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**Folder Title:**

USDA [Department of Agriculture]/AmeriCorps-Virginia

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Photos

2



# FAX

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
1606 SANTA ROSA ROAD  
SUITE 209  
RICHMOND, VA 23229-5014

Date February 29, 1996

Number of pages including cover sheet     

To:

Dee DiFiore

Program Analyst

NRCS - Washington

Phone: (202) 720-2847

Fax: (202) 690-0639

CC:     

From:

Sharon H. Batzli

Phone 804/287-1676

Fax Phone 804/287-1737

REMARKS:

☐ Urgent

☐ For your review

☐ Reply ASAP

☐ Please comment

List of Virginia AmeriCorps Members as promised.

There were no Enrollment/Trust forms received in our mail from those members missing their forms. They will be forthcoming later.

# AmeriCorps NEWS!!

TO: Carolyn Kleene

DATE: February 29, 1996

FROM: Pat Paul

Below is a list AmeriCorps members names and addresses:

## New River Highlands AmeriCorps Members

Audrey Biggs  
110 W. Spiller Street, Suite C  
Wytheville, VA 24382-2598  
(540) 228-2879

Diana Brubaker  
110 W. Spiller Street, Suite C  
Wytheville, VA 24382-2598  
(540) 228-2879

## Old Dominion AmeriCorps Members

Emily Pritchard  
PO Box 58  
Keysville, VA 23947-0058  
(804) 736-8403

Doug Spencer  
PO Box 58  
Keysville, VA 23947-0058  
(804) 736-8403 804-572-6016

## Fairfax AmeriCorps Member

Demson Fuller  
12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 905  
Fairfax, VA 22035-5514  
(703) 324-1460

## Black Diamond AmeriCorps Member

Marlene Fields  
Route 4, Box 49  
Lebanon, VA 24266  
(540) 889-4180

## Tidewater AmeriCorps Member

Sharon Conner  
Route 2, Box 6  
Tappahannock, VA 22560-9302  
(804) 804 443-1118

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From the Desk of Patricia Paul --

---

7-11-96

Joel :

These 3 brochures were prepared by our AmeriCorps member for the Resource Conservation & Development Area. The other brochure has an article from our member Emily Pritchard on page 31. Here is hard copy of quarterly report.

Pat

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New River-Highlands RC&D  
[Resource Conservation and Development]  
Council's 1995 Annual Report  
[pamphlet]

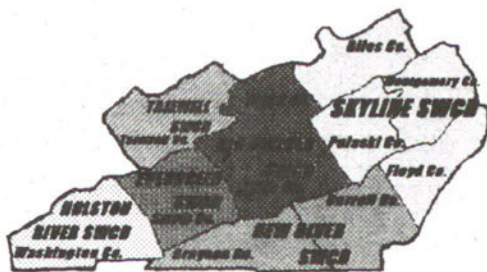
12 pages

# NEW RIVER-HIGHLANDS RC&D COUNCIL'S 1995 ANNUAL REPORT



## *Resource Conservation & Development*

Serving



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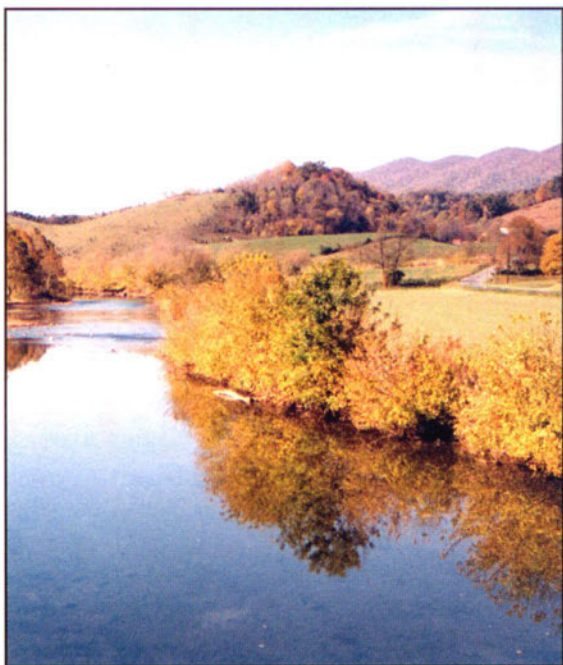
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Holston River Adopt-A-Watershed  
Program

6 pages

[attached]

Holston River  
**Adopt  
-A-  
Watershed**  
Program



*Today's Kids Making A Difference  
in Tomorrow's World*

Sponsored By  
Middle Fork Holston River  
Water Quality Committee  
&  
Friends of the North Fork Holston River  
  
Cooperating with  
Washington & Smyth County Schools

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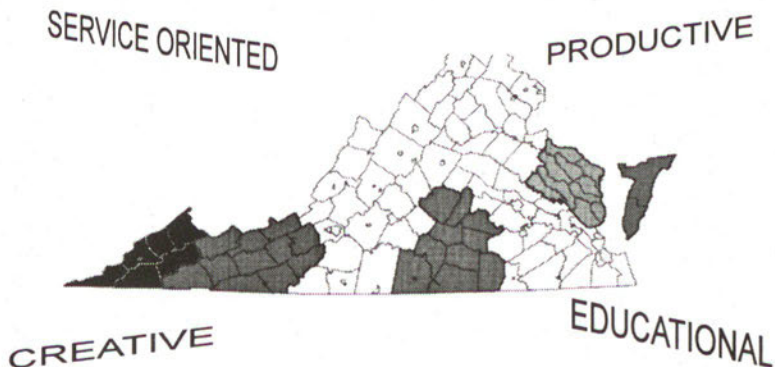
Virginia Association of Resource  
Conservation and Development Councils  
Annual Report 1995

5 pages

[propaganda]

# Virginia Association of Resource Conservation & Development Councils

Annual Report  
1995



Black Diamond RC&D  
Route 4, Box 49  
Lebanon, VA 24266  
Tel: (540) 889-4246

Tidewater RC&D  
Rt. 2, Box 6  
Tappahanock, VA 22550  
Tel: (804) 443-1118

Eastern Shore of Virginia  
RC&D  
W. Spiller St., Suite C  
Accomack, VA 23301-0127  
Tel: (804) 787-2786

New River-Highlands  
RC&D P. O. Box 127  
110  
Wytheville, VA 24382-2598  
Tel: (540) 228-2879

