD: December 1 through March 31, 1993

DUE DATE: April 10, 1993

1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH - 1 -

2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE CURRENT QUARTER - 1 -

3. NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM. - 0 -

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED

5. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING: 40 -

6. PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

This is the most important item in the quarterly report. Responses should be concise, quantifiable, measurable and show how much has been done towards the service objectives. Painted 10 houses, fenced 2 farms, held workshops delivered animals, did home repairs

7. PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Expand on #5 above using narratives, quotes and stories to show how service your project has performed has begun meeting your community service objectives. Also specify, other important service you have performed that "gets things done" in your community. Tell what progress you have made in boosting the personal development of the Members or helping local communities build their long-term infrastructures.

8. PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER

We assume that the amount of work accomplished in subsequent quarters will exceed progress made during the program start up. What will you accomplish in the 2nd quarter that you were not able to do to date? workshops, fencing, land managements, water quality

9. PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Please be candid in specifying any challenges, problems, or disappointments you have faced, as well as what steps you, your Members, NRCS, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to either rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future.

10. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

Specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training, or other technical assistance can be provided by NRCS, USDA, CNCS or other sources to improve your project.

WELL SATISFIED

ANY AVAILABLE

Operating Site ID # Unknown

**Corporation for National Service
Operating Site Quarterly Report**

1. Operating site name: Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation & Development Council
2. Program name: Cherokee National Forest
3. Corporation Grantee name: USDA Forest Service
4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies: Second Quarter - 1/1 - 3/31/95
5. On what date did your AmeriCorps Members begin service or training? 9/12/94
6. In the table below indicate (a) the number of full and part-time AmeriCorps Members that were enrolled as of the last day of the reporting quarter and (b) the total cumulative service hours completed by the AmeriCorps Members as of the last day of the reporting quarter.

Number of AmeriCorps Members	Total Cumulative Hours of required Service	Full-time
2	2187	2

7. Please provide estimates of the following:
 - (a) Total number of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities: 1,438 volunteers.
 - (b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers: 10,479 hours
8. Primary Accomplishments this Quarter: (In detail, describe your central activities, project milestones, and most important "things gotten done" this quarter.)

Solid Waste Specialist Position

AmeriCorps Member Accomplishments During Second Quarter	Estimated Cost to Community if Service Provided on the Open Market*	Estimated Cost as Provided Through AmeriCorps**	Estimated Cost Savings to Community Through AmeriCorps
6,700 citizens in Hancock County, TN will soon have an approved collection site to take their trash as a result of AmeriCorps working through the red tape of the State to permit a convenience center collection site. Currently there is no approved collection in the county and about 50% of the waste is illegally dumped in streams, rivers and gullies.	\$3,400		

111,000 residents in the counties of Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins and Union, TN now have a way to safely dispose of dangerous household hazardous waste like paint thinners, old paint, turpentine, used oil, antifreeze, pesticides, drain cleaners, etc. AmeriCorps Member has worked through the State and Laidlaw Environmental Services to provide five collection days where residents can bring their materials to a mobile collection unit for safe disposal. Events were publicized and promoted through 15 news clips, 500 posters, radio PSAs, notices through schools, etc.	\$4,000		
Member assistance helped convince state not to cancel a grant to a county when the county did not fulfill its obligations. Member stepped in to draft bid specifications for a recycling center and provide leadership in obtaining bids to satisfy the state. Member also stepped in to develop and draft bids for recycling equipment for the center. As a result, 18,000 citizens will soon have a place to take their recyclables (currently there is none in the county) and the county will meet a state mandate without penalty.	\$2,000		
Key technical assistance by Member was provided to a newly formed solid waste authority in researching and developing bid specifications for a possible transfer station to handle solid waste. This assistance is helping authority (composed of local citizens) to make informed decisions based on facts and research rather than guesstimates. Results will be more cost efficient and effective services for 27,000 county residents.	\$2,550		
Member developed a framework for providing critical technical assistance and training to city and county officials, solid waste workers (many can't read or write) and major business and industries in the area beyond the AmeriCorps term. This assistance and training is critical to helping local governments to meet stringent state and federal mandates. It will also provide considerable cost savings to the 5 individual counties because it will be carried out on a regional basis (results will be savings to local taxpayers). Member has also developed an initial funding plan and is seeking outside sources for initial program to lessen burden to 111,000 taxpayers.	\$2,500		

Member has crafted a unique and innovative program to help residents of the region off set expensive and valuable landfill space teaching them not to buy excess garbage at the stores to start with. This source reduction program will work directly with retailers and consumers in the store to change attitudes and behaviors. The best way to control garbage is not to buy it in the first place.	\$2,000		
Member has worked with community groups, teachers, school children to organize the first ever Earth Day Festival in one county to be held on April 15. About 60 students are preparing recycled art projects to be judged at the event, an earth quilt is being made by students, high school and community groups are planning activities to be held throughout the day, agencies will be manning exhibits, environmental songs and skits will run continuously. The festival will be held on the courthouse lawn with local officials participating and local businesses sponsoring. Member secured seed funding for this event by writing a grant which was approved from a private foundation.	\$2,000		
TOTAL	\$15,050	\$5,645	\$9,405

* Estimated at costs based on the known "going rate" in the RC&D region for similar services.

** Cost based on \$11.76/hr for AmeriCorps Member. Estimate \$20,000/Member (stipend plus educational award plus health plus basic support) divided by 1700 hours of service equals \$11.76. 12 wk/qtr X avg. 40 hr/wk X \$11.76 equals total.

Environmental Education Specialist

AmeriCorps Member Accomplishments During Second Quarter	Estimated Cost to Community If Service Provided on the Open Market*	Estimated Cost as Provided Through AmeriCorps **	Estimated Cost Savings to Community Through AmeriCorps
Member taught 933 students in 42 classrooms in five counties lessons to teach them to be more responsible citizens toward the environment and how to encourage grown ups to do the same (Garbage Busters). Don't litter, recycling and careful use of natural resources are key objectives in the lessons. This is a five week program in each classroom. Member administered 2,991 individual student lessons during 135 presentations. Member developed a Pre and Post Test to measure student learning and program effectiveness. The evaluation instrument is being administered to students.	\$3,375		

Member developed and conducted an in-service for 25 teachers from across Tennessee specifically teaching them about her environmental education program	\$200		
Member represents her region on the State Envirothon Committee (one state mtg this qtr) and is helping to organize the state event and is arranging for T-Shirts for participants.	\$300		
Member is totally responsible for and is organizing, promoting, training and facilitating a regional Envirothon competition to be held April 25. Participation has more than doubled (from 7 teams to 17 teams) since last year representing all but one eligible high school in the region. About 90 students are currently being trained for this team competition.	\$1,280		
Member is responsible for and is organizing a Conservation Camp for 1,200 sixth grade students and teachers including development of a companion workbook. Member has successfully located property and negotiated a lease for long term use of a riverfront environmental education center for the Camp and other environmental education programs. Pledges for assistance and participation have been obtained from 26 agencies and 6 school systems. Funding has been secured for the event to be held May 2, 3, & 4.	\$768		
Member has successfully secured funding through grants from outside funding to assist with funding Garbage Busters, Conservation Camp, Envirothon, and Water Wizards making it possible to administer 27,561 individual lessons to 2,629 students in order to continue preparing them to be environmentally conscious, action oriented adults. A total of \$36,667 has been secured as a result of members efforts through grants.	\$3,667		
Member has completely revised a third grade water quality curriculum called Water Wizards and is facilitating this education program to about 400 students in five counties. A total of nine lessons including a parental outreach component is enriching the third grade science curriculum	\$1,789		
Member is working with the TN Dept. of Education to have her programs evaluated and referenced to the state curriculum so that teachers can use them in lieu of and enhance required curriculum framework. Results will be mainstreamed environmental education.	\$200		
TOTAL	\$11,579	\$5,645	\$5,934

* Estimated at costs based on the known "going rate" in the RC&D region for similar services.

Community Building/Strengthening Objectives

Two members spent a day planting trees along a half mile stretch of the Clinch River in order to stabilize the riverbank.

Two members assisted with a leadership conference for 22 high school students. Members have agreed to serve and are being trained as advisors to teams of these leadership students for the remainder of their terms.

11. Primary challenges encountered this quarter: (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.)

Primary challenges have been related to member stress. Members are serving in positions with more responsibility than they have probably had before. Additionally, working with communities for change can be a slow and tedious process with big highs and big lows. Members also feel stress from pressure to produce big results in a short period of time and the uncertainty of the future of the AmeriCorps program. It is depressing and somewhat demoralizing to members to hear the program being rundown often in the media from Washington D.C. when they are working so hard in service to their country.

12. Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs this Quarter: Time management, Managing Stress, Leadership Training

13. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

Worked with AmeriCorps Members from NRCS to plant trees in a river restoration project on private land. News articles on programs have been published in the regions papers. Members prepared reports on their activities to present to the Tennessee Commission on National and Community Service and to Congressman Van Hilleary.

14. Changes in Program Organization or Key Staff Positions during this Quarter: No changes.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

675 U. S. Courthouse
801 Broadway
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Subject: AmeriCorps Report - 2nd Quarter

Date: April 7, 1995

To: PAULA JONES, AmeriCorps NRCS
P.O. Box 2890 - Room 5238
Washington, D.C. 20013

File Code:

AmeriCorps Reports enclosed. If you have questions please call me at (615) 736-5472

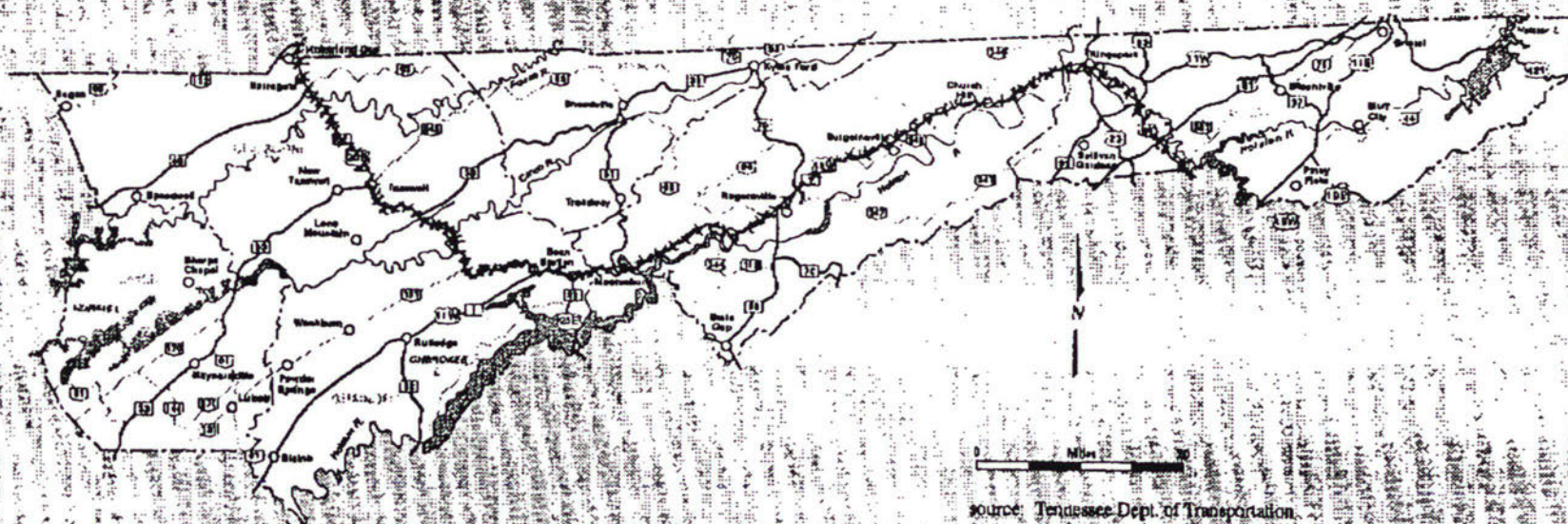
JOHN T. HARRIS
State Rural Development Specialist

Enclosures

- Appendix Six- Letter of support for the TN Wilderness Road from the
First Tennessee Development District
- Appendix Seven- Letter of support for the natural resource and specialty
recreation guide and map from the First Tennessee
Development District
- Appendix Eight- Letter of support for the TN Wilderness Road from the
Grainger County Bicentennial Committee

The Tennessee Wilderness Road (Shown in Purple)

ROAD



source: Tennessee Dept. of Transportation

News Leader

3-7-95

Tourism Group

Discusses Wilderness Road

Tourism advocates from the Clinch-Powell region met to plan the framework for a driving tour along the historic Wilderness Road through Claiborne, Grainger, Hawkins, and Sullivan counties. The third committee meeting of the Clinch-Powell Specialty Recreation & Tourism Initiative, an AmeriScapes project sponsored by the Natural Resource Conservation Service, met in Rutledge February 23. The group is working to enhance state efforts in the development of this visitor attraction planned for the 1996 Bicentennial Celebration. Among those present, Don McLean, of the 25B Steering Committee, emphasized the need to focus on the actual historical route and the wealth of stories related to it. Glen Wingard and Dr. Doris Haywood of Walter State Community College, suggested that local groups would be interested in doing some of the legwork for this. Beulah Ferguson, Director of the First Tennessee Development District discussed ways to identify the road for area visitors, including brochure stands, interpretive displays, and roadside markers. Lindy Turner, Project Coordinator for the Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation & Development Council (RC&D), said the tour should include "different options for those with different interests or time schedules." This would encompass related historical sites nearby, as well as crafts, photo tours, outdoor recreation, area festivals and genealogical resources for the tourist researching family history.

The meeting was facilitated by Dr. Alan Barefield, of the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service. Other committee members present included David Leitzke, of Clinch-Powell RC&D, and Kevin Collins, President of the Grainger Co. Historical Society and Chairperson for Grainger Co. Bicentennial Committee. They suggested a number of viable funding sources for the project.

Nature-based Tourism Americorps team works on local projects

An Americorps project based in Rutledge has recently begun the task of bringing an awareness of the area's natural beauty to a wider group of people.

The project, sponsored by the Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation and Development Council, aims at revitalizing the area's economy while preserving the small town way of life.

"Increased tourism doesn't have to lead to big hotels and malls. We prefer to develop this as a quieter place, with bed & breakfasts, cabins and campgrounds," said Libby Burgin, an advertising designer for the Shopper News.

The first meeting of the Clinch-Powell Specialty Recreation and Tourism Initiative was held in December in Rogersville.

Tourism advocates from the region included Claudia Moody from North East Tennessee Tourism Council, Agnes Gorham from the Middle East Tennessee Development Council, and local tourism representatives from Hancock, Hawkins, Claiborne, Union and Grainger counties.

A discussion of area priorities focused on "nature-based tourism," which includes crafts and other aspects of cultural heritage as well as outdoor recreation opportunities.

The second meeting, held in Rutledge on January 17, included a presentation by Americorps members on the Wilderness Road project being developed statewide for Tennessee's bicentennial. This project can be developed along the theme of environmentally-sensitive tourism in the Clinch-Powell region. The group will continue to meet monthly to discuss projects involving the local historical societies, recreation areas and crafts people.

[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 biases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiocassette, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communications at (202) 720-5881 (voice) or (202) 720-7808 (TDD). To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.]

Crystal Gayle to perform with Knoxville Symphony

Crystal Gayle will be performing in concert with the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra at the Civic Coliseum in Knoxville on Saturday, February 11.

Combining pop, country and blues, Crystal is an artist whose

the same accolade from the Academy of Country Music three times.

She received a Grammy for her performance of her multi-million seller, "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue." And she has been named "Favorite Female Country Vocalist" at the American Music Awards three times as well as being named "Favorite Country Female Video Artist."



Luther Brummett of Tazewell was the January winner New Tazewell Pizza Plus's "Pizza People Ring Twice" Pictured are David Rutter, (left) New Tazewell Pizza ager, and Brummett.

Pizza Plus begins ne cash giveaway progr

Pizza Plus, a Bristol-based restaurant chain, began the richest promotion in the history of the company in January with Pizza People Ring Twice — an effort that will give \$30,000 cash to their customers.

Employees of every Pizza Plus location will distribute colorful hot air balloon-shaped magnets to households throughout their service area. Once an area has been covered, a Pizza Plus representative will then go back into the community and stop at randomly selected houses.

The first household to have their Pizza Plus magnet on the

refrigerator or right gerlips gets \$100 going to company director Jerry Malon.

Each location will \$100 each month 1995, so each store lucky winners.

"To be eligible per at home and have Plus magnet on the or at their fingertips takes to win \$100."

Anyone who fails magnet can pick on nearest Pizza Plus. There is no charge net and no purchase

WSSC to hold choir audi

The music department at Walters State Community College will be holding auditions for scholarships for the 1995-96 academic year. The scholarships will be awarded to students who plan to participate in the college's choral group, the Sensations.

Auditions will be held 3-6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17; 3-6 p.m. Friday,

vocalizing to demor and singing a prepi an individual does piece prepared, he sing "Amazing Gra companion will be each singer.