Old Dominion RC&D  
P. O. Box 58  
Keysville VA, 23947-0058  
Tel: (804)736-8403



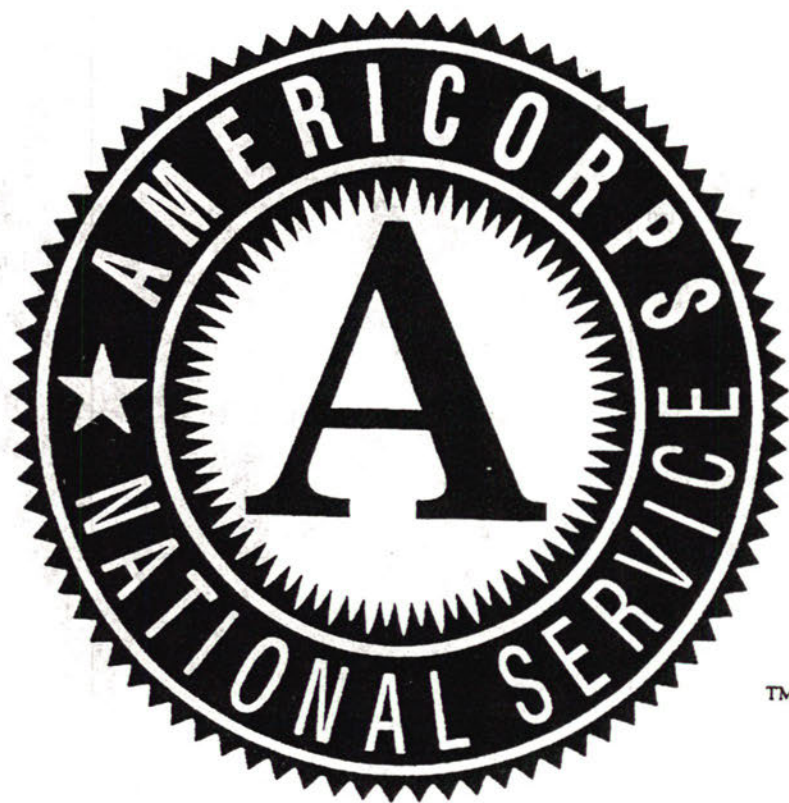
*The*  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

*Recognizes*

***Audrey Biggs***

for providing valuable national public service as an AmeriCorps member,  
and for carrying out projects to help promote rural development  
and to conserve and protect the natural resources  
of the Commonwealth of Virginia 1994 -1995.

# AMERICORPS NATIONAL SERVICE



FOR THE  
FUTURE

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
(Formerly the Soil Conservation Service)**

Tiffany Square, Suite 100, Rd #2, 2615 Rt. 38, Mount Holly, NJ 08060  
Phone: 609-267-0811 Fax: 609-261-3007

**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET**

To: Gail Updegraff Date: 4.14.95

Fax Number: 908.246.2358

From: Jane Decker Ext: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of pages: Transmittal sheet + 3

**MEMO:**

Gail:

Here is a copy of the letter I received  
on the AmeriCorps Program. My response  
is also included.

Have a nice weekend!

Jane

Response requested? YES

☒ NO

If you have any problems receiving this material, please call  
\_\_\_\_\_, at (609) 267-0811.

*Our mission is to provide leadership and administer programs to help people conserve,  
improve, and sustain our natural resources and our environment.*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1995

Janet Decker  
795 Weehawkin Ave  
Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Dear Janet:

It is an honor to welcome you as a Member of the inaugural class of AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps is built on the tradition of national service established by programs such as the Peace Corps and the Civilian Conservation Corps. Like these programs, AmeriCorps provides opportunity while demanding responsibility and a commitment to confront and solve our nation's most pressing problems. I commend you for responding to this bold challenge.

You and more than 20,000 other AmeriCorps Members are making a difference by bringing emergency care to areas that have suffered from natural disaster, revitalizing inner-city neighborhoods, walking the beat with police, teaching in crowded classrooms, building homes for working families, and restoring our country's natural resources. You have accepted the responsibility to get things done on a local level and to learn from people of all different backgrounds. And you are creating common ground that all of us — as a nation — can build upon.

I am committed to making AmeriCorps a long-term success, and your input will help to achieve this goal. I want to know about the challenges you are facing and how you are meeting them; about how you are affecting the people and the communities you serve; and about how your work with AmeriCorps has changed you as an individual and as a citizen. Please take a moment to write to me at The White House, The AmeriCorps Program, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20502.

When we launched AmeriCorps in September, I asked three basic questions: What is right? What is wrong? And what are we going to do about it? As an AmeriCorps Member, you are doing what is right. You have shouldered enormous responsibility for yourself, for your neighbors, and for our nation. You represent what is best about America, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



**TREE IDENTIFICATION PROJECT**  
**PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS FOR TEACHERS**

**DECEMBER 8, 1994 4:00 PM**

1. What do you hope to accomplish with the program, aside from tree identification?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How much material do you want? (i.e. simple, medium, total; common or Latin names, simple or complex and technically worded identifications.)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How big do you want the teacher's workbook? (i.e. Dimensions [keeping in mind ease of use in the field], number of pages, amount of information, type of paper [slick, plain, etc.], type of binding [book, notebook, spiral, etc.] )
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Do you have any ideas about identification post design (as far as the ability to conceal written information while showing pictures of leaf, trunk bark and shape) for the testing stage of the trail?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What grade levels will this information be geared towards?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. In addition to testing materials, what types of teaching materials would you be interested in?

7. How can you incorporate learning about careers involving use of wood into your tree ID curriculum?
8. What is your experience (or anecdotes) with learning about trees? How can you convey enthusiasm to your students about the project?
9. Do you wish or think you will require some sort of course or training on tree identification?
10. Do you have any general suggestions about this project?

Mindy  
783-6436

# CAN YOU HELP?

→ Tues. Jan. 31 order posts  
Mon. Feb 13 posts  
delivered to Town Yard

→ Sat. Feb. 18 Work Day # 1  
10 AM - 2 PM (Town Yard)  
Cutting, routing, staining

→ Sat. Feb. 25 Work Day # 2  
10 AM - 2 PM. Continued  
Post Prep or rain date

→ Sat. Mar. 4 Work Day # 3  
9 AM - 3 PM. Digging holes,  
installing posts, tamping

→ Sat. Mar. 11 Work Day # 4  
cont'd digging or rain date

⇒ Sat. Mar. 18 Work Day # 5  
Finish up.