Prospective st want to audition college music de schedule a spec time. For further



APR-07-1995 14:00 N R C S 18158283212 P.11

Press Release

For More Information, Call:

Jeremy C. Williams
Clinch-Powell Resource, Conservation,
and Development Council
Phone- (615) 828-3074
Fax- (615) 828-3856

For Release 11:21 AM EST
March 22, 1995

Rural and Urban AmeriCorps Join Forces to Restore Hancock County Jail

AmeriCorps members from the Rutledge based Clinch-Powell Resource, Conservation, and Development Council's Tourism Development Team have joined forces with the AmeriCorps Vista workers at the East Tennessee Community Design Center in Knoxville to help redesign the historic Hancock County Jail. Being only one of two buildings in the county on national historic register, the redesign and rehabilitation of the structure has been a priority for both the county and the Hancock County Historical Society for several years. Through a cooperative effort with the historical society and the Rutledge AmeriCorps team, the jail will be converted into a Hancock County and Melungeon Cultural Heritage Museum.

Redesign plans for the renovation of the building will be done through the AmeriCorps Vista sponsored East Tennessee Community Design Center. The center will provide technical design assistance and cost estimates to help the county and historical society refurbish the building to the strict standards of the National Historic Register. Additional technical assistance will be provided on the project by the Tennessee Historical Commission.

The renovation of the building is part of a larger tourism development effort in the area lead by the AmeriCorps Tourism Development Team. Other projects in the area include the development of the Daniel Boone Wilderness Road, a comprehensive nature-oriented tourism

plan, and the provision of technical assistance to enhance state and local efforts to develop greater amounts of tourism-related attractions.

For more information about tourism efforts in Hawkins, Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, and Claiborne Counties, call the Clinch-Powell Specialty Recreation and Tourism Initiative at (615) 828-3074.

#####



Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council

P.O. Box 19806 • Knoxville, TN 37939-2806 • (615) 584-8553 • FAX (615) 584-5159

March 23, 1995

Mr. Roy Ashley
State Forester
Division of Forestry
Tennessee Department of Agriculture
40627 Melrose Station
Nashville, TN 37204-4026

re: Application for U.S. Forest Service Rural Development Grant by
Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council

Dear Mr. Ashley,

It has come to my attention that the Clinch-Powell RC&D Council is applying for a grant to print a guide map for the Wilderness Road. I urge you to provide funds for this project. The Wilderness Road is a natural and timely project for the Tennessee Bicentennial celebration in 1996. Tennessee has been lagging behind our neighboring states of Kentucky and Virginia in developing public awareness of this historical trail, a guide map for the Tennessee sections would be an invaluable asset to increase tourist visitation to the Clinch-Powell area.

There are several tourism promotion organizations which have marketing programs in place and could use the Wilderness Road guide map effectively. These include the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, the Claiborne County Tourism Council, the Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association, and the Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council. These organizations, along with other organizations currently involved in economic development planning for the area, stand ready to support the efforts of the Clinch-Powell Specialty Recreation and Tourism Initiative to bring the Wilderness Trail story to public attention, and thereby produce benefits for the area's economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Agnes Gorham
Regional Director

First
Tennessee
Development
District

207 North Boone Street, Suite 800 • Johnson City, Tennessee 37604
(615) 928-0224 • Fax (615) 928-5209

Carter March 23, 1995
Elizabethton
Watauga

Greene State Forester
Baileyton Tennessee Division of Forestry
Greeneville Department of Agriculture
Mosheim 40627 Melrose Station
Tusculum Nashville, Tennessee 37204-4026

Dear Sir:

Hancock The Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation and Development
Sneedville Council, in association with the U.S. AmeriCorps project has
developed a tourism initiative focusing on natural and
recreational resources found in the Tennessee Counties of
Hancock, Hawkins, Claiborne, Grainger and Hamblen.

Hawkins A natural and recreational resource guide map is needed to
Bulls Gap bring attention to the outstanding nature-based tourism
Church Hill activities available for the rural tourist; and, of course,
Mount Carmel directions to these treasures is required.
Rogersville
Troyesville

Johnson The AmeriCorps participants have done an excellent job
Mountain City outlining the projects which best benefit the Clinch and
Powell Watershed.

Sullivan Though the resource guide will initially benefit the
Bluff City featured five-county region, the remainder of the First
Bristol Tennessee Development District and East Tennessee
Kingsport Development District counties will benefit from the
additional exposure created by visitors responding to this
information.

We support their efforts in this venture.

Unicoi Sincerely,
Erwin

Beulah M. Ferguson
Beulah M. Ferguson
Special Projects Coordinator

Washington
Johnson City bmf
Jonesborough

First
Tennessee
Development
District

207 North Boone Street, Suite 800 • Johnson City, Tennessee 37604
(615) 928-0224 • Fax (615) 928-5209

Carter March 23, 1995
Elizabethton
Watauga

Greene State Forester
Baileyton Tennessee Division of Forestry
Greeneville Department of Agriculture
Mosheim 40627 Melrose Station
Tusculum Nashville, Tennessee 37204-4026

Dear Sir:

Hancock The Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation and Development
Sneedville Council, in association with the U.S. AmeriCorps project has
developed a tourism initiative focusing on natural and
recreational resources found in the Tennessee Counties of
Hancock, Hawkins, Claiborne, Grainger and Hamblen.

Hawkins A natural and recreational resource guide map is needed to
Bulls Gap bring attention to the outstanding nature-based tourism
Church Hill activities available for the rural tourist; and, of course,
Mount Carmel directions to these treasures is required.
Rogersville
Boonsville

Johnson The AmeriCorps participants have done an excellent job
Mountain City outlining the projects which best benefit the Clinch and
Powell Watershed.

Sullivan Though the resource guide will initially benefit the
Bluff City featured five-county region, the remainder of the First
Bristol Tennessee Development District and East Tennessee
Kingsport Development District counties will benefit from the
additional exposure created by visitors responding to this
information.

We support their efforts in this venture.

Unicoi Sincerely,
Erwin

Beulah M. Ferguson
Beulah M. Ferguson
Special Projects Coordinator

Washington bmf
Johnson City
Jonesborough



Grainger County
Bicentennial Committee
P.O. Box 215
Rutledge, TN 37861
(615) 828-3375

26 February 1995
Rutledge, Tennessee

Ms. Kelly Tolson, Executive Director
Tennessee 200, Inc.
211 7th Avenue South
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Ms. Tolson,

I write to support the enclosed grant application. After meeting with individuals concerned with this project, I have been convinced of its worthiness.

The Wilderness Road project will continue long after the bicentennial has come and gone. It will benefit the local communities by reminding people of their heritage--both locals and tourists, increasing environmental awareness, and adding to the economic bases of the surrounding counties.

The cooperative nature of this project heightens its worthiness. Too seldom, it seems, do the "rugged individualists" of the mountains work as a unit to improve their circumstances. This venture may increase potential for further cooperative efforts in the area especially in the fields of history and historic preservation and interpretation.

I sincerely urge your thoughtful consideration and action on this proposal.
Thank you.

With gratitude,

Kevin D. Collins, President
Grainger County Historic Society
P.O. Box 215
Rutledge, TN 37861

AMERICORPS QUARTERLY REPORTS

CLEVELAND CLUSTER, TENNESSEE

APRIL 5, 1995

1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH:

None were enrolled at the launch. We were approved for 3 positions in the third month of the first quarter.

2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE CURRENT QUARTER:

Four (4) are presently enrolled in the Cleveland Cluster.

3. NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM:

None

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED:

2753 hours.

5. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF TRAINING:

222 hours, plus an uncalculated amount of on job training (OJT).

6. PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES:

Corey Garrett's position as an AmeriCorps member is a Rural Land Development Specialist. He is currently working on 3 projects which are finalizing the dry hydrant program for 15 counties, a water quality stream protection pilot project for Monroe Co., and a development plan for Chimney Park in Marion Co.

Corery L. Price's position as a USDA/AmeriCorp Program Member is Recycling Management Specialist. Although this is his official title, he is involved with various projects outside of the recycling realm.

D.D. Nielsen's objective was previously defined as developing a children's guide to the Tennessee Overhill area. The objective compliments their mission statement which is *"To increase awareness of the cultural and natural resources of the Tennessee Overhill region through development of interpretation and educational tools"*.

She has accomplished the following:

ACTION 1: An in-depth inventory of the history, existing museums and interesting sites within the Overhill area was conducted by D.D. Nielsen during this reporting period. This inventory identifies potential themes for each museums/site/activity for all but two or three of the targeted sites. (Due to inclement weather, scheduled visits to these sites was postponed. Information per each site is

forthcoming). Also, an in-depth review of related existing publications, both locally and nationally, was conducted. This search revealed that there are not very many guides specifically designed for children in the U.S. and Tennessee. Two guides were found for kids exploring East Tennessee, but they are basic listing of what, where, what time, and how much, with the exception of one published by the Knoxville News-Sentinel which does contain some interesting activity pages. To date there are 28 sites and activities to include in the resource guides.

Action 2: A pencil draft of the layouts, themes and graphic images has been completed for the majority of sites and activities. Some of the museum personnel involved with the guidebook are working on themes they want to see included regarding their particular sites and this information will be completed and sponsors will be identified.

Melanie Johnson's projects are based on a long-term benefits in the arena of environmental education. This years Envirothon is scheduled for April the 11th and is planned and coordinated on schedule. Ms. Johnson is assisting Bledsoe, Rhea, and Polk county groups with the planning and development of environmental education centers or outdoor classrooms

7 PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The dry hydrant program is where each county has allocated grant money, for materials only, to install dry hydrants throughout their county. A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe system permanently installed in existing lakes, ponds, and streams to provide a ready suction supply of water to a tanker truck. Mr. Garrett is working with 15 counties throughout southeast Tennessee with improving rural areas living conditions. Through this project communities will have improved fire protection and protection of natural resources. All but 3 counties are steadily working on this project to get it done by the completion date. Before Mr. Garrett was assigned this project to finalize it had been in effect for 3 years and only 2 counties had completed and all other counties had none installed. The response he has received from this program has been great, because of the great benefits in which they have gained from a dry hydrant.

The water quality improvement (stream protection) project is an attempt to protect and maintain the natural resource base and/or improve the plant, soil, water, animal and air resources of Monroe Co. by excluding livestock from streams through the use of fences, livestock crossings, watering facilities, and other means to facilitate grazing and special use areas. This will be a pilot project to promote and demonstrate the value of installation of best management practices voluntarily. He is currently in process of writing a grant for this project to obtain funding. He has talked with people in which this program will affect and they seem to be compliant if we can assist them on funding.

Chimney Park is a natural park in Marion Co. which they are trying to develop to a park for tourism, recreation, and social gatherings. Mr. Garrett has toured the park and says that the residents have done a wonderful job in planning to turn this natural beauty into something in which we all can enjoy. He is currently in process of preparing a plan

and writing a grant for the project, also in which we hope to assist the people of Monroe County with some funding. The community park committee has done everything which has been done so far. They have come a long way with just volunteer work of the citizens, but now that AmeriCorps is assisting we will "get it done."

Mr. Price is currently in the process of establishing a listing of location and products of class III (small) type of businesses and corporations. Many of these businesses are not large enough to be a member of commerce, which is the main focus of the project. The purpose of the project is to give publicity to businesses in which have products significant of the area in which they live. The listing of products and location of the businesses will be included into a directory for tourist coming to the 1996 Olympic Games, in which some of the water events are to take place on the Ocoee River. The project is also in affiliation with the Tennessee Overhill Heritage Tourism Association, in Etowah Tennessee where Mrs. Linda Caldwell is coordinator.

As a Recycling Management Specialist, Mr. Price is proposing a grant for possible funding and is preparing its application. The areas of interest concerning the grant are the lack of waste disposal methods in both rural and urban areas. Ideas are being generated to propose a plan that will lay the foundation to a major recycling management distribution center in Chattanooga, the gateway of the south. Also, another plan is to establish collection points in the rural areas of the Southeast Tennessee region. Hopefully, upon implementation of a major recycling distribution center it will soon be the destination of the solid and hazardous waste in the rural counties as well.

April is official Bag-A-Thon month in which there will be activities being carried out throughout month. This project is headed by Mrs. Diane Hayes of Keep America Beautiful (KAB). On the twenty-eighth of April, He will be participating in the festivities by displaying various household items products that are and could become hazardous waste material. This event will be taking place at the Bradley Square Mall here in Cleveland, Tennessee. This is a useful means of dispersing information publicly that many individuals aren't aware that many of the items found in the home are considered hazardous waste for various reasons.

In Polk County, at the Ducktown Elementary School land preservation practices are being implemented. The Copper Basin area since the recovering of its vegetation, has various wild cranberry bogs that grow throughout the area. The school has a cranberry bog that grows beside a stream behind the school. He is working with Mrs. Barbara Adams, a teacher at the school in conservation of the existing bog and cultivation methods that will enrich the school's acres of land that extends far back unto the mountains. The school and the Copper Basin area have a vast significance to the south, along with the cranberries that now grow wild. The means of the school is to determine what will enhance the growth of the cranberries, possibly to the extent of marketing. This project is in allegiance with The Green and Gold Conservancy of the Cherokee National Forestry service.

Ms. Nielsen's primary accomplishments are the following,

- * **CHILDREN'S FIELD COLLECTION KIT:** This is a simple project that parents, grandparents, friends, and educators and the child can construct out of inexpensive, everyday materials for collecting leaves, rocks, etc., while out visiting the Overhill area. The community response to this activity has been very positive.
- * **MEIJI GAUKUIN JAPANESE CULTURE INSTITUTE:** In addition to pertinent who, where, times, etc., we are including information on a traditional Japanese holiday "Children's Day", celebrated May 5th of each year. The activity will be how to construct an oragami Samurai hat. (Oragami is the Japanese art of paper folding).
- * **SEQUAYAH BIRTHPLACE MUSUEM:** Besides basic information the activity will be to decipher some key phrases in Cherokee into English. Also, a dot-to-dot picture to complete may also be included as well as a side bar of the Nancy Ward Gravesite.
- * **SPONSORS:** A search is still underway to secure funding for printing the guidebooks. Potential sponsors are Hardee's of Monroe and McMinn Counties.

Ms. Johnson has organized the Regional Envirothon and is coordinating with the participants and the subject instructors to bring the event together. A small grant was obtained to fund the expenses of the event. She has meet with leaders of the groups and schools in each of the three counties to assist with the development of their plan. She will use the plan to prepare grant request to seek funding to implement each of the projects.

8. PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER:

Mr. Garrett hopes by next quarter to have all counties working on the dry hydrant program completed and filing for reimbursement. He also hopes to have both grants completed and at least one them funded if not both so that the counties can start in full implementation of what they have been waiting to do for a long time and that is "Get things done."

Ms. Nielsen plans to Complete writing text for each attraction, finalize selection of layout and graphic arts to be used and nail down sponsors. Prepare document for printing.

Ms. Johnson expects to have the projects developed during the third quarter to the point that plans will be near completion and the implementation phase can begin. By October, she expects to have them all developed.

9. PRIMARY CHALLENGES:

Since joining AmeriCorps, Mr. Garrett, Mr. Price, Ms. Nielsen, and Ms. Johnson has had the pleasure of meeting people and also help to build and

strengthen their community. They have had some wonderful experiences and also had the opportunity to learn some valuable information while being a member of AmeriCorps. They had the pleasure of participating in a state-wide community service project in Memphis, Tn. by being a greeter at the National Civil Rights Museum on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday, Grant-writing classes in which to learned how to properly write a grant and how to search for foundations that may fund it. Also, they were involved in some Civil Rights training in Knoxville.

CONCLUSION: The overall community response to this project has been one of profound excitement. The smaller sites and attractions have been particularly pleased to be included in the guidebook. The additional activities revolving around wildlife, wetland and basic conservation is very exciting to many educators and parents in the Overhill region as well as the greater surrounding community.

Interaction in and with the communities of the various projects has been tremendous and help to build good public relations.

10. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS:

Some of the members think the Grant Writing Workshop and public speaking (presentations) training should be provided by the program.

Submitted by:
Bob Peters

For:
Southeast RC&D Council
AmeriCorps Cleveland Cluster

Quarterly Report

Morristown Field Office
Bent Creek Watershed Project
Time Period 12-1-94 to 3-31-95

1. Number of members at launch - 1
2. Number of members at end of quarter - 1
3. Number of members terminated - 0
4. Total number of hours of direct service performed - 600
this quarter
5. Total number of hours in training - 55 this quarter
6. Progress toward meeting community service objectives.

Objective #1 has been completed. All landowners in the Bent Creek Watershed in both Hamblen and Hawkins counties have been contacted. Best management practices have been installed on seven farms. These practices have included critical area treatment, stream protection, tree planting, wetland enhancement, grazing land protection and pasture seeding. The streambank protection practices are scheduled for May and are in the process of being designed.