Sat. Mar. 25 Rain date

1995  
President's Service Awards

*Established in 1982*

## PRESIDENT'S SERVICE AWARDS

*Though government has an important role to play in meeting the many challenges that remain before us, we are coming to understand that no organization, including government, will fully succeed without the active participation of each of us. Volunteers are vital to enabling this country to live up to the true promise of its heritage.*

President Bill Clinton

Everyday in communities across the nation, volunteers work to help solve critical social problems. Their efforts affect real change in their own neighborhoods and in the nation as a whole. They give our country hope for the future.

These millions of volunteers come from diverse backgrounds and use their unique talents and experiences to address unmet human, educational, environmental and public safety needs in their communities. They join family members, friends, neighbors and co-workers in service. And they volunteer through their workplaces, schools, places of worship, civic clubs and community organizations.

The President's Service Awards, formerly named the President's Volunteer Action Awards, were created in 1982 to honor outstanding individuals and groups engaged in voluntary service to help solve serious social problems. Over the last 13 years, there have been 248 recipients of the President's Award.

The 1995 President's Service Awards will be presented in the spring of 1995.

The President's Service Awards program is co-sponsored by The Points of Light Foundation and the Corporation for National Service.



The Points of Light Foundation, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, was established in May 1990 to engage more people more effectively in volunteer community service to help solve serious social problems. In October 1991, the Foundation merged with The National Volunteer Center, which brought a 21-year history of supporting and strengthening volunteer activity. The Foundation motivates leaders of organizations to mobilize their members for community service. It helps communities build and strengthen local organizations such as Volunteer Centers to assist leaders in carrying out service initiatives; it provides leaders with compelling reasons and proven ideas and tools for mobilizing within their own institutions those they can influence to service; and it works through the media to shape popular attitudes about community service.

### **CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE**

The Corporation for National Service is a new governmental organization created by the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. The Corporation's mission is to engage Americans of all ages and backgrounds in community-based service. This service will address the nation's education, public safety, human and environmental needs to achieve direct and demonstrable results. In doing so, the Corporation will foster civic responsibility, strengthen the ties that bind us together as a people, and provide educational opportunity for those who make a substantial commitment to service. The Corporation's three main programs are: AmeriCorps, The National Senior Service Corps, and Learn and Serve America.

# PRESIDENT'S SERVICE AWARDS

## ELIGIBILITY

- ☐ Any individual, organization, group, family, business or labor union actively engaged in voluntary service benefiting the community or the Nation can be nominated.
- ☐ Community service may be directed either at domestic or international problem-solving.
- ☐ Nominated activities typically should be of at least twelve months duration, with significant activities occurring during the preceding year.
- ☐ Employees and members of the board of directors and committees of The Points of Light Foundation and employees and members of the board of directors of the Corporation for National Service are not eligible to receive the award or to nominate applicants.
- ☐ Recipients of previous President's Volunteer Action Awards are ineligible for the 1995 President's Service Award.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- ☐ Separate nominations may be submitted for as many different individuals or groups as desired.
- ☐ Only nominations accompanied by a self-addressed stamped postcard will be acknowledged. Because of the volume of nominations, the President's Awards screening committee cannot respond to queries regarding the status of a specific nomination.
- ☐ A list of the recipients of the 1995 President's Service Awards will be sent to those who include a self-addressed stamped envelope marked "WINNERS."
- ☐ Pertinent supplementary materials may be submitted along with the nomination form. See "The Nomination: Accompanying Materials" for guidelines. All nominations must be complete in one package when submitted. Letters, materials and other documents received separately will not be processed or considered in the judging.
- ☐ The completed "Official Nomination Form" should be detached and used as the cover sheet for the nomination packet. All nominations and support materials must be printed on paper no larger than 8 1/2" x 11". The entire nomination packet should be stapled in the upper left corner. Do not put the nomination form, statement or supplementary materials into a binder, notebook or acetate cover.
- ☐ All entries and supplementary materials will become the property of The Points of Light Foundation and will not be returned. Materials will be held by the Foundation for six months following completion of the judging process.
- ☐ The screening committee may request additional information from nominators or references for the judges' consideration.
- ☐ Decisions of the judges are final. All entries for the 1995 President's Service Awards must be postmarked before midnight, **February 24, 1995**.

## AWARD CATEGORIES

Nominations should be made in the following categories. While the sub-categories below are not all-inclusive, they are meant as guidelines in choosing your category. Some nominations may include activities which fall into several categories; please choose the category which includes the greatest portion of the activities. All activities included in the statement will be considered in the judging process.

### Human Needs

physical and mental health care  
career exploration and employment readiness preparation  
job training and placement  
child care  
early childhood development  
foster care  
mentoring  
youth and peer counseling  
youth and community recreation  
services to the elderly, homebound and those with special needs  
services to families with young children  
services to persons with disabilities  
services to persons with AIDS  
material resources  
assistance to homeless and indigent persons/families  
wellness and community-based health care  
illicit drug awareness and prevention  
substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation  
short-term crisis and permanent affordable housing

### Environment

efforts to plan and implement immediate and long-term  
community environmental improvement  
public awareness of and education on environmental issues  
neighborhood cleanup and rehabilitation efforts  
reduction of environmental hazards in housing

### Environment, continued

support of sustainable communities  
conservation and restoration of natural and cultural resources

### Education

adopt-a-school programs  
tutoring  
scholarship and college assistance  
adult and family literacy and community education  
intergenerational literacy programs  
supplementary education at all levels  
English as a second language training  
library development and assistance  
school readiness  
school- or community-based service-learning  
after-school enrichment programs

### Public Safety

efforts to bring together diverse groups in the community  
assistance to victims of crime and/or domestic violence  
child abuse awareness and prevention  
citizen crime prevention efforts  
community policing  
crisis intervention assistance (long and short term)  
prisoner rehabilitation programs  
improvement of criminal justice services  
disaster relief

# PRESIDENT'S SERVICE AWARDS

## CRITERIA

The following criteria are utilized in reviewing and judging the nominations:

**Achievement** — The nomination must reflect the actual accomplishments achieved through the voluntary service.

**Community Needs** — The voluntary community service must address unmet human, educational, environmental or public safety needs.

**Innovation** — Activities should reflect innovative or unique approaches to solving serious social problems.

**Mobilization** — Nominated activities should result in or present opportunities for mobilizing other volunteers.

**Ongoing Involvement** — The voluntary community service must be hands-on and ongoing rather than a one-time activity with the exception of outstanding service for short-term crisis situations.

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## THE NOMINATION

Complete the "Official Nomination Form" and attach a statement of up to 500 words describing the nominee's activities. In addition, you may include appropriate supportive materials.

### (A) The Nomination Form

**Item I.** Indicate the nominee's complete name, mailing address and telephone number. If the nominee is a group, indicate the appropriate contact person within the group along with his/her address and telephone number.

Check the appropriate classification. (For business or labor union nominations, please see "Supplemental Information" on page 6 of this form.)

**Item II.** Categories are used as guidelines in the selection process. Please check the appropriate award category. Because some nominations fit appropriately into more than one category, please choose the one you feel is most suitable.

**Item III.** Because finalists' references will be contacted for verification of their activities and accomplishments, please choose references who are familiar with and can be available to discuss the nominee's voluntary community service activities.

**Item IV.** In the space provided, include a brief statement describing the goals of the nominated activity.

**Item V.** Indicate name, address and telephone number of the nominator and sign the nomination form. If appropriate, indicate the nominator's title and organization.

### (B) The Statement

Please attach a narrative statement of up to 500 words which describes the nominee's community service activities and which demonstrates how those activities address the community's serious social problems. Because the judges will utilize the criteria in the review process, please be sure that you address each of the criteria within the statement. Include information on how and when the activity began. If the nominee receives a stipend or salary for any portion of the nominated activity, please explain the extent of the stipend or salary in the statement.

Business and labor union applicants should include in their statement the appropriate data requested in "Supplemental Information" on page 6.

### (C) Accompanying Materials

Up to ten pages of supplementary material may be submitted along with the nomination. Additional materials can include letters, testimonials, news clippings, pamphlets, etc. Do not submit audio or video tapes, display materials, films, scrapbooks as they will not be considered in judging the nomination. Accompanying materials must be no larger than 8 1/2" x 11". All submitted materials become the property of The Points of Light Foundation and will not be returned.

All information supplied is given on a voluntary basis.

---

## SUBMITTING THE NOMINATION

Please mail all entries to:

The President's Service Awards  
1737 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

**ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT, FEBRUARY 24, 1995**

# Middle Fork Holston

## River Tales

Vol. 1-1 Winter 1994-95

New River-Highlands RC&D

### *Hello and Good-bye*

*MFHWQ Elects a new slate of Officers*

**Rex Greer**, chairperson of the Middle Fork Holston River Water Quality (MFHWQ) Committee, has announced his retirement as chairperson effective 1995. Rex has served as the Chairperson of the MFHWQ Committee for seven years. Rex became part of the MFHWQ Committee through his membership in the Evergreen Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). As part of the SWCD for 16 years, he has supported a number of conservation projects within the District.

The Committee's function is to address the need for water quality improvement. Rex has focused his time as chairperson on informing the community about watershed management. He views himself as a support person and sometimes an instigator for the community's water conservation concerns; what he is, is a concerned citizen, leader, and volunteer. The drive of the Committee is the spirit of volunteerism.

The MFHWQ Committee, working with TVA and the RC&D Council, has sponsored a number of projects that have increased awareness and information about the community's watershed. Rex believes that these activities are what the community notices most of all. The Committee is the "conscience of the community. It serves to remind [the community] about water quality."

See Greer, (p 4)

### ***In This Issue . . .***

#### **Cover**

**Hello and Good-bye . . . New Middle Fork Holston Water Quality Officers**

#### **HOT TOPICS:**

**AmeriCorps**

**What's knew with 319**

**Adopt-a-Watershed**

#### **BITS & PIECES:**

**QUIPS, QUOTES, AND**

**FACTS:**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Executive Changes on the River**

**Members** of the MFHWQ Committee have elected David (Dave) Johnson, Lawrence Richardson, and Shirley Blackwell to serve as the Executive Committee. The chairperson of the Committee, Dave Johnson, is expecting a good season of events. Dave says that, 'he is pleased with the committee's choice of Lawrence Richardson as Vice Chair and Shirley Blackwell as Secretary and Treasurer.'

**Dave Johnson** replaces Rex Greer as the Committee Chairperson. Dave is a Smyth County Dairy Farmer. His experiences with watershed improvements and local demonstrations make him an ideal Chairperson for the Committee. Dave Johnson has been part of the

Committee for three (3) years where he has been an active participant and supporter of water quality improvement.

The Committee has developed into a state recognized organization. Dave plans, to work with the each of the officers in the Committee, to continue moving in an education and demonstration direction. He feels that he has a lot to learn; however he is willing to learn what it takes to keep the Committee on track. He plans to benefit from the experiences of the whole Committee. He says, "While I develop as an officer, I plan to continue to demonstrate though example." He says that, 'the local community will not become more conservation minded unless they see how it will work for them.'

Dave feels that the best way to teach about the possibilities for the watershed are through illustration and representation. He has always been active in demonstration projects. He wants to expand the Committee's visibility, while teaching the water quality message.

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---

**Lawrence Richardson** is the newly elected Vice-Chairperson for the MFHWQ Committee. Lawrence has been an active member on the Committee for the past six years, but his election as Vice-chairperson will be his first MFHWQ office. He has also been a member of a number of other community groups. One of his special community projects is a rural water system project for over 318 families. The project was developed through the Thomas Bridge Water Corporation from 1964-1969.

Lawrence looks forward to new projects and his role in the Committee. "I would like to see a strong push towards education, and will work as a spokesperson for the activities of the Committee." He has a definite view about conservation activities along the river. He says, "It [water quality] is a problem caused over a long period of time and it can only be corrected by humans over a long period of time." The Committee has focused itself as a catalyst of activities with the help of state agencies, and Rex Greer's leadership.

Lawrence stated, "I want the Committee to grow with his [Rex Greer's] leadership as a guide." The future of the Middle Fork Holston Water Quality Committee looks bright as it moves from a little watershed group to a state recognized Water Quality Committee.

---

**Shirley Blackwell** is the newly elected Secretary and Treasurer of the MFHWQ Committee. She is an active community member, current chairperson of the Grassroots Conservancy, and a new member of the Committee. Through her efforts and the MFHWQ Committee's, the Grassroots Conservancy received a Community Forestry Enhancement Grant to add an educational use to the Riverwalk. These activities and others are helping to increase public awareness and access to the Middle Fork Holston River. Shirley is very proud of the strides that the Conservancy has taken with the Riverwalk and looks forward to continuing to expand its development. As a member of both organizations, she has been diligent in the development of the Riverwalk, a project that is also important to the community outreach objectives of the Committee.

Her role on the Committee will dovetail her activities with the Conservancy. Her experience as a speaker and leader will be put to work on the new Outreach Subcommittee created by the MFHWQ Committee. The Subcommittee will work at expanding water quality information and Committee activities to the public. She states, "Education is our most powerful tool. Too often we are told we should or should not do something without being told why or why not. Teach us and we will teach others."