7. Primary Accomplishments

Significant progress has been made in helping land owners in the watershed understand the relationship between land use and water quality. We have taken the approach that by working with land owners on a voluntary basis to implement BMP's will help prevent the need for regulatory measures. We have also tried to take the approach that any practice installed has to be of benefit to the land owner and not just the "public" to be successful. One example of this approach resulted in an over grazed gullied hollow being transformed into a multi-purpose site. There are pine trees on the steep sides, a livestock pond that is fenced with cypress trees around the edges and autumn olive for wildlife food plots near the pond. The land owner gained water for livestock, a more beautiful site and an investment in timber. The general public benefited by a reduction in sediment in local streams, better wildlife habitats and increased beauty on Highway 11E.

We have also installed critical area treatment in a farm that is managed by a person with a handicap. We smoothed up two acres of critically eroding gullies and sowed them down into permanent vegetation. This family was very satisfied with the service provided and told us they would help spread the word on what we are trying to do.

We have signed a contract on one animal waste system and are waiting on the design. We have also distributed over 4000 tree seedlings to help promote conservation.

In summary, approximately 320 tons of soil have been saved, conservation practices have been applied on approximately 28 acres, 2000 feet of streambank have been fenced and six acres of trees have been planted.

8. Projected Outcomes for Next Quarter

As we get further into spring we will be installing streambank demonstration projects, sowing seeds and other practices that require warm weather. We have been approached by a representative of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service who would like to assist with our Soil bio-engineering practice. We will be working with them as soon as we complete the design. We will also begin construction on the animal waste system next quarter.

9. Primary Challenges

A major disappointment was the cancellation of two TDA contracts for stream crossings and stream fencing projects. The landowners had already expressed their needs and plans for stream crossings and had been advised on a variety of previously completed crossings. The following meeting with the landowner included the engineer for the design and an environmentalist with TDEC for stream permits. A conflict of ideas resulted with the landowner being dissatisfied to the point of cancelling the TDA contract. To alleviate some of this conflict, it was decided TDEC would be contacted by mail for the permits and the engineer's design ideas would be conveyed to the landowner by the NRCS District Conservationist.

10. Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs

We need training on Soil Bio-Engineering. We need NRCS engineers to be more flexible and quicker with designs.

TN
7

Chickasaw-Shiloh RC&D Council
AmeriCorps Project

Second Quarter Report

1. Three employees began at Chickasaw-Shiloh RC&D location on September 11, 1994.
2. Two employees were enrolled as of April 1, 1994.
3. 0 members terminated.
4. 1837 hours of direct service performed.
5. 106 hours of training.
6. According to the Chickasaw-Shiloh RC&D Council AmeriCorps Plan of Work, Objective 1 - Task 1 has been completed. Fifteen landowners have been contacted and use of equipment has been scheduled. Objective 1 - Task 2 has also been completed. Eight landowners have had their waste storage facilities dewatered (8.5 million gallons). Soil samples have been collected and sites have been monitored for safe discharge. An additional five landowners are currently on schedule to have their facilities dewatered.

Objective 2 - Task 1 is complete. Curriculum has been developed following TCAP requirements (20 lesson plans and 10 separate activity sheets). Objective 2 - Task 2 is complete. A curriculum sampler was completed and contacts with schools were made. Objective 2 - Task 3 is well on it's way to completion. Twenty programs have been given involving 602 students. Approximately 800 - 1,000 additional students will receive one or more of our environmental education programs in the next five months..

7. The AmeriCorps Program has been an essential program in our area. Through the use of our effluent discharge equipment in our area, landowners have been able to reduce the impact of nonpoint source pollution problems. They have also become more aware of their responsibilities to water quality through our educational efforts. In conjunction with this project, a team of 4-H students in Henderson County (one of twenty teams in the nation) have been selected to be part of CAST (Cooperative Assistance in Science and Technology). These students will assist us in monitoring and evaluating nitrate absorption and it's affects on the pH of the soil. These students will present their findings in Washington, DC in the spring. Through our educational curriculum developments we now have lesson plans that meet Tennessee's core curriculum requirements and will assist our area's teachers meet these requirements. The Council has already invested \$9,500 in this project to purchase equipment and educational materials. The Council is also under consideration to be a state pilot for the Leopold project, which incorporates environmental learning in all areas of a students curriculum. This opportunity was a direct result of a meeting between AmeriCorps members and the State Department of Education. The members of my team have done well. I have seen them grow and mature during these two quarters. This process has taken place by support on our part, but mainly through their efforts and having responsibilities and being allowed to think through and act on their ideas. Each member has received 36 hours of structured training.

8. During subsequent quarters, we will continue to exceed in all the Objectives and Tasks as set forth in the Plan of Work.

9. Most of our challenges have worked themselves out by the persistence of our Americorps members. The disappointments we currently face centers around Congress' reluctance to recognize the good of the program and the program's unsure future.

10. Training provided so far has been adequate.

~~First~~^{Second} QUARTER AMERICORPS REPORT
Middle Tennessee Area
Cookeville, Tennessee
April 5, 1995

1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH - 5
2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE QUARTER
(March 31, 1995) - 4
3. NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM - 1 member
resigned for health reasons during the second quarter.
4. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED - 2479
5. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING - 338
6. PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

Excellent progress has been made toward meeting community service objectives. For Objective 1 - Solid Waste and Recycling, 100 percent of Action Items 1 and 2 have been completed. Work is now under way to complete Action Item 3. Additionally, more than 50 percent of Objective 2 - Environmental Education, has been completed and is documented in item 7 below with supporting documentation for Community Building Objective 1.

7. PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

Solid Waste/Recycling - Five recycling demonstrations and one household hazardous waste collection day have been conducted during the second quarter. More than fifty households participated in the county wide hazardous waste collection day. Additionally, the AmeriCorps Team organized and participated in a county wide litter pick-up project in which 149 tons of litter was collected. Presentations on solid waste/recycling have been made to 307 individuals at fourteen separate civic club meetings, and 6 news articles on solid waste/recycling have been prepared during the second quarter. An additional presentation was made to the Middle Tennessee Regional Solid Waste Board on AmeriCorps activities as they relate to solid waste/recycling. In addition, meetings have been held in each of the fourteen counties with county executives or solid waste managers to determine their needs. One AmeriCorps Member, who has a degree in Civil Engineering, used NRCS equipment to survey a county landfill to determine the remaining life of the landfill, thereby saving the county several hundred dollars. A 14 county poster contest with the theme REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE was conducted with over 1200 posters being entered.

Environmental Education - One school has been selected in each of the 14 counties to serve as pilot environmental study areas. Site designs have been completed for each of the 14 Outdoor Learning Centers, and 13 of the 14 centers are in various stages of development. To date over 700 trees have been planted on school grounds, 100 bluebird boxes have been installed at 5 schools, and bird inventories, wetland studies, and erosion demonstrations have been completed at various other schools. One AmeriCorps Member assisted 6 schools prepare grant applications to assist in developing these outdoor learning centers. To date, three grants totaling \$7,500.00 have been received by three schools. More than 100 classroom presentations on environmental education and recycling have been made to 4,090 students during the second quarter. Two in-service workshops on environmental education were conducted with 75 teachers attending from 8 counties. Additionally, formal presentations were made to an additional 200 teachers during faculty meetings. A 14 county regional Envirothon has been planned for high school students in the area, with more than 100 students signed up for the April 6, 1995 event. AmeriCorps Members have had major responsibility for organizing the event, and for obtaining resource material and training of teams participating in the event.

8. PROJECTED OUTCOME FOR NEXT QUARTER

The third quarter will be the major production period in completing Community Service Objectives. Assistance will continue to be provided to units of government in implementing successful solid waste/recycling programs. One county government, which is establishing a recycling program, has ask that AmeriCorps Members present programs on the importance of recycling to every student in the county wide school system. Presentations to civic clubs and other organizations on solid waste/recycling will continue, and the information program on AmeriCorps activities will accelerate. Much of the environmental education activities will be completed during the third quarter. All work on the 14 Outdoor Learning Centers will be completed, and site specific curricula for each study area will be in place. Evaluation of the success of the environmental education effort will also be completed during the third quarter. Two significant AmeriCorps team efforts will also be completed during the third quarter. The 14 county Regional Envirothon will be completed on April 6, 1995. On April 22, 1995, Members will sponsor a 14 county Earth Day celebration involving schools, business and civic groups.

9. PRIMARY CHALLENGES

After learning to work as a team, we have had no real internal challenges. Two members did have difficulty in with student loans, however, this has now been resolved.

10. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

We have had good support from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. During the second quarter all AmeriCorps Members received additional civil rights training. Additionally, we have used local, state and private agencies for training.

10. MEDIA COVERAGE

We have had good media coverage of AmeriCorps activities. Six news articles have been published, one AmeriCorps Member was interviewed by our local PBS television station on the subject of recycling, and radio public service announcements have been made to inform the public of special activities.

72

AMERICORPS WAVERLY FIELD OFFICE QUARTER REPORT

TIME PERIOD: December 1, 1994 - March 31, 1995

DUE DATE: April 10, 1995

1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH

♦ 2

2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE CURRENT QUARTER

♦ 2

3. NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM

♦ 0

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED

♦ 1885.5

5. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING

♦ 124

6. PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

♦ Presented environmental programs to 670 local elementary and middle school students

♦ Established a 1/2 acre native grass study site

♦ Planted 5 dogwood trees for community beautification

♦ Conducted 1 Water Safety and Quality Workshop which benefited 17 members of the community

♦ Provided white pine trees to approximately 812 residents of Humphreys County for community beautification and erosion control

182 - local students

30 - Senior Citizens

600 - area residents

♦ Conducted an Arbor Day workshop for 15 members of the Senior Citizen's Center in Waverly

- ◆ Revitalized 2,375 feet of nature trails at Blue Creek Nature Center
- ◆ Established first ever Christmas tree recycling project in Humphreys County resulting in 713 pounds of wood waste averted from the local landfill
- ◆ Placed 9 bluebird houses throughout community use property
- ◆ Planted 25 Bald Cypress trees to control erosion on local streambanks
- ◆ Utilized Ruby Raindrop character to educate 150 local students about water quality and conservation
- ◆ Developed 7 lesson plans for use at Blue Creek Nature Center by local teachers
- ◆ Developed publicity brochure for Blue Creek Nature Center
- ◆ Published 2 newsletters detailing the activities of AmeriCorps and Blue Creek Nature Center
- ◆ Assisted Lawrence County Soil Conservation District in development of new nature center
- ◆ Revitalized 200 feet of critically eroding streambank on Bear Creek
- ◆ Created 2 aquatic habitat areas on Bear Creek
- ◆ Attended County Recycling Committee meeting to discuss plans of initiating recycling projects at 5 county schools for the 1995-1996 school year

7. PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Continuing efforts have been made toward the improvement of Blue Creek Nature Center. Seven lesson plans have been developed for teachers to use with classes at the nature center. The lesson plans involve activities that are to be performed in an outdoor setting such as the nature center.
- ◆ AmeriCorps members have worked to improve materials in the nature exhibit room that is used by visitors to the nature center. Some examples are:
 - Animal tracks and scats have been identified and mounted on boards
 - Five animal pelts purchased for student studies
 - Four mounted animals donated by local veterinarian
 - Touch/feel boxes
 - Several bird nests for display
 - Several environmental lesson guide books, resource books, and videos for use by community
- ◆ Approximately 200 feet of critically eroding streambank was stabilized due to the help of AmeriCorps workers. Workers used riprap and willow stakes to stabilize eroding banks. A log weir or dam was placed in the stream to create a plunge pool. The dam aids in providing necessary fish habitat. Without the stabilization of this area of stream, sediment would continue to collect downstream and eroding banks would choke out healthy populations of aquatic organisms. Likewise, the streambank project created two excellent areas for aquatic study sessions with students during the summer.
- ◆ Classroom visits to local schools were a great success. A total of 670 students in 28 classes were provided with environmental education by AmeriCorps members. Each teacher was given the opportunity to choose a topic for his or her classroom visit. The topics covered included: forestry, waste management, water quality and conservation, soils, and wildlife. Each class was able to participate in a hands on experiment or activity after a brief introduction to the topic. (Please see teacher evaluations and letters attached.)
- ◆ AmeriCorps members were very active during Tennessee's celebration of Arbor Day. Approximately 812 residents of Humphreys County were provided with white pine trees to be used for beautification or erosion control in their individual communities. Likewise, members planted five dogwood trees at various sites in the community for beautification purposes. An Arbor Day workshop was presented to the Waverly Senior Citizen's Center. The senior's were entertained by a visit from Ruby Raindrop and Sammy Soil, the importance of trees were discussed, and each senior was presented with a white pine tree.
- ◆ Publicity for Blue Creek Nature Center and AmeriCorps has increased this quarter. AmeriCorps has been highlighted in the county newspaper, as well as discussed on a local radio station. Additionally, AmeriCorps has gained great attention from the classroom visits members have participated in. Humphreys County knows that AmeriCorps is "Getting Things Done."

8. PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER

- ◆ Conduct one environmental field day for 1,000 county students
- ◆ Conduct birding workshop for area bird enthusiasts
- ◆ Conduct Aquatic Wild workshop for state soil conservation district secretaries and local teachers
- ◆ Construct an overlook on nature trails
- ◆ Work with 4-H youth on wildlife plots
- ◆ Construct wildlife observation stand
- ◆ Develop plans for Blue Creek overlook
- ◆ Develop walking trail for Bear Creek
- ◆ Erect trail signs
- ◆ Host Five Rivers RC&D Envirothon
- ◆ Identify understory plants on nature trails
- ◆ Host National Service Day project
- ◆ Develop plans for a nature center day involving local civic organizations

9. PRIMARY CHALLENGES

There have been no challenges encountered that program members have not been able to overcome. The primary challenge has been finding enough time to cover the amount of requests from teachers and principals to present environmental programs to classrooms.

10. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

- ◆ Outdoor education training would be beneficial to the members at this program site. Training provided by state park naturalists would help to increase the assistance AmeriCorps naturalists can offer Blue Creek Nature Center visitors.
- ◆ Training in public speaking would also be helpful to members. Many members are asked to speak to local organizations regarding AmeriCorps. Training in this area would help members learn to speak effectively.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED NEWS ARTICLES, EVALUATIONS, AND MEDIA COVERAGE

Second Quarter Americorps Evaluation
Clinch-Powell Specialty Recreation and Tourism Initiative

- 1. Americorps members enrolled at time of project launch:**
 - A. Jeremy Williams
 - B. Mary Russell
 - C. Mikhail DeLong
- 2. Americorps members enrolled in project at end of first quarter:**
 - A. Jeremy Williams
 - B. Mary Russell
 - C. Mikhail DeLong
- 3. Number of members terminated from the program:**

No members terminated from program
- 4. Total number of hours of direct service performed per member:**
 - A. Jeremy Williams-980.50 hrs.
 - B. Mary Russell-953.50 hrs.
 - C. Mikhail DeLong-990 hrs.
- 5. Total number of hours in training:**
 - A. Jeremy Williams-84 hrs.
 - B. Mary Russell-90 hrs.
 - C. Mikhail DeLong-108 hrs.
- 6. Progress towards community service objectives:**
 - Conducted four (4) meetings of the Clinch-Powell Tourism Advisory Committee.
 - Established a Tennessee Wilderness Road Steering Committee.
 - Established a quarterly set of subgoals, action initiatives, and timeframes for the implementation of project objectives.
 - Facilitated seven (7) town meetings in the five (5) county area to explain the role of the AmeriCorps National Service Program and provide community input into the tourism planning process.
 - Outlined the needs and strategies for the creation of a sustainable nature-based tourism and specialty recreation tourism initiative incorporating the efforts of the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, Tennessee Valley Authority, United States Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the First and East Tennessee Development Districts.
 - Published 25 articles in regional and local newspapers as part of a comprehensive marketing effort to promote the AmeriCorps National Service Program and the efforts of the community-based tourism initiative.
 - Published the first tourism newsletter for the Clinch-Powell Region.

- Developed a preliminary map of the Tennessee Wilderness Road to be used as part of a larger tourism effort in cooperation with the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and the Tennessee 200 Bicentennial Committee.
- Secured an agreement for the Hancock County Historical Society and Chamber of Commerce from the East Tennessee Community Design Center to redesign and prepare an itemized list of materials and costs for the restoration of the Hancock County Jail. All redesign work from the Design Center will be completed by AmeriCorps Vista workers.
- Provided direct marketing and promotional assistance to the Grainger County Tomato Festival.
- Drafted three (3) designs for Grainger County to be used as a the county seal in the Tennessee 200 Bicentennial Celebration.
- Conducted the first regional historical and genealogical meeting and seminar.
- Prepared an informational packet on the Tennessee Wilderness Road for the Discover 95 supplement published by the Rogersville Review.
- Provided the trustees of Speedwell Academy with technical assistance on researching and writing grants.
- Prepared a Tennessee 200 Competitive Grant for \$5,000 to cover the costs of printing the Tennessee Wilderness Road interpretive guide maps.
- Prepared a United States Forest Service Rural Development Grant for \$7,500 to match the Tennessee 200 Competitive grant and cover the costs of design and printed for the TN Wilderness Road interpretive guide and map.
- Prepared a United States Forest Service Economic Recovery Grant for \$1,500 to cover the design costs of producing a natural and recreational resource guide and map of the Clinch-Powell Region.
- Completed a comprehensive inventory including historical and nature-based attractions and an exhaustive guide of food and lodging in the Clinch-Powell Region.
- Drafted a plan for the development of the Tennessee Wilderness Road.
- Developed an inventory of artisans and crafter in the region.
- Gave two (2) lectures at the University of Tennessee on the development of the tourism in rural East Tennessee.
- Established partnership with the Kentucky Department of Travel Development to explore the multistate marketing of the Wilderness Road
- Established a partnership with the Tennessee Valley Authority to cover printing costs for the natural resources and specialty recreation guide and map.

6. Primary Accomplishments:

The emphasis of the second quarter has been to develop the framework for a regional tourism effort and provide needed technical assistance for specific tourist related projects. The development of a regional initiative is centered around the development of the Tennessee Wilderness Road Project. The project is a partnership between the AmeriCorps National Service Program, Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tennessee

200 Bicentennial Committee. The Daniel Boone Wilderness Road was identified as a regional tourism priority by the Clinch-Powell Regional Tourism Advisory Committee. The project is guided by the Wilderness Road Steering Committee comprised of the heads of tourism for the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development- Community Development Assistance Program, East Tennessee Development District, First Tennessee Development District, Northeast and Middle East Tennessee Tourism Associations, Tennessee Valley Authority, five (5) tourism-related business professionals, five (5) county executives, one (1) mayor, three (3) heads of Chambers of Commerce, eight (8) members of area nonprofit community groups, and six (6) concerned private citizens.

The Tennessee Wilderness Road will map out the historical contributions of Daniel Boone. Historically, this trail blazed the path of western settlement beyond the Appalachian Mountains. Once opened by Boone, the Wilderness Road served as the main artery for western expansion, handling 375,000 people from 1775 to 1830. The identification and mapping of this route will create a two-fold legacy for Tennessee. Historically, the Wilderness Road will demonstrate Tennessee's primary role in the western expansion of the United States. Economically, the route will serve as a means sustainable of tourism-related economic development for Middle Eastern Tennessee.

The driving tour will focus on the contributions of pioneer/folk hero Daniel Boone and will concentrate on the southern route of the original Wilderness Road, which runs from Bristol through Bean's Station and up to Cumberland Gap. The Wilderness Road will highlight Tennessee's pioneer legacy as well as the region's cultural, historical and natural attractions by developing them into a common theme. Once established, the driving tour will play an integral role in the 1996 Tennessee Bicentennial celebration and will serve to educate both residents and visitors on the historical contributions of the region to the character of the state. The driving tour will also increase the region's attractiveness as a vacation destination and will serve to generate additional tourism revenues for economically depressed communities.

The driving tour will include interpretive roadside displays explaining the significance of the Wilderness Road and associated points of interest, route markers and interpretive guide maps. The requested funds will be used towards the printing costs necessary to produce the interpretive guide maps. The Tennessee Wilderness Road is a regionally-based project that will directly serve and pass through parts Claiborne, Hawkins, and Grainger Counties, Tennessee. Additional tourist related revenue will be generated in the surrounding counties of Hancock, Union, and Hamblen Counties through supplementary routes to the main Wilderness Road. This project will serve the region economically by creating increased opportunities for tourism related revenues. The identification and mapping of the route is part of a larger project to develop and market the Clinch-Powell Region.

Two grants have been written to help cover the cost of the Tennessee Wilderness Road interpretive map and guide. Funds were requested from the Tennessee 200 Bicentennial

Competitive grant fund and the United States Forest Service Rural Development Fund. As of March 31, 1995, no decision on the grant monies had been made.

One grant for \$1,500 was written to the United States Forest Service Economic Recovery Program to cover the design costs for the development of a natural resource and specialty recreation map and guide. Printing and distribution of the maps will be handled through a partnership with the Clinch-Powell AmeriCorps Tourism Development Team, Tennessee Valley Authority, Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council, Northeast Tennessee Tourism Council, and the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development.

In efforts to increase the quantity and quality of attractions in the region, the initiative has taken on three (3) specific projects. In Hancock County, the Clinch-Powell AmeriCorps Tourism Development Team has joined forces with the AmeriCorps Vista workers at the East Tennessee Community Design Center in Knoxville to provide assistance to the Hancock County Historical Society and Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of redesigning and refurbishing the Hancock County Old Jail. One of only two buildings in the county on the National Historic Register, the structure is being saved from deterioration and redesigned to be used as a Melungeon Cultural Heritage Museum.

In Union County, technical assistance is being provided to the Union County Historical Society and Roy Acuff Museum by the Clinch-Powell AmeriCorps Team and the Tennessee Historical Commission to prioritize future expansion and exhibit design.

In Claiborne County, grant writing assistance is being provided to the Speedwell Academy Board of Trustees for the purposes of restoring Tennessee's Oldest Schoolhouse, Speedwell Academy.

7. Projected Outcomes for Next Quarter:

- Continue the strategic planning process with two (4) meetings of the Clinch-Powell Tourism Advisory Committee.
- Continue the Tennessee Wilderness Road driving tour planning process with two (2) meetings of the Wilderness Road Steering Committee.
- Secure funding for signage and interpretive roadside displays for the Tennessee Wilderness Road driving tour from the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and the Tennessee 200 Bicentennial Committee.
- Prepare printer ready layout and design for Tennessee Wilderness Road interpretive guide and map.
- Prepare printer ready layout and design for natural resource and specialty recreation guide and map for the Clinch-Powell Region.
- Increase marketing efforts for Grainger County Tomato Festival through series of three (3) media releases and articles to be published in regional travel journals.
- Publish 25 articles in local and regional newspaper on AmeriCorps related tourism efforts.

- Complete redesign plans and itemized list of materials and costs for restoration of the Hancock County Jail.
- Identify additional sources of funding for completion of Hancock County Jail and submit grant proposals accordingly.
- Increase local school children's awareness and appreciation of environmental issues by preparing and leading three (3) educational seminars at Clinch-Powell Conservation Camp.
- Supervise local high school students in the design and implementation of two (2) visible community service projects through the Learn and Serve program.
- Increase awareness and support of regional tourism projects through the release of two (2) editions of the Clinch-Powell tourism newsletter.
- Work with Speedwell Academy Board of Trustees to direct and coordinate Academy restoration project and identify funding sources for project completion.

8. Primary Challenges:

The primary challenges that have faced this project in the first quarter of service are rooted in the difficulties of coordinating human resources. The integration of this project's objectives are not always "greeted with open arms" by some existing organizations. Many of these problems can and were rectified by simply opening up lines of communication. A dedication to assist and support existing programs and efforts has allowed us to work through many of our initial difficulties. The road, however, is long and the partnerships and coalition building necessary for long term tourism development are far from completely forged.

9. Primary Training and Assistance Needs:

There are several areas of training which could potentially improve the job performance of Americorps members. The following are listed below:

1. Seminars in public speaking and effective meeting organization
2. Seminar on working in rural communities
3. Computer assistance

The following are potential assistance needs for Americorps members:

1. A list of potential training opportunities offered by the NRCS and USDA.
2. Electronic mail accounts available for all members to provide easier dissemination of information and ease of intergovernmental communication.
3. Coalition building

10. Media Coverage and Appendix:

Appendix One-	Map of Tennessee Wilderness Road
Appendix Two-	Wilderness Road Press Release
Appendix Three-	Eco-Tourism Press Release
Appendix Four-	Hancock County Jail Press Release
Appendix Five-	Letter of support for the TN Wilderness Road from the Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council

**WOODLAND COMMUNITY LAND TRUST
SECOND QUARTER AMERICORPS REPORT**

TIME PERIOD: December 1 through March 31, 1995

1. Three (3) members enrolled at the time of the launch.
2. One (1) member enrolled at the end of this quarter.
3. No members were terminated from the program.
4. Direct hours of service performed: 890.5
5. Total number of hours in training: 48.0
6. Progress Toward Meeting Community Service Objectives:

Because two of the three members are no longer here, objectives have been adjusted:

- a. Engage local people in forest generated economics:
 1. Working with new administrator of peer lending capital.
 2. Identified and compared appropriate processes for peer lending in this area.
- b. Education
 1. Set up educational field trips including a "hands on" science, biology class with three local schools. Approximately 40 students will attend.
 2. Engaged 14 volunteers in cleaning a stream and clearing trails.
- c. Forest Management Plan
 1. Contacted Rick Walker of the Tennessee State Forestry Division to aid in coordination of raw information regarding the forest.
 2. Involved two local people in helping to coordinate raw information regarding the forest.

7. Primary Accomplishments

While funding for the peer lending program was secured through the East Tennessee Design Center, that organization has reorganized and will no longer administer the money. Recently, the East Tennessee Foundation has agreed to administer the money but they do not have it in hand yet, and have not decided on their guidelines. Our member has been negotiating with the East Tennessee Foundation,

and has been working on a peer lending process that is appropriate for this area building on the process set up by the Tennessee Network for Community Economic Development (TNCED) which has made money available for women's peer lending groups.

Our one Americorps member has set up a meeting with the State Forestry Division to make sense of the raw data regarding the forest lands here. This technical assistance will help her coordinate and report on the Landscape Ecosystem classification method used to assess this forest land. Two local residents have been approached to take part in this effort to organize this information.

Several local schools have been contacted and invited to have field trips hosted by our Americorps member which would include nature walks. Three schools have responded to this opportunity. The Fonde Christian School will be visiting on April 11. The White Oak Elementary school and the Clairfield Elementary school do not yet have firm dates.

Fourteen youth volunteers helped the Americorps member clean a stream and area around the stream of garbage and debris.

8. Projected Outcomes for the Next Quarter:

- a. Three to four educational activities with local youth.
- b. Organized report/booklet regarding inventory method for the forest land and examples of how that method tells us about the potential of this forest land.
- c. Agreements with the East Tennessee Foundation regarding the guidelines for use of capital in the peer lending program and final decision on the process to be used in this area.

9. Primary Challenges

We lost two of our three members, leaving us with the task of re-prioritizing. We also had to try to make sense of the raw data that they left. These people were outsiders who were not connected to the community.

In this county there is no accessible recycling program available. When streams are cleaned it is difficult to get rid of garbage, particularly tires. We must pay to recycle or dump tires.

10. Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs

Help in making sense of raw data regarding the forest and the Landscape Ecosystem classification. How to make it understandable and usable to non-technical people.

AMERICORPS
2ND QUARTER
REPORT

WAVERLY
FIELD OFFICE

December 1, 1994-
March 31, 1995

Blue Creek Nature has two Naturalists on staff for visitor assistance. Guided tours may be scheduled for school groups, civic organizations, or special interest groups. A variety of nature activities can be organized to accompany a group visit.

The staff of Blue Creek Nature Center encourages visitors to do so during all seasons of the year, thereby seeing the variety of plants, birds, and other wildlife who make the center their home throughout the year.



If you are interested in learning more about Blue Creek Nature Center or would like to schedule a visit, please contact us at:

115 West Blue Creek Road
Waverly, Tennessee 37185
Phone: (615) 296-3442

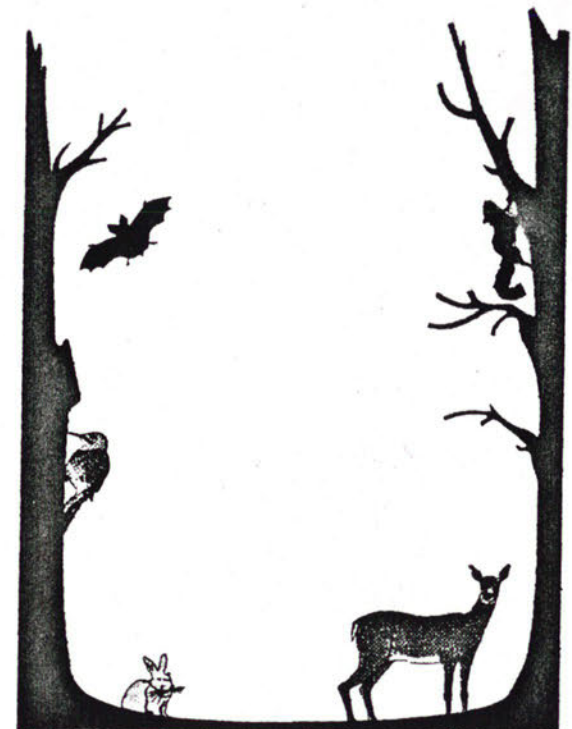
Hours: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Monday-Friday
Weekends by request

Our staff would like to thank the following companies and organizations for all their help in making Blue Creek Nature Center a great success!

Boys Scouts of America
Girl Scouts of America
E. I. DuPont
Five Rivers RC&D
Humphreys County Board of Education
Humphreys County Chamber of
Commerce
Humphreys County Commission
Humphreys County Highway
Department
Natural Resources Conservation
Service
Seven Hawks Wilderness Program
Tennessee Department of Education
Tennessee Division of Forestry
Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

All programs and services of the Humphreys County Soil Conservation District are offered and are available on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, or handicap.

Blue Creek Nature Center



Located on Highway 13
Two miles South of Waverly
Humphreys County Agriculture Center

What is Blue Creek Nature Center?

Blue Creek Nature Center is a unique combination of local, state, and Federal Governments working together with the community. The function of the facility is to provide agriculture services to landowners, promote the conservation and wise use of our natural resources, and provide environmental recreation and education through a variety of programs and opportunities.



Blue Creek Nature Center is a 42 acre facility located two miles south of Waverly on Blue Creek Road. The nature center is owned and operated by the Humphreys County Soil Conservation District. Located on the grounds are walking and jogging areas, hiking trails, and an area available for ATV riding (organized rides only) and bicycling.

Blue Creek Nature Center belongs to you. Take only memories, leave only footprints....

Features of Blue Creek Nature Center

Nature Trails:

Blue Creek Nature Center offers approximately two miles of hiking trails that feature many wooded hills and hollows which characterize much of Humphreys County. There are three different trails routes to choose from depending on time length and difficulty. Additionally, each trail route has a variety of numbered stops which correspond with a printed trail guide. Likewise, the trail features numerous labelled trees and understory plants for educational purposes.

Streams:

Blue Creek Nature Center property is bordered on two sides by Blue Creek and Bear Branch. These two streams provide excellent opportunity for guided aquatic studies.

Wildlife:

Blue Creek Nature Center is the home to a variety of species of wildlife. Located at the center are



Features (cont'd)

numerous bird houses, bat boxes, bee hives, a deer salt lick, a deer stand for wildlife observation, and many wildlife food plots.

Open Air Pavilion:

A popular feature at Blue Creek Nature Center is the open air pavilion. Situated on the hilltop in which all nature trails begin and end, the pavilion makes an excellent area for an afternoon picnic or group project. The pavilion overlooks BULL FROG POND and the PINE TREE PLANTATION. Bull Frog Pond is stocked with a variety of fish that are always willing to accept snacks of fish food from center visitors.



Accessibility for persons with physical disabilities:

Available at Blue Creek Nature Center are paved nature trails that offer persons with physical disabilities the opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities.



Ruby Raindrop

Ruby Raindrop Comes to County

Waverly will never be the same again. Ruby Raindrop has come to town and she is making waves for water conserva-

tion.

Ruby Raindrop is the newest addition to the Blue Creek Nature Center staff.

Ruby, portrayed by AmeriCorps Naturalist Elizabeth Hooper, is a giant raindrop shaped character that teaches the public about water quality and conservation.

The staff of the Nature Center worked diligently to prepare the new "Ruby Mobile" for the Waverly Christmas Parade Nov. 27.

Ruby Raindrop rode on the back of the freshly painted red golf cart which was driven by AmeriCorps Naturalist Mike Milholland. Also accompanying Ruby was District Secretary Cheryl Patterson who passed out candy with the mes-

sage "Help Keep Water Clean" attached to each piece.

Ruby Raindrop, sponsored by the Humphreys County Soil Conservation District, will be making many public appearances throughout the county during 1995 to educate the public on water conservation issues.

The primary focus of Ruby Raindrop will be to educate the youth of Humphreys County. Many area students along the parade route recognized Ruby Raindrop from previous class visits to the Blue Creek Nature Center.

Overall, the Waverly Christmas parade was a good start for "Ruby Raindrop Tour" of Humphreys County.

Be sure to look for her in the near future.

THE NEWS DEMOCRAT, FRIDAY, DEC. 9, 1994

Waverly J.O.

THE NEWS-DEMOCRAT

Humphreys County's Own Newspaper

1 Section - 16 Pages - 50 Cents

Waverly, Tennessee 37185, Friday, December 16, 1994

A Kennedy Newspaper Co., Inc. Newspaper

Waverly T.O.

Recycle Discarded Christmas Trees

On Dec. 26, will you know what to do with your discarded Christmas tree?

Try something new this year. Eighteen percent of landfills in the United States are occupied by yard and woodwaste. Instead of taking your tree to the dumpster or placing it on the curb for pickup—recycle it!