Her active nature has prompted her to state often that she 'likes to have her fingers in all aspects of the pie.' Shirley is interested in everything and everyone--especially the community of Marion. Her attitude is that community awareness will help the most in improving the environment, and an improved environment will enhance the beauty of the Middle Fork in Marion.

---

**Conservation fact:** Agricultural Runoff is the most extensive source of pollution in the nation's Waters. Nutrients, siltation, pathogens, metals and organic enrichment are the most commonly reported pollutants in impaired waters.

Source: EPA Fact Sheet  
Source 1992 Report to Congress

## Hot Topics



L to R: Audrey Biggs, Mindy Clark, Delton Alderman, Adrienne Perkins, and James Pratt (Not shown here).

## AmeriCorps Comes to RC&D

The New River Highlands RC&D Area has two grants approving five AmeriCorps workers. The grants create five positions for one year. Each AmeriCorps participant receives a living stipend, health care, and child care benefits. At the end of a year of service, an education award is given toward future education or to repay part of an existing education debt.

The Council supervises the AmeriCorps members as they form a collaborative rural development team for both the United State Departments of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly SCS) and the Forest Service. The team's primary goal is to promote the activities of the RC&D Council. Some additional goals are to promote the best management practices for natural resources, and to develop a tree identification project along the Riverwalk trail in Marion, Virginia.

The five positions for the RC&D are; Landscape Architect, Outreach Coordinator, Forest Engineer, Forest Economic Specialist and Forest Products Marketing Specialist.

## What's new on the 319 Project?

The New River-Highlands Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council hired a Resource Conservation Specialist. Mr. Kerry (K. D.) Cook will be the project manager of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) project for the Middle Fork Holston Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) project.

The project was initiated in 1993, by the Middle Fork Holston Water Quality (MFHWQ) Committee and the RC&D Council, for the purpose of tracking critical stream bank problems and their effects on the river system. The project will focus on the water quality of the Middle Fork Holston River and its tributaries.

The TMDL project is a result of the studies by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the Virginia Non Point Source (NPS) Assessment Report and the RC&D Council. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has since funded a project, through section 319 of the Agriculture & Food Act, to increase

information, provide technical assistance and improve water quality. To track this information K. D. will study and identify critical pollution sites along Greenway creek and the localized Middle Fork Watershed Project area.

K. D.'s main interest is to spotlight the area and the changes that BMP's can do to improve water quality for the community. Some of his responsibilities include marketing the 319 program to the local landowners and evaluating the Greenway watershed according to the biological profile and the TMDL activities that impact the area watershed.

K. D. is originally a resident of Russell County. He has strong family ties to the community. He earned a B. S. Degree in Mining Science Technology at Virginia State University in 1986, a B. S. Degree in Agricultural Education in 1970, and a M. S. Degree in Vocational Education in 1976. Most recently, K. D. worked as a rebuild technician in the mining fields. His past experiences include a number of years as Vocational Agricultural Instructor for secondary school students and a trainer for adult night classes.

## County School Systems "Adopt-A-Watershed"

The TVA, and the MFHWQ Committee together with the Smyth and Washington County School Systems has accepted the "Adopt-A-Watershed" program for the 1995-1996 school year. The Adopt-A-Watershed program is an initiative developed by the TVA River Action Team (RAT), and other soil and water conservation agencies. The program is a bold concept designed to introduce students to the impacts of land use, water quality, and pollution problems in their watershed areas. The program will increase student, farmer and community understanding of how Non-Point Source (NPS) pollution affects water quality. The program has the added bonus of reducing the number of watershed miles affected by agricultural and urban NPS pollution in Washington and Smyth Counties. Partners and agencies are developing the Adopt-A-Watershed program to increase involvement and participation by teachers and students in water quality problem solving. The program will also develop civic pride by protecting the resources in their own neighborhoods.

Carmen Lane, a River Action Team member for the Clean Water Initiative at the TVA, has enlisted the superintendents of Smyth and Washington Counties to initiate the Adopt-A-Watershed program in their schools. The teachers will receive up to date training in watershed improvement, in service credit, and access to agency expertise and speakers. The students will be able to identify water pollution problems and brainstorm potential solutions. In addition the students gain the opportunity to earn \$100 for their Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter or school club, while gaining real-world problem solving experiences.

Each teacher is partnered with a local agency contact on a selected watershed to teach students to identify and map the land boundary of the watershed, as well as monitor the aquatic life. Teachers will be trained to use all materials and equipment needed for the projects. The TVA, Natural Resource Conservation Service, RC&D Council and the MFHWQ Committee will provide contacts and class support. Together the teachers and students will work with agency contacts to implement solutions in the watershed and monitor the success of the program.

**Conservation fact:** Whenever land is stripped of its plant cover, soil is inevitably lost by erosion, the so-called silent thief. A single rainstorm can wash away centuries-old accumulations of soil from neglected or badly managed fields<sup>1</sup>

Source: Comptons Encyclopedia, 1994 CD ROM

Greer (Cont.).

This is the goal supported by the entire MFHWQ Committee. Mr. Greer feels that the contributions of the Committee are a success because "everyone is involved in finding solution to local problems." Rex mused that, "When the Committee was established there was no direction or goal." "We [the MFHWQ Committee] only knew that there was a water quality problem and that we wanted to be part of the solution."

The water quality problem that the Committee identified was non-point source pollutants in the Middle Fork Holston River. Of the projects that the Committee has been involved in, Rex is most proud of the Washington County Three Creek Watershed project,

the Staley Creek septic system, and the Best Management Practices Program.

As Rex ended his last meeting as chairperson he stated that, "This [his retirement] would by no means end my work on the Committee." "My retirement will allow for new ideas to increase the Committees focus of on the river's water problems and new activities." He intends to use his influence in the SWCD to continue support for the MFHWQ. He has also accepted appointments on several subcommittees on the MFHWQ Committee. Of his experiences on the Committee he says, "I'm just happy serving on the Middle Fork Holston Water Quality Committee."



## Bits And Pieces



Rex Greer and Lawrence Richardson represented the MFHWQ Committee at the Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation District held in Williamsburg Va. The Committee's history and activities were the topic of the presentation; including the premiere of the MFHWQ Committee's Video tape with the Girl Scouts. The annual conference included over 400 persons representing agencies and conservation groups.