The AmeriCorps members of the Humphreys County Soil Conservation District are sponsoring a Christmas Tree Recycling Program.

The discarded trees are chipped to produce mulch for community beautification. Likewise, the trees provide animal shelters in wooded areas, aquatic habitats in reservoirs and help to control soil erosion.

The process, at no charge to the public, is simple. Trees should be removed of tree stands, tree bags, lights and ornaments, then brought to the collection site at Wal-Mart parking lot in Waverly, or the Humphreys County Agriculture Center located on Highway 13 South behind the Farmer's Co-Op.

Collection of trees will be from Dec. 27-Jan. 6. Later in January the trees will be chipped at the Agriculture Center. Provided there are enough trees, mulch will be available to the public at no charge. For further information contact Elizabeth Hooper at 296-3442.

Water Safety, Quality Workshop March 21

Have you had enough of cold weather, runny noses and trips to the doctor?

Are you instead ready for warm weather, suntans and trips to the lake?

Despite the fun that is associated with water activities, the trips to the lake require water safety knowledge.

About six people were involved in fatal water accidents last year in Tennessee. These fatalities may have been prevented with a little water safety training.

The Humphreys Soil Conservation District is offering a Water Quality and Safety Workshop Tuesday, March 21, 7 p.m., at the Agriculture Center at the fairgrounds.

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agents Robert Dougherty and Ken Smith will be the guest speakers. Dougherty and Smith will present a program covering the basics of boating and water safety, and the new regulations that take effect this year.

Likewise, boats and a variety of water safety equipment will be displayed. TWRA will also be offering courtesy checks of any boat brought to the workshop. Participants that pass the check will receive a sticker to
See WATER on Page 16

Continued from Page 1

be displayed on the boat that denotes it as safety checked.

Another important aspect of the workshop is the portion dealing with water quality. Once boating season begins, the litter on the local lakes and rivers increases.

AmeriCorps members Elizabeth Hooper and Mike Holland will be discussing the effects of such litter and pollution on the aquatic wildlife and overall water quality of the rivers and lakes.

Kick off your boating season right this year! Come to the Water Quality and Safety Workshop. Knowing what to do in an emergency situation on the water could save a life. Please take time to prepare you and your family.

Community Events

Revival

There will be a revival at the Hurricane Chapel Free Will Baptist Church April 2-7, 6 p.m. on Sunday and 7 p.m. other days. The evangelist will be Gary Loritt.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will be held March 31, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at all three of the county's elementary schools. Parents are asked to bring children's birth certificates, social security cards and shot records. They are asked to register children even without the records.

Church Singing

There will be a singing at the Open Bible Assembly Church in McEwen March 25, 7 p.m. featuring the Labourers Quartet and the Cornerstones.

Museum Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Humphreys County Museum Committee March 30, 7 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce office in Waverly.

TVA Appreciation Day

Retired annual employees of the Cumberland Power Plant are invited to an appreciation day April 19. Lunch is at 11 a.m. Respond to Cumberland Power Plant, P.O. Box 2000, Cumberland City, TN 37050, Attn. Mike Tomes.

Ham & Bean Luncheon

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 109 N. Church Street, Waverly, will have a ham and bean luncheon March 31, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

WES PTA Meeting

The Waverly Elementary School PTA will meet March 28, 7 p.m. in the physical education room. The Youth Drug Alliance Group and the first graders will perform. Babysitting will be provided.

Water Workshop

A water quality and safety workshop will be held at the Humphreys County Agriculture Center on the fairgrounds March 28, 6:30 p.m. TWRA agents will give safety checks to boats brought to the workshop.

Editor's note: Announcements in the Community Events are run without charge for non-profit organizations. No prices can be given and items can only run once.

Positive notes
from local
teachers



A Note From.....

3/23/95

Crystel Collier

Dear Elizabeth and Mike,
Thanks for presenting
your informative program
on the water cycle to my
class last week. You did
an excellent job presenting
the information on a level
that the children could
understand.

Sincerely yours,
Crystel S. Collier

**AMERICORPS
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
TEACHER SURVEY**

NAME: Dale Flexer

GRADE: 3

SCHOOL: Waverly Elem. School

OF STUDENTS: 22

1. What was the theme of your classroom visit?

Recycling

2. What was the overall reaction of your class to the environmental education program? They were very interested + thoroughly enjoyed it.

3. Do you feel that the time spent with your class was worthwhile to their overall education? yes - it was just long enough to keep them interested + not too long to be boring - (It is very hard to get Science in everyday).

4. On a scale of 1 to 10, please rate the effectiveness of your environmental education program in regards to student learning. 10 - This was so well prepared + presented on their level that it made it very worthwhile

5. Please list any suggestions you have of improving the Soil Conservation Environmental Education Program.

I would love for you to come share other areas of conservation with us esp. the water cycle - habitats etc. They listen so much better when an "outside person(s)" comes + presents topics.
Thanks so much for coming!

**AMERICORPS
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
TEACHER SURVEY**

NAME: Tracy Mulliken
GRADE: 3rd
SCHOOL: Waverly Elementary
OF STUDENTS: 21

1. What was the theme of your classroom visit?

recycling

2. What was the overall reaction of your class to the environmental education program?

They were excited and ready to do more at home and at school to recycle.

3. Do you feel that the time spent with your class was worthwhile to their overall education?

Yes! We have now started recycling our paper. We have very little trash!!

4. On a scale of 1 to 10, please rate the effectiveness of your environmental education program in regards to student learning.

10

5. Please list any suggestions you have of improving the Soil Conservation Environmental Education Program.

They are doing a great job in my opinion.

**AMERICORPS
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
TEACHER SURVEY**

NAME: Barbara Rehrig

GRADE: 6th

SCHOOL: LAKEVIEW

OF STUDENTS: 50 (2 Science classes)

1. What was the theme of your classroom visit?

Enviroscape - pollution, prevention of water cycle in relation to other parts of our environment

2. What was the overall reaction of your class to the environmental education program?

Totally involved. Listened, discussed, participated, & enjoyed.

3. Do you feel that the time spent with your class was worthwhile to their overall education?

Excellent program, well presented. This re-enforced what was already taught.

4. On a scale of 1 to 10, please rate the effectiveness of your environmental education program in regards to student learning.

9 or 10

5. Please list any suggestions you have of improving the Soil Conservation Environmental Education Program.

The video was below sixth grade level, but was still good. (This was the reason noted for lower scale)

Trail Talk

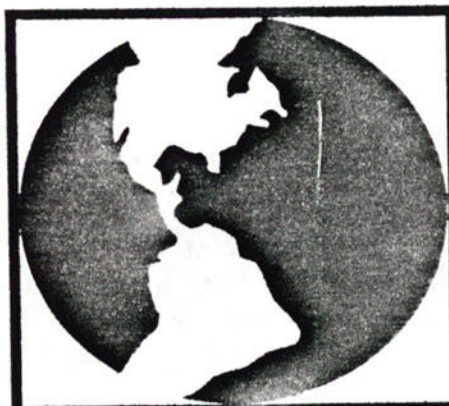
February 1995

News from Humphreys Soil Conservation District

Volume 1 Issue 1

"Trail Talk" Is Born

February marks the introduction of "Trail Talk," a publication from the Humphreys Soil Conservation District that incorporates updates of activities at the Blue Creek Nature Center, as well as Conservation District news. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep the public aware of services provided to them by the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Blue Creek Nature Center. Likewise, the publication will feature a variety of facts and tips relating to the environment and soil conservation.



*We have not inherited the
earth from our fathers.
we are borrowing it from
our children.*

AmeriCorps Shows Its Presence In Humphreys County

Humphreys Soil Conservation District was very fortunate to have received grants to fund two AmeriCorps members to staff Blue Creek Nature center as Naturalists. As part of the AmeriCorps National Service Program initiated by President Clinton, people all over the nation are providing service to their country in exchange for educational grants. Participants range from high school drop outs who want to receive their GED, to college graduates who want to continue their education.

AmeriCorps members in this county are working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service as part of the Rural Development Team.

What is Blue Creek Nature Center?

The Humphreys Soil Conservation District has worked for the past three years to develop a nature area which features an environmental education center. Through grants and many hours of volunteer help, the 42 acre facility is becoming a viable asset to the Conservation District, county schools, local organizations, and individuals who have already taken advantage of the facilities.

Blue Creek Nature Center offers many opportunities to experience nature. Located on the grounds are walking and jogging areas, hiking trails, and areas available for bicycling and organized ATV rides. A nature exhibit room is being developed in the Administrative Building that will feature many examples of bird nests, animal furs and skulls, and a library of materials available for use by county teachers and organizational groups.

Come visit us at the Ag Center and see what we have to offer you!

inside...

Blue Creek Nature Center Updates
Conservation District News
Upcoming Events and Articles

Page 2

Page 3

Page 4

County Schools Have Special Visitors

AmeriCorps Naturalists Elizabeth Hooper and Mike Milholland have been busy over the past few weeks of January and February visiting Elementary and Junior High schools of Humphreys County. The focus of the visits has been environmental education.

As part of the AmeriCorps National Service Project, many AmeriCorps members across the nation are offering educational programs to schools. Hooper and Milholland have visited approximately 300 students since January, covering topics such as soil and water conservation, water quality, wildlife, forestry, and waste management.

Students have been involved in many hands-on activities. For example, the "Enviroshopping" activity allows students to use modelling clay to make replicas of plastic recyclables. The activity teaches the students about the benefits of recycling, as opposed to sending trash to the landfill.

Evaluation sheets reveal a very positive response from the teachers and an even more enthusiastic response from the students. Many classes have already requested a second visit. Education is the key to improving the future of these students and they are very excited to learn about protecting their environment!

Earth Tip!

Americans produce 154 million tons of garbage every year. That's enough to fill the New Orleans Superdome from top to bottom, twice a day. 50% of this trash is recyclable!

**REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE!**

Christmas Tree Recycling A Success!

The AmeriCorps members at the Waverly Field Office initiated the first annual Christmas tree recycling project of Humphreys County. Overall, the first year was a great success with approximately 35 trees being collected before travelling to the county landfill.

Some of the trees are being used by local farmers as erosion control. The remainder of the trees will be mulched for use on the trails of the Blue Creek Nature Center. Plans are already underway to improve the project for next year. Thanks to all who contributed trees! Hopefully, the amount of trees will increase with each year the program is offered.



Upcoming Environmental Education Workshops

Blue Creek Nature Center will be offering educational workshops throughout the next few months. The workshops will cover a variety of topics primarily focusing on caring for the environment.

The first workshop is scheduled for March 28th. The topic will be Water Safety.

Nature Center In Need of Wildlife Exhibits

The nature exhibit room at Blue Creek Nature Center is in need of wildlife exhibits. Staff members Hooper and Milholland are in the process of improving the exhibit room before spring tours begin in March.

The exhibit room, located in the Administrative Building, gives visitors of the nature center an opportunity to see wildlife up close. Some of the items wanted are animal furs, mounted animals of the Tennessee area (i.e., raccoons, foxes, owls, ducks, etc.), bird nests, animal skulls, snake skins, etc. If you have any items that you think would benefit the center, or know of anyone who does, please contact Elizabeth or Mike at 296-3442 or bring it by the office.

A special thanks to Mark Browning, Jesse Davidson, Lester Lomax, and John McElhiney of the TN Div. of Forestry for cutting dead trees along the trails of the nature center!

SCS Gets New Name

Many of you have heard a new greeting when calling our office over the past few months. However, you may have realized from the familiar voice greeting you that you had not reached the wrong office.

October 20, 1994 was the beginning of a major reorganization process of the United States Department of Agriculture. Established during the reorganization was the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), a new federal agency which combines most of the authorities of the former Soil Conservation Service with five natural resource conservation cost-share programs previously administered by other USDA agencies.

The recent name change from the Soil Conservation Service to the Natural Resources Conservation Service better reflects the services offered by this agency. NRCS is now the key federal agency to offer technical help on private lands to improve water, wildlife habitats, forest lands, grasslands, and other resources related to the land.

Local Counties to Lose Agriculture Offices

With the reorganization of the USDA, 23 counties across the state of Tennessee are scheduled to lose their USDA offices. Local counties scheduled to be closed include:

Benton County
Davidson County
Decatur County
Houston County
Lewis County
Perry County
Wayne County

There is still money available for cost-share assistance on erosion control and water quality projects.

Remember!

Pasture seeding dates start
February 20th

Conservation Tip!

Every year in the U.S. we lose 7 billion tons of topsoil.

Conservation practices could reduce this figure by 50% or more!

SCD Office Personnel

District Conservationist

Odell Poyner

Office Manager

Cheryl Patterson

AmeriCorps Naturalists

Elizabeth Hooper

Mike Milholland

Soil Scientist

Joe Adams

Board of Supervisors

David Hatcher, Chairperson

Margaret Forrester

Ray May

Eric Mayberry

Sam Reynolds

Locals Honored At Recent Banquet

Humphreys Soil Conservation District recently recognized two individuals for their outstanding efforts toward conservation. Sam Reynolds, from the Plant community, was recognized as the 1994 Outstanding Conservation Farmer. Mr. Reynolds was selected for his achievements in conservation tillage practices, overall

farming techniques, and conservation to others. approximately 1200 Humphreys and Benton

Also honored at was Mrs. Dottie Loose. for her unending Humphreys SCD. contributions, Mrs. Loose time to Soil and Water Stewardship Week. This week involves distributing educational materials to each school and a majority of the churches in the county.

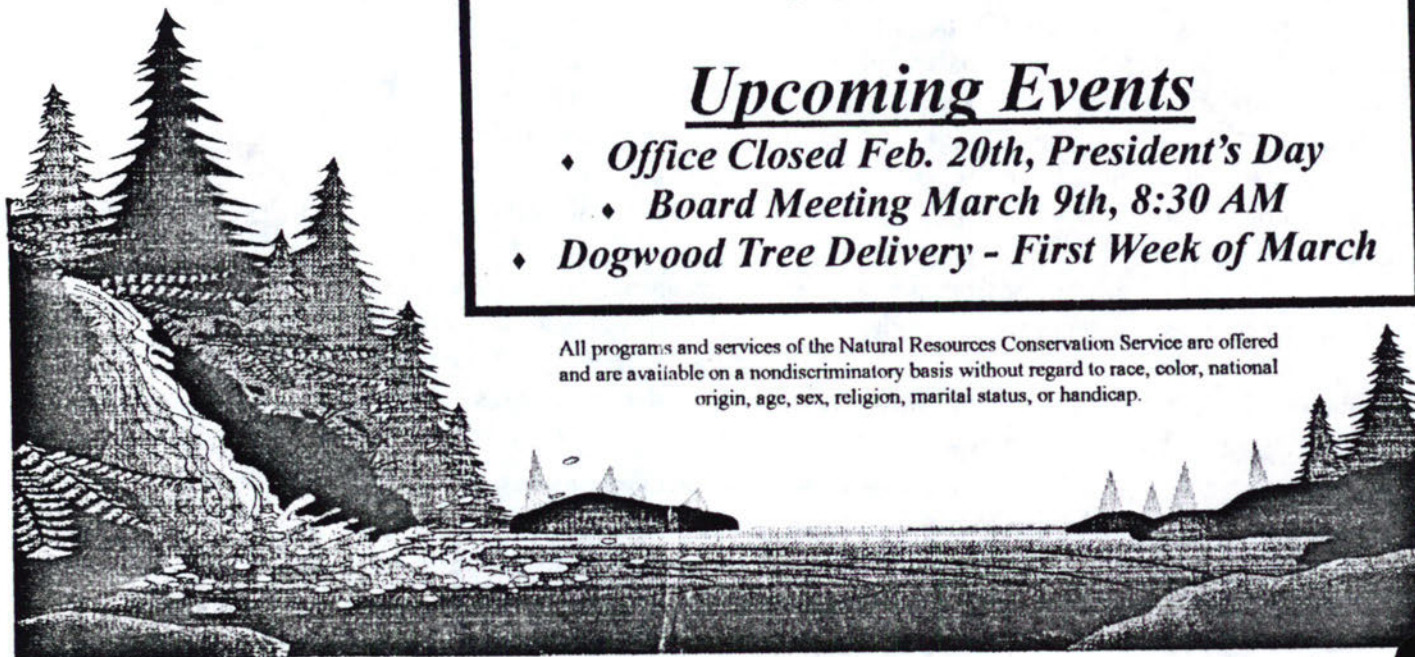


promotion of soil Mr. Reynolds farms acres of row crops in Counties.

the annual banquet Mrs. Loose was cited volunteer efforts to Among a long list of devotes a great deal of

Thank you Mr. Reynolds and Mrs. Loose for your support of conservation programs in Humphreys County!

Trail Talk is made possible through a grant from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Non-Point Source Funds.



Next Issue

- ♦ *Five Rivers RC&D Envirothon Update*
- ♦ *Arbor Day Special*
- ♦ *Tips for Planting Trees*

Upcoming Events

- ♦ *Office Closed Feb. 20th, President's Day*
- ♦ *Board Meeting March 9th, 8:30 AM*
- ♦ *Dogwood Tree Delivery - First Week of March*

All programs and services of the Natural Resources Conservation Service are offered and are available on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, or handicap.

Trail Talk

Humphreys Soil Conservation District
115 West Blue Creek Road
Waverly, Tennessee 37185

inside...

Agriculture Center Information
Blue Creek Nature Center Update
Conservation District News
Upcoming Events and Articles

Page 1
Page 2
Page 3
Page 4

Trail Talk

April 1995

News from Humphreys

Soil Conservation District

Volume 1 Issue 2

Ag Center to Host "Celebrate the Earth"

April is a very important month for organizations dealing with the environment and its conservation. A variety of celebrations such as Earth Day are taking place all around the nation. The Humphreys Soil Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service are working together to create public awareness for the environment.

On April 20-21, Humphreys Soil Conservation District is hosting "Celebrate the Earth," an environmental field day at the Agriculture Center in Waverly. The event is being held in conjunction with "A Celebration of the Land," a month long observance by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The majority of the visitors will be approximately 1000 third through sixth graders from the Humphreys County school system. However, the event will be open to the public from 2:30 - 5:00 PM on Thursday.

A variety of local, state, and federal agencies will be present with activities and "hands-on" displays. Also, the hiking trails and nature exhibit room of the Blue Creek Nature Center, located at the Ag Center, will be open to the public. Special guests Ruby Raindrop and Sammy Soil will be on hand to greet visitors at the nature center.

Come out to Blue Creek Nature Center and begin your celebration of the earth! If you would like to be a volunteer to help with students during this event, please call the Nature Center at 296-3442.

AmeriCorps Alive and Strong in Humphreys County

If you have been paying attention to national news lately, you probably have noticed the attention the AmeriCorps National Service project has been receiving. Recently, Joel Berg, a representative from Washington D.C., was at Blue Creek Nature to observe the progress that AmeriCorps Naturalists Hooper and Milholland have been making in Humphreys County.

While visiting the area, Berg reviewed the work Hooper and Milholland have been doing at the nature center and also observed a classroom visit the naturalists had at Waverly Elementary School.

Berg relayed the message from Washington that the AmeriCorps program is accomplishing great things throughout the country. Likewise, Berg contributed that AmeriCorps is a program that will not disappear without a fight.

Envirothon to be Held at Nature Center

Blue Creek Nature Center is the site for the Five Rivers RC&D Envirothon on April 5, 1995. Envirothon is a hands-on competition that is geared toward teaching high school students about natural resources and current environmental issues. Students are tested on their knowledge of aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife and one current environmental issue that changes from year to year. This year the environmental topic is concerning groundwater.

Envirothon originated in Pennsylvania in 1979. Tennessee first became involved with the project in 1993 when the Clinch-Powell RC&D Council held the first regional competition. In 1995, Tennessee's seven RC&D councils will each hold area competitions, as well as a state competition for the regional winners.

Envirothon is a hands-on competition that is geared toward teaching high school students about natural resources and current environmental issues.

inside...

*"Celebrate the Earth"
during April*

How Did You Celebrate Arbor Day?

How did you celebrate Arbor Day this year? Hopefully you were able to find a local forester giving away trees to plant.

Arbor day was first celebrated on April 10, 1872 by its founder, J. Sterling Morton. In 1885 the date was moved to April 22 which was later selected to be the first Earth Day. Today, by proclamation, Arbor Day is celebrated nationally on the last Friday in April. However, many states have chosen their own day to observe Arbor Day. Tennessee always celebrates this event on the first Friday in March.

TN Div of Forestry was present on Arbor Day at Blue Creek Nature Center to hand out a variety of trees to anyone wanting to beautify their property or possibly stabilize an embankment. Mark Brown-



ing and Jesse Lomax were the local foresters on hand to talk to visitors about planting trees.

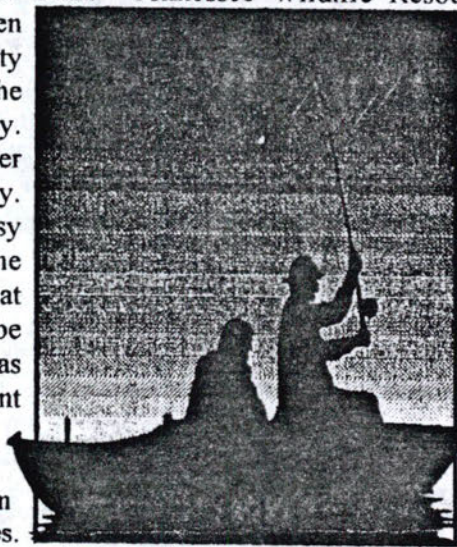
In addition to Arbor Day activities, Humphreys Soil Conservation District sold dogwood trees as a district fund raiser project. The project was a great success for the district with 550 dogwood trees being sold.

AmeriCorps members Elizabeth Hooper and Mike Milholland visited some local schools to plant dogwood trees with the students. After the tree planting ceremonies, each student was presented with a White Pine seedling to take home to plant with their parents.

Are You Ready for Summer?

Have you had enough of cold weather, runny noses, and trips to the doctor? Are you instead ready for warm weather, suntans, and trips to the lake? Despite the fun that is associated with water activities, the trips to the lake require water safety knowledge. Approximately six people were involved in fatal water accidents last year that may have been prevented with a little safety training.

The Humphreys Soil Conservation District hosted a Water Quality and Safety Workshop on March 28th. Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agents Robert Dougherty and Ken Smith were the guest speakers. Dougherty presented a program covering the basics of boating and water safety. A variety of water safety equipment were on display. Courtesy of the workshop, participants that received a sticker to be placed on their boat that denoted it as safe.



Another important aspect of the workshop was the portion dealing with water quality. Once boating season begins, the litter on the rivers and lakes usually increases. Members Elizabeth Hooper and Mike Milholland discussed the effects of such litter and pollution on the aquatic wildlife and overall water quality of the rivers and lakes.

Kick off your boating season right this year! Learn more about water quality and safety. Knowing what to do in an emergency situation on the water could save a life. Please take time to prepare you and your family. For more information on water and boating safety call the Boating Safety Hotline, operated by the U.S. Coast Guard in Washington D.C., at 1-800-368-5647.

Acts of creation are ordinarily reserved for gods and poets, but humbler folk may circumvent this restriction if they know how. To plant a pine, for example, one needs be neither god or poet; one need only own a shovel. By virtue of this curious loophole in the rules, any clodhopper may say: Let there be a tree - and there will be one. If his back be strong and his shovel sharp there may eventually be 10,000. And in the seventh year he may lean upon his shovel, and look upon his trees, and find them good.

- Aldo Leopold

What's New at the Nature Center

Now that Spring is finally here, there are a lot of changes taking place on the grounds at the nature center. Come out for a visit and have Elizabeth or Mike show you around!

- New wooden overlook on nature trail
- Additions to the Nature Exhibit Room
- New aquatic study area on Bear Creek
- Native grassland plot

Fertilize Your Pond...?

Every good farmer knows that crops require proper fertilization to produce good yields. However, how many pond owners know that fishponds must be fertilized to produce a good yield? A fertilized fishpond usually produces 2-3 times as much fish as an unfertilized pond. An unfertilized pond will generally produce about 50 pounds of fish per acre each year while a well-managed, fertilized pond will produce 150 pounds/acre or more of fish per year.

The object of fertilizing is to supply enough nutrients to induce the growth of microscopic plants called plankton which gives the water a green color called bloom. Plankton and insects serve as food for bluegill which in turn are the primary food source for bass.

Now is the time for fertilization to be started. Fertilization of a pond should be started around the first of April and should be continued through October 15. Application of 50 lbs. of 15-15-15 per surface acre should be made every 10 to 15 days over these seven months until the desired bloom color is reached. The desired bloom or green color is reached when a bright object is not visible in 12 to 18 inches of water. Once the desired color is obtained, further applications should be made every four weeks or as necessary to maintain proper bloom color.

Adding fertilizer to the pond starts a series of events that ends with more harvestable size fish. With a good food base established, the small aquatic organisms grow better and feed the larger aquatic insects and small fish. Eventually this new energy source of fertilizer passes through the many steps of pond life and you will see the progress of your pond through the result of a good fish yield.

SCD Office Personnel

District Conservationist

Odell Poyner

Office Manager

Cheryl Patterson

AmeriCorps Naturalists

Elizabeth Hooper

Mike Milholland

Soil Conservationist

Joe Adams

Board of Supervisors

David Hatcher, Chairperson

Margaret Forrester

Ray May

Eric Mayberry

Sam Reynolds

"It's About Time"

Those three little words are the national slogan for Earth Day 1995. April 22nd marks the 25th anniversary of the environmental stewardship celebration, Earth Day.

To pay tribute to this very special occasion the state of Tennessee has devoted a whole weekend to promoting environmental action. The event will take place in downtown Nashville on April 22 and 23.

Take the family to Nashville and enjoy activities, educational displays, music and more! For more information, contact the Earth Day Information Hot-Line:

1-800-232-1139

Tips for Planting a Healthy Tree

Planting a tree is the one act within reach of nearly every man, woman and child to improve the environment and make the world a better place to live. April is the perfect time to plant trees. Here are a few tips for planting a healthy tree.

Three Cardinal Rules for Tree Care Before Planting

1. Carry trees carefully - Be careful not to break branches
2. Keep roots moist! - Wrap bare roots in wet newspaper until ready to plant. Balled trees may be checked for dryness by finger length probing into the soil. Sprinkle with water if necessary.
3. Store tree in cool garage or shaded area out of the wind.

Planting Your Tree

- ◆ Soak tree roots in a bucket of water overnight before planting.
- ◆ Prepare a large enough hole to place tree roots without bending. Do not place tree too deep or too shallow. Cover roots approximately one inch above top root.
- ◆ Water tree thoroughly when planting. Continue watering once or twice a week for at least three weeks.
- ◆ Mulch the base of the tree with wood chips.
- ◆ Support young tree with wire and stakes to produce a straight tree.

Upcoming Events

April 5 - Five Rivers RC&D Envirothon

Blue Creek Nature Center

April 13 - District Board Meeting

8:30 AM

April 20-21 - "Celebrate the Earth" field day

Blue Creek Nature Center

April 22 - 25th Anniversary of Earth Day

April 30-May 7 - Soil and Water Stewardship Week

All programs and services of the Natural Resources Conservation Service are offered and are available on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, or handicap.

Trail Talk is made possible through a grant from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Non-Point Source Funds.

Trail Talk

Humphreys Soil Conservation District
115 West Blue Creek Road
Waverly, Tennessee 37185

inside...

"Celebrate the Earth," Envirothon
Arbor Day, Water Workshop, Nature Center News
Earth Day, Tree Planting Tips, Conservation Tip
Upcoming Events

Page 1
Page 2
Page 3
Page 4

****** Cost based on \$11.76/hr for AmeriCorps Member. Estimate \$20,000/Member (stipend plus educational award plus health plus basic support) divided by 1700 hours of service equals \$11.76. 12 wk/qr X avg. 40 hr/wk X \$11.76 equals total.

9. Unique successes or "great stories": (Briefly describe unique and/or exceptional successes, program highlights, or "great stories" about AmeriCorps people, projects, or partnerships that occurred this quarter).

Any number of above accomplishments could be considered great stories.

10. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives: (Briefly describe how accomplishments this quarter relate to achieving each of your three sets of annual outcome objectives: (1) Direct Service Objectives; (2) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives, and (3) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives. Where available, describe evaluation data that indicate progress during the past quarter toward achieving your annual outcomes. Summarize activities related to establishing an evaluation system or conducting your local evaluation (e.g., instruments developed, data collection plans established, etc.).

Direct Service Objectives

Solid Waste Specialist Objective #1: Provide technical assistance in solid waste management and recycling to communities in Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins and Union Counties, TN resulting in a 10 percent increased recycling rate and improved solid waste management through three grant proposals and two recycling program start ups as outlined in the Ten Year Regional Solid Waste Management Plans approved by the State of Tennessee.

Progress: Three grant proposals have been written seeking funding for needed source reduction, solid waste training programs and programs to raise citizen awareness. Technical assistance has been provided in solid waste management and recycling as outlined in accomplishments including: assistance with a convenience center collection system, a recycling center and a transfer station.

Environmental Education Specialist Objective #1: Conduct or arrange 150 environmental education presentations (written and verbal) resulting in increased knowledge of citizens as measured by pre and post program quizzes and interviews, with program quality judged by teachers and increased participation in environmental education programs of 15 percent in the region of Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins and Union Counties, TN.

Progress: 174 presentations to date through first and second quarter (135 in the second quarter). Testing instrument has been developed and is being administered to participants. A 28% increase in participation in environmental education has already been realized in the region.

Member Development

Individual Member Development Objective

Member development has included training in grant writing and training in Forest Service Rural Development programming in the regional office and solid waste training during a conference.

Solid Waste Specialist hours training in second quarter = 64 hours

Environmental Education Specialist hours training in second quarter = 56 hours

AMERICORPS QUARTERLY REPORTS

CLEVELAND CLUSTER, TENNESSEE

APRIL 5, 1995

1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH:

None were enrolled at the launch. We were approved for 3 positions in the third month of the first quarter.

2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE CURRENT QUARTER:

Four (4) are presently enrolled in the Cleveland Cluster.

3. NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM:

None

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED:

2753 hours.

5. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF TRAINING:

222 hours, plus an uncalculated amount of on job training (OJT).

6. PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES:

Corey Garrett's position as an AmeriCorps member is a Rural Land Development Specialist. He is currently working on 3 projects which are finalizing the dry hydrant program for 15 counties, a water quality stream protection pilot project for Monroe Co., and a development plan for Chimney Park in Marion Co.

Corery L. Price's position as a USDA/AmeriCorp Program Member is Recycling Management Specialist. Although this is his official title, he is involved with various projects outside of the recycling realm.

D.D. Nielsen's objective was previously defined as developing a children's guide to the Tennessee Overhill area. The objective compliments their mission statement which is "To increase awareness of the cultural and natural resources of the Tennessee Overhill region through development of interpretation and educational tools". She has accomplished the following:

ACTION 1: An in-depth inventory of the history, existing museums and interesting sites within the Overhill area was conducted by D.D. Nielsen during this reporting period. This inventory identifies potential themes for each museums/site/activity for all but two or three of the targeted sites. (Due to inclement weather, scheduled visits to these sites was postponed. Information per each site is

forthcoming). Also, an in-depth review of related existing publications, both locally and nationally, was conducted. This search revealed that there are not very many guides specifically designed for children in the U.S. and Tennessee. Two guides were found for kids exploring East Tennessee, but they are basic listing of what, where, what time, and how much, with the exception of one published by the Knoxville News-Sentinel which does contain some interesting activity pages. To date there are 28 sites and activities to include in the resource guides.

Action 2: A pencil draft of the layouts, themes and graphic images has been completed for the majority of sites and activities. Some of the museum personnel involved with the guidebook are working on themes they want to see included regarding their particular sites and this information will be completed and sponsors will be identified.

Melanie Johnson's projects are based on a long-term benefits in the arena of environmental education. This years Envirothon is scheduled for April the 11th and is planned and coordinated on schedule. Ms. Johnson is assisting Bledsoe, Rhea, and Polk county groups with the planning and development of environmental education centers or outdoor classrooms

7 PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The dry hydrant program is where each county has allocated grant money, for materials only, to install dry hydrants throughout their county. A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe system permanently installed in existing lakes, ponds, and streams to provide a ready suction supply of water to a tanker truck. Mr. Garrett is working with 15 counties throughout southeast Tennessee with improving rural areas living conditions. Through this project communities will have improved fire protection and protection of natural resources. All but 3 counties are steadily working on this project to get it done by the completion date. Before Mr. Garrett was assigned this project to finalize it had been in effect for 3 years and only 2 counties had completed and all other counties had none installed. The response he has received from this program has been great, because of the great benefits in which they have gained from a dry hydrant.

The water quality improvement (stream protection) project is an attempt to protect and maintain the natural resource base and/or improve the plant, soil, water, animal and air resources of Monroe Co. by excluding livestock from streams through the use of fences, livestock crossings, watering facilities, and other means to facilitate grazing and special use areas. This will be a pilot project to promote and demonstrate the value of installation of best management practices voluntarily. He is currently in process of writing a grant for this project to obtain funding. He has talked with people in which this program will affect and they seem to be compliant if we can assist them on funding.

Chimney Park is a natural park in Marion Co. which they are trying to develop to a park for tourism, recreation, and social gatherings. Mr. Garrett has toured the park and says that the residents have done a wonderful job in planning to turn this natural beauty into something in which we all can enjoy. He is currently in process of preparing a plan

and writing a grant for the project, also in which we hope to assist the people of Monroe County with some funding. The community park committee has done everything which has been done so far. They have come a long way with just volunteer work of the citizens, but now that AmeriCorps is assisting we will "get it done."