Mindy Clark, project manager for the Riverwalk, has secured the assistance of the Smyth County Vo-tech School to produce the identification post to be used for the Tree Identification Project. There will be several workdays over the next few weekends to finish the project. Volunteers are needed to help with the sanding, staining and post hole digging, or provide tools to complete the construction component for the grant. The entire project is slated for completion in April and there will be a Field Day to present The Tree Identification Lab to the Community. Please make a special effort to attend and participate in this event. Work dates are listed in the MFHWQ Calendar of events. The Field Day activities will be listed at a later date.

Minimizing The Impact Of Natural Disasters was the topic of a January 31, 1995, workshop. The workshop was held at the Wytheville Municipal Building by the New River-Highlands RC&D. The workshop included information on ice, fire, and insects, their impact and how to prepare for these natural disasters. If any one would like a copy of "Storms Over The Urban Forest," a publication funded by the US Forestry Service, please contact the New River-Highlands RC&D office at (703) 228-2879

### Five Leading Sources of Water Quality Impairment

| Rank | Rivers                    | Lakes                           | Estuaries                 |
|------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1    | Agriculture               | Agriculture                     | Multiple Point Sources    |
| 2    | Multiple Point Sources    | Urban Runoff/Storm Sewers       | Urban Runoff/Storm Sewers |
| 3    | Urban Runoff/Storm Sewers | Hydrologic/Habitat Modification | Agriculture               |
| 4    | Resources Extraction      | Multiple Point Sources          | Industrial Point Sources  |
| 5    | Industrial Point Sources  | Onsite Wastewater Disposal      | Resources Extraction      |

Source: EPA Fact Sheet  
Source 1992 Report to Congress

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Place your Article Here.



This is the first issue of the Middle Fork Holston River Tales. Remember this is your newsletter. Please make any suggestions or comments to

Attention: Audrey Biggs, Outreach Coordinator, New River-Highlands RC&D,  
110 Spiller St., Wytheville 24382

I look forward to any and all contributions to this newsletter. Any little facts, subcommittee news, demonstration information or just something that you noticed about the river would be appreciated. Deadlines will be posted in the meeting announcements, so if you miss one, we'll save it for the next edition.

Middle Fork Holston Water Quality Committee

Calendar of Events

Calendar of Events

Next Meeting Dates:

MFHWQ Committee -- Mount Rodgers Planning District, Marion on  
March 16, 1995 at 7:00

Alternate Meeting Room - USDA Natural Resources  
Conservation Services (formally SCS)  
Conference Rm. -- 11 1/2 Main St. Marion

Outreach Committee -- **Obys Restaurant**, Marion February 21, 1995 at 12:00  
Grass Roots Conservancy -- (TBA)

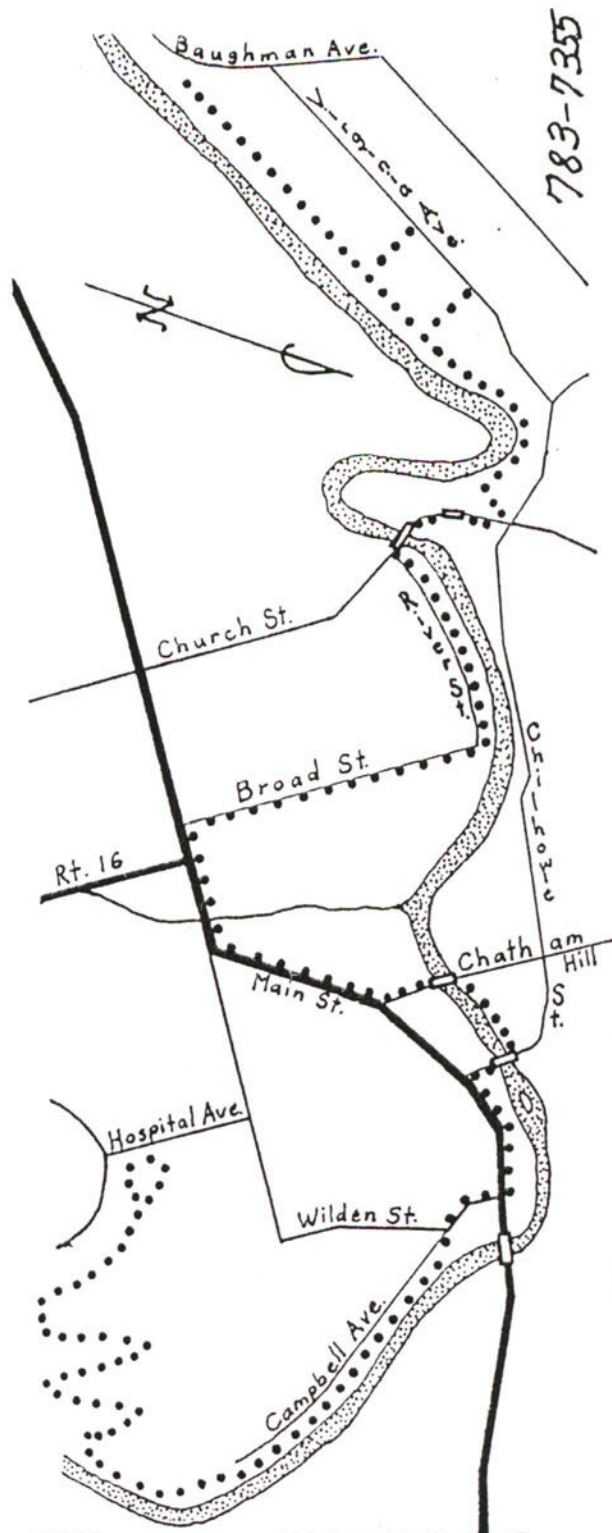
River Walk Tours -- Guide: Mindy Clark--

Wed -- (Mar. 8, Apr 12, May 10, 1995) 12:00-1:00 PM

Tree ID Work Schedule -- (Feb. 18, & 25, Mar. 4, 11, & 25, 1995) 9:00-4:00

# RIVERWALK

FOLLOW  AT INTERSECTIONS AND CROSSINGS



783-7355

*Grassroots Conservancy's new office 1018 E. Strother St*

# THE MIDDLE FORK HOLSTON WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

## Fact Sheet

### HISTORY

The Middle Fork Holston Water Quality (MFHWQ) Committee originally formed in 1985 as a result of efforts of the Evergreen Soil and Water Conservation District to identify the source of pollutants that caused taste and odor problems in the Town of Marion's drinking water supply. The Committee soon realized water quality in the MFH River was vulnerable to impacts both localized such as from spills or point sources and dispersed such as from water runoff from land or highways. The solutions to these pollution sources were varied and required cooperation, so the Committee brought the agencies, groups and interests together that were involved in the area to work toward the Committee's primary objective:

"To improve the water quality of the Middle Fork Holston River by reducing point and non-point source pollution sources."

Beside mobilizing various agencies and groups to work together, the Committee works to achieve its objective by informing local citizens about water quality issues, encouraging interested parties to get involved, and seeking funds for implementation of water quality improvement projects.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Instrumental in resolving a long-standing septic system problem along Staley Creek
- Working with several state and federal agencies, the Committee leveraged \$2.3 million in technical and cost-share assistance to farmers in the Cedar, Hall and Hutton Creeks areas to implement practices to reduce erosion on pasture and farm land.
- Brought several agencies together to fund 15 farm demonstration projects on the MFH River to reduce impacts from livestock waste, streambank and cropland erosion.
- Organized several river clean-up day activities
- Identified the need and worked with TVA and the SCS to do an aerial inventory of soil erosion in the area documenting water quality impacts from streambank erosion, livestock operations, and livestock access to streams.

### MEMBERSHIP

The MFHWQ Committee is made up of local representatives from towns, counties and conservation districts in the Middle Fork Holston area and is supported by a technical advisory committee made up of federal, state and local agencies.

### THE FUTURE

The job of reclaiming the Middle Fork Holston River has just begun. The Committee seeks the assistance of all agencies and volunteers to continue efforts to help the River. Whether it is with stream monitoring, land treatments, planning, public awareness activities, or endorsement of our proposed actions, all are encouraged to contribute what they can. Now is the time to build on our past accomplishments and move forward towards the future. Working together, we will reclaim the **Middle Fork Holston River** for ourselves and for generations to come!

MFHWQC's

# Strategic Plan

for

## 1995



Our foremost philosophy . . .  
*Voluntary Participation*

## INTRODUCTION

The Middle Fork Holston River begins in western Wythe County near Rural Retreat, Virginia, and flows southwesterly through Smyth and Washington Counties for about 56 miles where it enters the South Holston Reservoir. The citizens of the area enjoy the river to provide drinking water, canoeing and fishing opportunities, farm and industrial water supply, and a better quality of life. The entire watershed is about 240 sq. miles and includes cropland, pastureland, forestland, mining and urban land.

The recommendations and activities of this Committee are aggressive. We have concluded that this is the critical time and action is necessary now to prevent additional deterioration of water quality and aquatic habitat. Sedimentation caused by erosion from construction sites, pastureland and cropland, and livestock access to streams impacts fisheries, threatens mussels, and aquatic life. It also increases flooding potential. Most of the tributaries and the mainstem of the Middle Fork Holston River exceed State criteria for fecal coliform bacteria a significant amount of time, excessive nutrients from runoff and farmland erosion also impact aquatic life, and loss of riparian cover next to streams raises water temperatures, promotes erosion and also increases flooding potential.

We have seen significant improvements to water quality since the Middle Fork Holston Water Quality Committee's inception in 1985, but there is much that remains to be improved and protected. As detailed more fully in our 1995 strategy, we propose an integrated education, monitoring and action program that provides opportunities for all ages and backgrounds of citizens to get involved. We emphasize voluntary efforts, but we need a consistent ongoing commitment and bold, aggressive actions to take back our River and protect our natural resources for ourselves and our future generations.

Many people deserve credit for the recommendations of this report. Both citizen members and the agencies involved sacrificed their evenings to attend our meetings and participate in implementing our activities. The result is a strategy that is a road map that can correct past abuses and change the current course of deterioration of our streams. We urge you to familiarize yourself with this strategy and to learn about the impacts and solutions to protect and restore our resources. We hope that you too will join us in "helping us to help the River".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Johnson", written in a cursive style.

David Johnson, Chairman  
Middle Fork Holston Water Quality Committee

## HISTORY/BACKGROUND

The Middle Fork Holston River Water Quality Committee is a grass roots initiative that formed as a result of two taste and odor episodes in Marion, VA's water supply during 1984. With the assistance of the New River Highlands RC&D, the local group in Marion extended an invitation to their counterparts in neighboring counties and so the Committee was formed to protect and improve the water quality in the entire Middle Fork Holston River Watershed.

The Committee is a locally chaired, non-technical group that is served by a technical advisory committee made up of local, state and federal agencies. The agencies provide technical and financial assistance and work with the Committee to protect and improve the water quality of the Middle Fork Holston River for water supply, recreation, and aquatic life.

Past accomplishments include:

- 1985 - Completed a TVA aerial survey of the watershed.
- 1986 - USDA Three Creeks Watershed funded project to reduce pollutants in the Hall, Hutton, and Cedar Creeks area by providing cost-share dollars to farmers.
- 1986/Present - TVA has conducted biological surveys to assess impacts and track progress to aquatic life.
- 1988 - The Staley Creek/Marion Sewer System was funded and installed to correct a long-standing septic system and bacteria contamination problem.
- 1989 - Mt. Rogers Regional Planning District, USGS, and VADEQ completed a comprehensive data collection and report on the water quality of the watershed.
- 1986/Present - TVA, USDA, and RC&D cost-shared with over 15 landowners in the area to install more than 40 best management practices to control agricultural impacts of nutrients, sediment, bacteria and animal wastes to area streams.
- 1985/Present - Middle Fork Holston field days have been hosted to increase awareness in the community of the water quality problems and highlight solutions.
- 1993 - The Middle Fork Holston Water Quality Conference was held to address how the Committee could expand to include more public involvement and education.
- 1989 to 1994 - VA DCR funded water quality awareness projects and BMP demonstrations.
- 1993 - VA TECH sponsored a student to develop a model to prioritize pollutants based on aerial photography and biological sampling.
- 1994 - NRH RC&D secured an EPA 319 grant to use the total maximum daily load model (TMDL) to plan and implement agricultural BMP projects on Greenway Creek.

#### LONG TERM GOALS:

- Improve the biological assessment ratings of three streams in the Middle Fork Basin to either fair or good by 1999.
- Improve aquatic habitat and document stable or increasing native mussel populations in the Middle Fork Holston River by 2006 (examples of native mussels include the pheasantshell, wavy-rayed lamp mussel, or Tennessee clubshell mussel).
- Increase recreational fishing opportunities by improving the aquatic habitat of one stream enough to support a grow-and-take trout fishery by the year 2000.
- Identify and obtain funding to maintain an office and a position for a MFHWQ Committee administrator to coordinate the technical, policy, funding, educational and public awareness activities of the committee by 1999.

1. CRITICAL ISSUES:

Lack of public awareness about how individuals impact water quality in the Middle Fork Holston Watershed.