Mr. Price is currently in the process of establishing a listing of location and products of class III (small) type of businesses and corporations. Many of these businesses are not large enough to be a member of commerce, which is the main focus of the project. The purpose of the project is to give publicity to businesses in which have products significant of the area in which they live. The listing of products and location of the businesses will be included into a directory for tourist coming to the 1996 Olympic Games, in which some of the water events are to take place on the Ocoee River. The project is also in affiliation with the Tennessee Overhill Heritage Tourism Association, in Etowah Tennessee where Mrs. Linda Caldwell is coordinator.

As a Recycling Management Specialist, Mr. Price is proposing a grant for possible funding and is preparing its application. The areas of interest concerning the grant are the lack of waste disposal methods in both rural and urban areas. Ideas are being generated to propose a plan that will lay the foundation to a major recycling management distribution center in Chattanooga, the gateway of the south. Also, another plan is to establish collection points in the rural areas of the Southeast Tennessee region. Hopefully, upon implementation of a major recycling distribution center it will soon be the destination of the solid and hazardous waste in the rural counties as well.

April is official Bag-A-Thon month in which there will be activities being carried out throughout month. This project is headed by Mrs. Diane Hayes of Keep America Beautiful (KAB). On the twenty-eighth of April, He will be participating in the festivities by displaying various household items products that are and could become hazardous waste material. This event will be taking place at the Bradley Square Mall here in Cleveland, Tennessee. This is a useful means of dispersing information publicly that many individuals aren't aware that many of the items found in the home are considered hazardous waste for various reasons.

In Polk County, at the Ducktown Elementary School land preservation practices are being implemented. The Copper Basin area since the recovering of its vegetation, has various wild cranberry bogs that grow throughout the area. The school has a cranberry bog that grows beside a stream behind the school. He is working with Mrs. Barbara Adams, a teacher at the school in conservation of the existing bog and cultivation methods that will enrich the school's acres of land that extends far back unto the mountains. The school and the Copper Basin area have a vast significance to the south, along with the cranberries that now grow wild. The means of the school is to determine what will enhance the growth of the cranberries, possibly to the extent of marketing. This project is in allegiance with The Green and Gold Conservancy of the Cherokee National Forestry service.

Ms. Nielsen's primary accomplishments are the following,

- * **CHILDREN'S FIELD COLLECTION KIT:** This is a simple project that parents, grandparents, friends, and educators and the child can construct out of inexpensive, everyday materials for collecting leaves, rocks, etc., while out visiting the Overhill area. The community response to this activity has been very positive.
- * **MEIJI GAUKUIN JAPANESE CULTURE INSTITUTE:** In addition to pertinent who, where, times, etc., we are including information on a traditional Japanese holiday "Children's Day", celebrated May 5th of each year. The activity will be how to construct an oragami Samurai hat. (Oragami is the Japanese art of paper folding).
- * **SEQUAYAH BIRTHPLACE MUSUEM:** Besides basic information the activity will be to decipher some key phrases in Cherokee into English. Also, a dot-to-dot picture to complete may also be included as well as a side bar of the Nancy Ward Gravesite.
- * **SPONSORS:** A search is still underway to secure funding for printing the guidebooks. Potential sponsors are Hardee's of Monroe and McMinn Counties.

Ms. Johnson has organized the Regional Envirothon and is coordinating with the participants and the subject instructors to bring the event together. A small grant was obtained to fund the expenses of the event. She has meet with leaders of the groups and schools in each of the three counties to assist with the development of their plan. She will use the plan to prepare grant request to seek funding to implement each of the projects.

8. PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER:

Mr. Garrett hopes by next quarter to have all counties working on the dry hydrant program completed and filing for reimbursement. He also hopes to have both grants completed and at least one them funded if not both so that the counties can start in full implementation of what they have been waiting to do for a long time and that is "Get things done."

Ms. Nielsen plans to Complete writing text for each attraction, finalize selection of layout and graphic arts to be used and nail down sponsors. Prepare document for printing.

Ms. Johnson expects to have the projects developed during the third quarter to the point that plans will be near completion and the implementation phase can begin. By October, she expects to have them all developed.

9. PRIMARY CHALLENGES:

Since joining AmeriCorps, Mr. Garrett, Mr. Price, Ms. Nielsen, and Ms. Johnson has had the pleasure of meeting people and also help to build and

strengthen their community. They have had some wonderful experiences and also had the opportunity to learn some valuable information while being a member of AmeriCorps. They had the pleasure of participating in a state-wide community service project in Memphis, Tn. by being a greeter at the National Civil Rights Museum on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday, Grant-writing classes in which to learned how to properly write a grant and how to search for foundations that may fund it. Also, they were involved in some Civil Rights training in Knoxville.

CONCLUSION: The overall community response to this project has been one of profound excitement. The smaller sites and attractions have been particularly pleased to be included in the guidebook. The additional activities revolving around wildlife, wetland and basic conservation is very exciting to many educators and parents in the Overhill region as well as the greater surrounding community.

Interaction in and with the communities of the various projects has been tremendous and help to build good public relations.

10. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS:

Some of the members think the Grant Writing Workshop and public speaking (presentations) training should be provided by the program.

Submitted by:
Bob Peters

For:
Southeast RC&D Council
AmeriCorps Cleveland Cluster

Quarterly Report

Morristown Field Office
Bent Creek Watershed Project
Time Period 12-1-94 to 3-31-95

1. Number of members at launch - 1
2. Number of members at end of quarter - 1
3. Number of members terminated - 0
4. Total number of hours of direct service performed - 600
this quarter
5. Total number of hours in training - 55 this quarter
6. Progress toward meeting community service objectives.

Objective #1 has been completed. All landowners in the Bent Creek Watershed in both Hamblen and Hawkins counties have been contacted. Best management practices have been installed on seven farms. These practices have included critical area treatment, stream protection, tree planting, wetland enhancement, grazing land protection and pasture seeding. The streambank protection practices are scheduled for May and are in the process of being designed.

7. Primary Accomplishments

Significant progress has been made in helping land owners in the watershed understand the relationship between land use and water quality. We have taken the approach that by working with land owners on a voluntary basis to implement BMP's will help prevent the need for regulatory measures. We have also tried to take the approach that any practice installed has to be of benefit to the land owner and not just the "public" to be successful. One example of this approach resulted in an over grazed gullied hollow being transformed into a multi-purpose site. There are pine trees on the steep sides, a livestock pond that is fenced with cypress trees around the edges and autumn olive for wildlife food plots near the pond. The land owner gained water for livestock, a more beautiful site and an investment in timber. The general public benefited by a reduction in sediment in local streams, better wildlife habitats and increased beauty on Highway 11E.

We have also installed critical area treatment in a farm that is managed by a person with a handicap. We smoothed up two acres of critically eroding gullies and sowed them down into permanent vegetation. This family was very satisfied with the service provided and told us they would help spread the word on what we are trying to do.

We have signed a contract on one animal waste system and are waiting on the design. We have also distributed over 4000 tree seedlings to help promote conservation.

In summary, approximately 320 tons of soil have been saved, conservation practices have been applied on approximately 28 acres, 2000 feet of streambank have been fenced and six acres of trees have been planted.

8. Projected Outcomes for Next Quarter

As we get further into spring we will be installing streambank demonstration projects, sowing seeds and other practices that require warm weather. We have been approached by a representative of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service who would like to assist with our Soil bio-engineering practice. We will be working with them as soon as we complete the design. We will also begin construction on the animal waste system next quarter.

9. Primary Challenges

A major disappointment was the cancellation of two TDA contracts for stream crossings and stream fencing projects. The landowners had already expressed their needs and plans for stream crossings and had been advised on a variety of previously completed crossings. The following meeting with the landowner included the engineer for the design and an environmentalist with TDEC for stream permits. A conflict of ideas resulted with the landowner being dissatisfied to the point of cancelling the TDA contract. To alleviate some of this conflict, it was decided TDEC would be contacted by mail for the permits and the engineer's design ideas would be conveyed to the landowner by the NRCS District Conservationist.

10. Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs

We need training on Soil Bio-Engineering. We need NRCS engineers to be more flexible and quicker with designs.

Chickasaw-Shiloh RC&D Council
Americorps Project

Second Quarter Report

1. Three employees began at Chickasaw-Shiloh RC&D location on September 11, 1994.
2. Two employees were enrolled as of April 1, 1994.
3. 0 members terminated.
4. 1837 hours of direct service performed.
5. 106 hours of training.
6. According to the Chickasaw-Shiloh RC&D Council Americorps Plan of Work, Objective 1 - Task 1 has been completed. Fifteen landowners have been contacted and use of equipment has been scheduled. Objective 1 - Task 2 has also been completed. Eight landowners have had their waste storage facilities dewatered (8.5 million gallons). Soil samples have been collected and sites have been monitored for safe discharge. An additional five landowners are currently on schedule to have their facilities dewatered.

Objective 2 - Task 1 is complete. Curriculum has been developed following TCAP requirements (20 lesson plans and 10 separate activity sheets). Objective 2 - Task 2 is complete. A curriculum sampler was completed and contacts with schools were made. Objective 2 - Task 3 is well on its way to completion. Twenty programs have been given involving 602 students. Approximately 800 - 1,000 additional students will receive one or more of our environmental education programs in the next five months..

7. The Americorps Program has been an essential program in our area. Through the use of our effluent discharge equipment in our area, landowners have been able to reduce the impact of nonpoint source pollution problems. They have also become more aware of their responsibilities to water quality through our educational efforts. In conjunction with this project, a team of 4-H students in Henderson County (one of twenty teams in the nation) have been selected to be part of CAST (Cooperative Assistance in Science and Technology). These students will assist us in monitoring and evaluating nitrate absorption and its affects on the pH of the soil. These students will present their findings in Washington, DC in the spring. Through our educational curriculum developments we now have lesson plans that meet Tennessee's core curriculum requirements and will assist our area's teachers meet these requirements. The Council has already invested \$9,500 in this project to purchase equipment and educational materials. The Council is also under consideration to be a state pilot for the Leopold project, which incorporates environmental learning in all areas of a students curriculum. This opportunity was a direct result of a meeting between Americorps members and the State Department of Education. The members of my team have done well. I have seen them grow and mature during these two quarters. This process has taken place by support on our part, but mainly through their efforts and having responsibilities and being allowed to think through and act on their ideas. Each member has received 36 hours of structured training.

8. During subsequent quarters, we will continue to exceed in all the Objectives and Tasks as set forth in the Plan of Work.

9. Most of our challenges have worked themselves out by the persistence of our Americorps members. The disappointments we currently face centers around Congress' reluctance to recognize the good of the program and the program's unsure future.

10. Training provided so far has been adequate.

~~First~~ ^{Second} QUARTER AMERICORPS REPORT
Middle Tennessee Area
Cookeville, Tennessee
April 5, 1995

1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH - 5
2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE QUARTER
(March 31, 1995) - 4
3. NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM - 1 member
resigned for health reasons during the second quarter.
4. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED - 2479
5. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING - 338
6. PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

Excellent progress has been made toward meeting community service objectives. For Objective 1 - Solid Waste and Recycling, 100 percent of Action Items 1 and 2 have been completed. Work is now under way to complete Action Item 3. Additionally, more than 50 percent of Objective 2 - Environmental Education, has been completed and is documented in item 7 below with supporting documentation for Community Building Objective 1.

7. PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

Solid Waste/Recycling - Five recycling demonstrations and one household hazardous waste collection day have been conducted during the second quarter. More than fifty households participated in the county wide hazardous waste collection day. Additionally, the AmeriCorps Team organized and participated in a county wide litter pick-up project in which 149 tons of litter was collected. Presentations on solid waste/recycling have been made to 307 individuals at fourteen separate civic club meetings, and 6 news articles on solid waste/recycling have been prepared during the second quarter. An additional presentation was made to the Middle Tennessee Regional Solid Waste Board on AmeriCorps activities as they relate to solid waste/recycling. In addition, meetings have been held in each of the fourteen counties with county executives or solid waste managers to determine their needs. One AmeriCorps Member, who has a degree in Civil Engineering, used NRCS equipment to survey a county landfill to determine the remaining life of the landfill, thereby saving the county several hundred dollars. A 14 county poster contest with the theme REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE was conducted with over 1200 posters being entered.

Environmental Education - One school has been selected in each of the 14 counties to serve as pilot environmental study areas. Site designs have been completed for each of the 14 Outdoor Learning Centers, and 13 of the 14 centers are in various stages of development. To date over 700 trees have been planted on school grounds, 100 bluebird boxes have been installed at 5 schools, and bird inventories, wetland studies, and erosion demonstrations have been completed at various other schools. One AmeriCorps Member assisted 6 schools prepare grant applications to assist in developing these outdoor learning centers. To date, three grants totaling \$7,500.00 have been received by three schools. More than 100 classroom presentations on environmental education and recycling have been made to 4,090 students during the second quarter. Two in-service workshops on environmental education were conducted with 75 teachers attending from 8 counties. Additionally, formal presentations were made to an additional 200 teachers during faculty meetings. A 14 county regional Envirothon has been planned for high school students in the area, with more than 100 students signed up for the April 6, 1995 event. AmeriCorps Members have had major responsibility for organizing the event, and for obtaining resource material and training of teams participating in the event.

8. PROJECTED OUTCOME FOR NEXT QUARTER

The third quarter will be the major production period in completing Community Service Objectives. Assistance will continue to be provided to units of government in implementing successful solid waste/recycling programs. One county government, which is establishing a recycling program, has ask that AmeriCorps Members present programs on the importance of recycling to every student in the county wide school system. Presentations to civic clubs and other organizations on solid waste/recycling will continue, and the information program on AmeriCorps activities will accelerate. Much of the environmental education activities will be completed during the third quarter. All work on the 14 Outdoor Learning Centers will be completed, and site specific curricula for each study area will be in place. Evaluation of the success of the environmental education effort will also be completed during the third quarter. Two significant AmeriCorps team efforts will also be completed during the third quarter. The 14 county Regional Envirothon will be completed on April 6, 1995. On April 22, 1995, Members will sponsor a 14 county Earth Day celebration involving schools, business and civic groups.

9. PRIMARY CHALLENGES

After learning to work as a team, we have had no real internal challenges. Two members did have difficulty in with student loans, however, this has now been resolved.

10. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

We have had good support from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. During the second quarter all AmeriCorps Members received additional civil rights training. Additionally, we have used local, state and private agencies for training.

10. MEDIA COVERAGE

We have had good media coverage of AmeriCorps activities. Six news articles have been published, one AmeriCorps Member was interviewed by our local PBS television station on the subject of recycling, and radio public service announcements have been made to inform the public of special activities.

TN

**WOODLAND COMMUNITY LAND TRUST
SECOND QUARTER AMERICORPS REPORT**

TIME PERIOD: December 1 through March 31, 1995

1. Three (3) members enrolled at the time of the launch.
2. One (1) member enrolled at the end of this quarter.
3. No members were terminated from the program.
4. Direct hours of service performed: 890.5
5. Total number of hours in training: 48.0
6. Progress Toward Meeting Community Service Objectives:

Because two of the three members are no longer here, objectives have been adjusted:

- a. Engage local people in forest generated economics:
 1. Working with new administrator of peer lending capital.
 2. Identified and compared appropriate processes for peer lending in this area.
- b. Education
 1. Set up educational field trips including a "hands on" science, biology class with three local schools. Approximately 40 students will attend.
 2. Engaged 14 volunteers in cleaning a stream and clearing trails.
- c. Forest Management Plan
 1. Contacted Rick Walker of the Tennessee State Forestry Division to aid in coordination of raw information regarding the forest.
 2. Involved two local people in helping to coordinate raw information regarding the forest.

7. Primary Accomplishments

While funding for the peer lending program was secured through the East Tennessee Design Center, that organization has reorganized and will no longer administer the money. Recently, the East Tennessee Foundation has agreed to administer the money but they do not have it in hand yet, and have not decided on their guidelines. Our member has been negotiating with the East Tennessee Foundation,

and has been working on a peer lending process that is appropriate for this area building on the process set up by the Tennessee Network for Community Economic Development (TNCED) which has made money available for women's peer lending groups.

Our one Americorps member has set up a meeting with the State Forestry Division to make sense of the raw data regarding the forest lands here. This technical assistance will help her coordinate and report on the Landscape Ecosystem classification method used to assess this forest land. Two local residents have been approached to take part in this effort to organize this information.

Several local schools have been contacted and invited to have field trips hosted by our Americorps member which would include nature walks. Three schools have responded to this opportunity. The Fonde Christian School will be visiting on April 11. The White Oak Elementary school and the Clairfield Elementary school do not yet have firm dates.

Fourteen youth volunteers helped the Americorps member clean a stream and area around the stream of garbage and debris.

8. Projected Outcomes for the Next Quarter:

- a. Three to four educational activities with local youth.
- b. Organized report/booklet regarding inventory method for the forest land and examples of how that method tells us about the potential of this forest land.
- c. Agreements with the East Tennessee Foundation regarding the guidelines for use of capital in the peer lending program and final decision on the process to be used in this area.

9. Primary Challenges

We lost two of our three members, leaving us with the task of re-prioritizing. We also had to try to make sense of the raw data that they left. These people were outsiders who were not connected to the community.

In this county there is no accessible recycling program available. When streams are cleaned it is difficult to get rid of garbage, particularly tires. We must pay to recycle or dump tires.

10. Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs

Help in making sense of raw data regarding the forest and the Landscape Ecosystem classification. How to make it understandable and usable to non-technical people.

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	2	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 3rd Qtr.	2	
No. of Members who served entire 3rd Qtr.	2	
No. of Members who left sites during the 3rd Qtr.	0	
No. of Members who joined sites during 3rd Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 3rd Qtr.	1050.5	
Total Members service hours to date	3237.5	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter:

120

(b) Total **hours** of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter:

1125

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

In each section below, briefly restate your objectives and describe progress toward them this quarter. Where available, describe relevant evaluation data. Note evaluation activities in which you have engaged.

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

Solid Waste Specialist: Provided tech. assist. in solid waste mgt. and recycling to communities in Claiborne, Grainer, Hancock, Hawkins, and Union Counties resulting in a 10% increase recycling rate and improved solid waste mgt. through implementation of 3 grant proposals and 2 recycling program start ups as outlines in the 10 Year Regional Solid Waste Mgt. Plans approved by the State of Tennessee.

1. Organized 4 Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collections. Collected 7500 lbs of hazardous materials from 120 households.
2. Completed recycled art projects with 140 county school children including EarthQuilts made from old t-shirts, handmade recycled paper, sculpture. Done in observance of EarthDay.
3. First Grainger County EarthDay Festival. Funded by grant to E TN Foundation Art's fund and by Partners for Clean Communities. Theme was solid waste and recycling, included 9 stops run by various volunteers. Green shopping, garbage and landfills, water quality, and recycled artwork competition.
4. Wood waste chipper grant for \$25,000 to reduce wood waste going into landfills. Technical assistance: cost analysis on changing solid waste infrastructure to transfer station versus shipping wastes out of county. Update convenience center plans.
5. Source reduction technical assistance and training for local gov't, business and industry.

(b) **AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:** Briefly restate your objectives and describe progress toward them this quarter.

(c) **Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:** Briefly restate your objectives and describe progress toward them this quarter.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter: (Make note of any accomplishments or things gotten done not described above.)

14. Unique successes or great stories : (Include stories that would best communicate to the public how AmeriCorps service gets things done. Particularly helpful are stories that include numerical results and creative solutions.)

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter: (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.) Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs this Quarter:

Attached to this quarterly report form is a separate Training and Technical Assistance Request form. Should you have training or technical assistance needs, complete the attached form and submit it along with your quarterly report. It will be directed to the Training and Technical Assistance Office.

Technical assistance is available in many program-related areas, including, among others, organizational development and management issues, fundraising, diversity, and best practices in site-specific skills.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter: (Report on activities this quarter that fostered the national identity of AmeriCorps. Examples could include new uniforms, signage or publicity materials; projects with other AmeriCorps programs; coordination with State Commissions or Corporation state offices; training members in national skill areas (communication/conflict resolution or CPR/first aid); participation in national service projects (HIV/AIDS awareness training, environmental audits, or citizenship education); graduations or swearing-in ceremonies, use of national recruitment, use of AmeriCorps Member Handbook.)

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter: (Report staff turnover in management or supervisory positions, changes in partner/sponsor relationships, changes in board membership, AmeriCorps Member attrition etc.)

Who Should Complete This Quarterly Report?

AmeriCorps operating sites should complete this Quarterly Report. The report is designed to gather data on the service activities of AmeriCorps Members. By collecting the data at the operating site level Ñ from the people who are closest to the AmeriCorps Members Ñ the Corporation hopes to maximize the accuracy and usefulness of the information.

If you completed a Quarterly Report last quarter, or if your site is listed in the attached list of Operating Sites, you should complete a Quarterly Report and forward it to your grantee. If you have any questions, please contact your grantee.

AmeriCorps*USA

Operating Site Quarterly Report

National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: Appalachian NE TN RC&D, Johnson City, TN
Name Location
2. Operating Site ID # : 4047E25A
3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct
4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
☐ First Quarter ☐ Second Quarter ☒ Third Quarter
(10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30)
☐ Fourth Quarter
(7/1-9/30)
5. Name of person completing this report: Roy Settle
6. Position of person completing this report: Member Supervisor
7. Telephone number: (615) 854-9621
8. Fax number: (615) 282-6451
9. e-mail address (if available): N/A
10. Members and Service Hours [Insert data into table]

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	2	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 3rd Qtr.	2	0
No. of Members who served entire 3rd Qtr.	2	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 3rd Qtr.	2	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 3rd Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 3rd Qtr.	196	0
Total Members service hours to date	3159	0

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 1

(b) Total **hours** of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 18

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

In each section below, briefly restate your objectives and describe progress toward them this quarter. Where available, describe relevant evaluation data. Note evaluation activities in which you have engaged.

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

1. Cranberry Restoration Project: Member assisted community organization with writing, photography and video documentation for project designed to stimulate local economy by increasing production and marketing of native cranberries.
2. Kingsport Tree Planting: Cluster group planted trees along eroding streambank in Hamblen County in low-income neighborhood.
3. Unicoi County Tourism: Member provided desktop publishing services to Committee in production of sample Attractions Locator Map as part of tourism project to stimulate local economy.
4. Conservation Education: Member wrote, edited and assisted with publicity of conservation education programs in 6 counties.
5. Conservation Camps: Members planned, organized, and staffed 4 conservation day camps for all 4th graders in 3 counties.
6. Hidden Heroines: Member conducted interviews of Appalachian women for a cultural history and arts project serving 8 counties and utilizing volunteers for oral history collection.
7. Regional Envirothon: Member developed evaluation of regional Envirothon competition which was distributed to advisors and teams of high school students who participated. Eight out of 12 teams responded, providing feedback that event coordination and promotion was rated excellent and the competition was rated good.
8. Household Hazardous Waste Collection: Members participated in local household hazardous waste collection days.
9. Project Funding: Members wrote proposals to qualify for Forest Service funding of 3 ongoing projects; the Cranberry Restoration, Conservation Education, and Roadside Dumping.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives: Briefly restate your objectives and describe progress toward them this quarter.

Below are the objective statements for the 2 members at this site and following are the full community building objectives approved by CNCS.

OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: To plan and develop strategies for community development and tourism activities in a minimum of five communities. One project will benefit residents in all six counties of the region. These projects will be based on information gathered from area needs assessments. Emphasis will be placed on sustainable economic development, alternative agriculture, ecotourism, and cultural tourism. Success will be based on new opportunities in tourism, community involvement, and economic development for rural citizens.

PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

1. Produced various media to document and publicize Cranberry Restoration project in Shady Valley.
2. Conducted and recorded oral history interviews and documentation for the Hidden Heroines project.
3. Designed and produced Unicoi County Attractions Locator map.

OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: To promote conservation education in local schools by organizing activities and also to promote conservation education to the public through awareness such as presentations and workshops.

1. Coordinated and promoted regional Environthon on April 19 for 78 high school students from 10 high schools in 5 counties.
2. Designed and produced RC&D/AmeriCorps newsletter highlighting conservation education programs.
3. Coordinated 4 days of Conservation Camp for over 900 4th grade students, teachers and parents. Forest Service, TN Division of Forestry, Waste Management, NRCS, TN Highway Patrol, TN Wildlife and others presented at 14 learning stations. Conservation education materials were distributed to all the students and teachers.

Grantee Department of Agriculture
Community Development and
Tourism Specialist

Site Rural Development TN-2
Johnson City, TN

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY BUILDING OBJECTIVES**

OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: To plan and develop strategies for community development and tourism activities in a minimum of five communities. One project will benefit residents in all six counties of the region. These projects will be based on information gathered from area needs assessments. Emphasis will be placed on sustainable economic development, alternative agriculture, ecotourism, and cultural tourism. Success will be based on new opportunities in tourism, community involvement, and economic development for rural citizens.

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

+++++

1)What activities will you be engaged in?

ENVIROTHON - All phases of coordination and development.

CRANBERRY RESTORATION IN SHADY VALLEY - Conducted research and wrote grant proposal for economic revitalization funds from the Forest Service. In FY96, member will assist with the development, writing, editing, and layout of materials, publications, and a video documentary of the restoration project and the annual Cranberry Festival, held each October. Member will also assist with the development of progress reports and a manual for growing cranberries in the area, based on the results of the Ruritan Club's research and experience.

UNICOI COUNTY ATTRACTIONS LOCATOR MAP - Member has completed research and has written an initial draft of the map, including descriptions of scenic and recreational area, campgrounds, whitewater rafting, historic sites, fishing, farm products, and craft and antique outlets. The printed maps are to be completed by October, 1995. Additional materials, such as brochures and feature articles will be completed in 1996.

"HIDDEN HEROINES" ORAL HISTORY PROJECT - Member will complete 8 oral histories of Unicoi County women. This is a regional cultural arts project covering eight counties. Volunteers interview, record, and transcribe these oral histories.

REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING EDUCATION - Groundwork for this effort has been laid through partnership building and information gathering in FY95. Objectives for FY96 include: coordination of a teacher inservice workshop for 200 teachers with emphasis on solid waste and recycling; development of promotion strategy, workshops and handbook for training local businesses and industries in waste reduction (210 businesses); research and development of a recycled paper products guide for regional businesses.

2)What is the hoped for result of the activities described above?

By building on last years' successes, we will continue to increase participation in Envirothon in FY96. Because of groundwork laid this year, promotion and coordination of the event will require less effort and time next year.

The purpose of the cranberry restoration project is to stimulate economic development through tourism and educate the public about possible alternative agricultural applications. The members will assist the Shady Valley Ruritan Club restore a native cranberry bog on an area of donated land, try various management techniques to achieve a viable crop, and utilize the bog for demonstration and education for inclusion in the community's annual Cranberry Festival.

The printed Attractions Locator Map will be a primary tool to promote tourism and will be placed on literature racks statewide and in bordering states. Additional materials, such as brochures and feature articles will be completed and disseminated through state tourism agencies.

One of the end results of the "Hidden Heroines" interviews will be a play, to be written by nationally known playwright Jo Carson. Local presentation of this drama will be a great asset for tourism in the region. This is a community project which brings together partners from 8 counties to achieve a common goal. Histories gathered from Unicoi County women will contribute to archival information that will increase knowledge of a National Forest dependent community, land use trends, regional peoples at the turn of the century, and women as a minority group.

The Regional Solid Waste and Recycling Education efforts will result in an increased awareness of the need for solid waste reduction and consequent action among all ages and sectors of the population in 6 counties.

3)How will you measure the quality of these activities?

ENVIROTHON -

- Results in a regional winner who competes in the state contest, with the opportunity to advance to the national level.
- Participating students are encouraged in the learning process, and they get the opportunity for hands-on application of their knowledge.
- A Career Fair the the Envirothon introduces students and teachers to natural resource professions.
- Students and teacher/advisors fill out evaluations of the event.

Rural Community Assistance Monitoring and Evaluation will be conducted to evaluate the quality of the Cranberry Restoration project. Partnerships with the Ruritan Club, Cranberry Festival committee, Forest Service, and technical experts in cranberry culture have developed through this project.

The Unicoi County Attractions Locator Map drafts are helping the tourism committee clarify the county's tourism assets. Contacts made during research helped to educate community leaders about the tourism initiative. Partnerships with community members, the committee, a land-use consultant, and the Forest Service have developed. The quality of the map and other materials will be evaluated by the tourism committee and a consultant. The map clearly shows the National Forest as an asset to the tourism industry and to desired sustainable development which is encouraging cooperation between the Forest Service and this community, where approximately half of the land area is federally owned.

The quality of the "Hidden Heroines" project will be evaluated by ETSU professor at the Center for Appalachian Studies.

The quality of the Solid Waste Education efforts will be reflected by positive responses from teachers and local businesses. Teachers will evaluate the teacher inservice workshops.

4) By what standard will you gauge success?

This year there has been an increase in participation in the regional Envirothon (5 additional county schools) due to promotional efforts. An exhibit was taken to 11 schools, and teachers were visited regarding participation in Envirothon. Results of increased participation include:

- Teachers and school administrators have increased emphasis on natural resources and ecology in this curricula, evidenced by the use of natural resource agency study materials and proposed course additions.

The effectiveness of the Cranberry Restoration project will be shown by an increase in visitors to the Cranberry Festival and Naturalist Rally. Visitors will spend more time in the county and the commercial potential for growing cranberries will be heightened.

The effectiveness of the Attractions Locator Map and other materials will be validated by an increase in visitors to the area.

Success of the "Hidden Heroines" project will be determined by the quality of and interest in the resulting play, increased interest in the cultural history of the region and consequent increase in visitation.

Meeting the goal of training 200 teachers through the inservice workshops and 210 local businesses through workshops and the pre-cycling handbook will be a measure of success.

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY BUILDING OBJECTIVES**

OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: To promote conservation education in local schools by organizing activities and also to promote conservation education to the public through awareness such as presentations and workshops.

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

+++++

1)What activities will you be engaged in?

The AmeriCorps member will be responsible for the coordination and planning of the conservation camp for 4th graders. A total of 17 stations will be available at the camp with topics including environmental issues and conserving natural resources. An educational packet will also be developed to hand out to each participating student and teacher. A grant approved by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture for \$5,000 will fund the printing of these packets, t-shirts for the participants, and other needed materials.

The second annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection will be coordinated by the member. Displays have been constructed to promote these events and to increase citizen awareness of these types of collections. The displays will be set up and the member will be available to answer questions at 6 different home and garden shows. It will also be utilized at local health fairs and in local businesses.

A new event is planned in conjunction with the Household Hazardous Waste Collection - A Pesticide Container Recycling project. This will benefit farmers in NE Tennessee. A display has been constructed and a brochure will be developed to provide technical details on pesticide container recycling. This will be the first regional pesticide recycling effort in the area.

2)What is the hoped for result of the activities described above?

Environmental education is an important part of the education of our future leaders. The conservation camp educates students and teachers about various conservation topics. It is hoped that each participant will learn and apply at least one concept to their everyday life.

The Household Hazardous Waste Collection will provide all interest citizens with the opportunity to have their household hazardous waste recycled. This event also allows local community residents to become actively involved with the Statewide solid waste reduction mandate.

The Pesticide Container Recycling effort will provide a free and safe way for farmers to have toxic plastic pesticide containers recycled, reducing adverse impacts to the environment.

3)How will you measure the quality of these activities?

Teachers will be asked for feed back about the camp such as how could it better serve the educational needs of the students. The students will also be expected to finish the educational packet, which will allow each teacher to test the students knowlegde of all topics covered at the conservation camp.

Surveys will be conducted at each of the Household Hazardous Waste Collections.

The Pesticide Container recycling will be measured by the number of farmers participating and how many containers are brought for recycling.

4)By what standard will you gauge success?

Out of a possible 1050 students, 775 students have signed up to participate in the Conservation Camp (73%). This is an exceptional number for the first time this effort has been undertaken in this area.

The 2nd Household Hazardous Waste collections will be successful if more than 25% of the households participate. As more people participate, awareness of the event is raised. The first collection included 1298 households. We anticipate 1622 households participating in FY96.

The first regional Pesticide Container recycling will be a success if 20 local farmers bring containers to be recycled.

15. **Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:** (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.) **Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs this Quarter:**

The tourism committee's review of the Attractions Locator Map drafts took much longer than anticipated by consultant; therefore, the next stage of the member's work on the project (layout and design) was delayed 2 months. Member continues to confer with consultant and tourism director for instructions and deadlines.

State T-CAP test schedules forced a change of dates for the Conservation Camps in Elizabethton resulting in extra camps to cover all 4th graders. Originally all of the students would have come to camp on the same days.

Attached to this quarterly report form is a separate Training and Technical Assistance Request form. Should you have training or technical assistance needs, complete the attached form and submit it along with your quarterly report. It will be directed to the Training and Technical Assistance Office.

Technical assistance is available in many program-related areas, including, among others, organizational development and management issues, fundraising, diversity, and best practices in site-specific skills.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter: (Report on activities this quarter that fostered the national identity of AmeriCorps. Examples could include new uniforms, signage or publicity materials; projects with other AmeriCorps programs; coordination with State Commissions or Corporation state offices; training members in national skill areas (communication/conflict resolution or CPR/first aid); participation in national service projects (HIV/AIDS awareness training, environmental audits, or citizenship education); graduations or swearing-in ceremonies, use of national recruitment, use of AmeriCorps Member Handbook.)

Cluster group planted trees in uniform (t-shirts) in a low income neighborhood on the National Day of Service, and also planted trees along an eroding streambank in a rural county.

Members were interviewed in uniform about service projects on a local television news broadcast.

Member was interviewed by newspaper for feature article on AmeriCorps.

Newletter highlighting conservation education programs carried the AmeriCorps logo.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter: (Report staff turnover in management or supervisory positions, changes in partner/sponsor relationships, changes in board membership, AmeriCorps Member attrition etc.) NONE.