Soil erosion from disturbed stream banks, agricultural runoff, and construction sites adversely affects water quality.

2. CUSTOMERS:

Bristol, Washington County, Marion - Water supply  
users  
Recreationists  
Property owners and developers  
Farmers/landowners  
Industries that use water

3. CUSTOMER NEEDS:

Drinking water  
Wastewater disposal  
Recreation  
Farming  
Quality of life

4. ALLIANCES:

Active  
Evergreen Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)  
Farmers/landowners  
Holston River SWCD  
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)  
New River Highlands Resource Conservation &  
Development Council (NRH RC&D)  
Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)  
Smyth County Board of Supervisors  
Smyth County Chamber of Commerce  
Grassroots Conservancy  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)  
VA Department of Conservation and Recreation (VDCR)  
VA Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ)  
VA Department of Forestry

Prospective Partners

Civic clubs

Washington County Board of Supervisors

Smyth and Washington County School Boards

Marion and Chilhowee Town councils

Washington County Chamber of Commerce

Mount Rogers Planning District

5. OBJECTIVES:

- A. Through the MFHWQ Committee, involve the community in finding and implementing solutions to water pollution issues in the Middle Fork Holston Watershed.
- B. Through the MFHWQ committee, educate and increase public awareness of the causes and the techniques to solve water quality problems in the Middle Fork Holston River Watershed.
- C. The MFHWQ Committee will base their decisions on the best scientific data available.

6. GOALS:

- A. Have at least four farmers agreeing to participate in implementing Ag. BMPs by September 1995.
- B. Have a baseline water quality report completed by July 1995.
- C. Obtain six signed Ag. BMP agreements on Greenway Creek by September 1995.
- D. Have a conceptual drawing of the Marion Riverwalk finalized by June 1995.
- E. Complete tree identification and mapping program on the Riverwalk by mid April 1995.
- F. Have an A-A-W Program developed and involve 3 high school classes in adopting one subwatershed each in the MFH basin by September 1995.
- G. Increase awareness in local government and civic organizations about the importance of the MFH River and the activities of the MFHWQ committee by giving five presentations by September 1995.

- H. Increase awareness in the community about urban pollution issues by giving two workshops on urban issues by September 1995.
- I. Develop and distribute one MFHWQ committee newsletter by March 1995, and one by September 1995.
- J. Present copies of Strategic Plan to agencies, government, and local groups by personal visit when possible.

7. ACTION ITEMS:

(Note: The activities listed below correlate with the goals on the previous page.)

A. Farmer Ag BMPs

1. Start inventory of all farmland adjacent to streams in Smyth and Washington Counties.

Who: Evergreen and Holston River SWCD/  
NRCS/USFWS/TVA

Cost: Estimated \$1,000

When: Start by June 1995

2. Obtain agreement from four Ag. farmers to implement Ag. BMPs where adverse impacts to water quality are found.

Who: NRCS/RC&D/USFWS/TVA/Evergreen & Holston  
River SWCD

B. Water Quality Assessment

1. Develop baseline assessment of all major streams in the MFHR Basin. Involve the MFHWQ committee in the review and finalization.

Who: TVA Holston RAT/MFHWQC

Cost: Estimated \$2,000

When: Complete by September 1995

2. Public Forum to present current water quality issues to the public.

Who: MFHWQC/TVA Holston RAT

Cost: Estimated \$1,000

When: Complete by December 1995

C. Greenway Creek

1. Six signed Ag BMP agreements obtained from farmers willing to implement Ag. BMPs on farmland with impacts to water quality.

Who: NRH RC&D

Cost: \$50,000

When: Complete by September 1995

D. Conceptual Drawing

1. Complete architectural drawing of Riverwalk thru Marion.

Who: TVA/Grassroots Conservancy

Cost: \$3,000

When: Complete by June 1995

E. Riverwalk Education

1. Completion of Tree ID and mapping program

Who: NRH RC&D/Grassroots Conservancy  
VA Dept of Forestry

Cost: \$7,000

When: Complete by May 1995

F. A-A-W Program

1. Recruit at least three high school classes to adopt stream watersheds in the MFHR Basin by giving mini-workshops to at least 8 schools in Smyth and Washington Counties.

Who: TVA

Cost: \$200.00

When: Complete by March 1995

2. Develop a structure that provides the necessary agency support to teachers and classes involved in the A-A-W program.

Who: MFHWQ Ag. subcommittee/TVA Holston RAT

Cost: Agency personnel time

When: Complete by Sept. 1995

3. Develop curriculum and classroom materials for teachers to use in the A-A-W program.

Who: TVA CWI/Washington and Smyth County teachers/MFHWQC

Cost: Estimated \$4,000

When: Completed by August 1995

4. Develop week-long training course for teachers involved in A-A-W and obtain certification to make course count for three hours of college credit.

Who: TVA Holston RAT/Washington and Smyth County teachers/MFHWQC

Cost: \$15,000

When: Complete by August 1995

5. Develop Ag. BMP information to support student activities.

Who: NRCS/TVA/NRH RC&D

Cost: \$2,000

When: Complete by June 1995

6. Develop information on history of MFH River Basin

Who: Lawrence Richardson

Cost: in-kind

When: Complete by June 1995

G. Local Government and Community Awareness

1. Give presentations to five local government boards or civic organizations on the MFHWQC activities or on the importance of the river.

Who: Everyone

Cost: Volunteer and Agency Time

When: Complete by Sept. 1995

2. Develop MFHWQC fact sheet and presentation materials.

Who: MFHWQC/NRH RC&D/TVA

Cost: \$1,000

When: Complete by Sept. 1995

3. Speakers Bureau

Who: MFHWQC

Cost: Agency/Volunteer Time

When: Sept. 1995

4. An information clearinghouse to offer the public information on the MFHWQ committee and river related activities will be housed at both the Evergreen and Holston River District offices.

Who: Evergreen & Holston River SWCD

When: complete by Sept. 1995

#### H. Urban Issues

1. Develop and present E&S control regulations workshop

Who: VADCR/NRH RC&D/TVA

Cost: Agency Time

When: Complete by January 1995

2. Develop and present safe homeowner uses of garden chemicals workshop and invite retailers dealing with the public.

Who: NRH RC&D/ES/TVA

Cost: \$1,500

When: Complete by Sept. 1995

#### I. Newsletter

1. Update MFHWQC mailing list

Who: NRH RC&D/MFHWQC

Cost: Agency/volunteer time

When: Complete by Aug. 1995

2. Develop two newsletters and distribute.

Who: NRH RC&D/Writers from MFHWQC

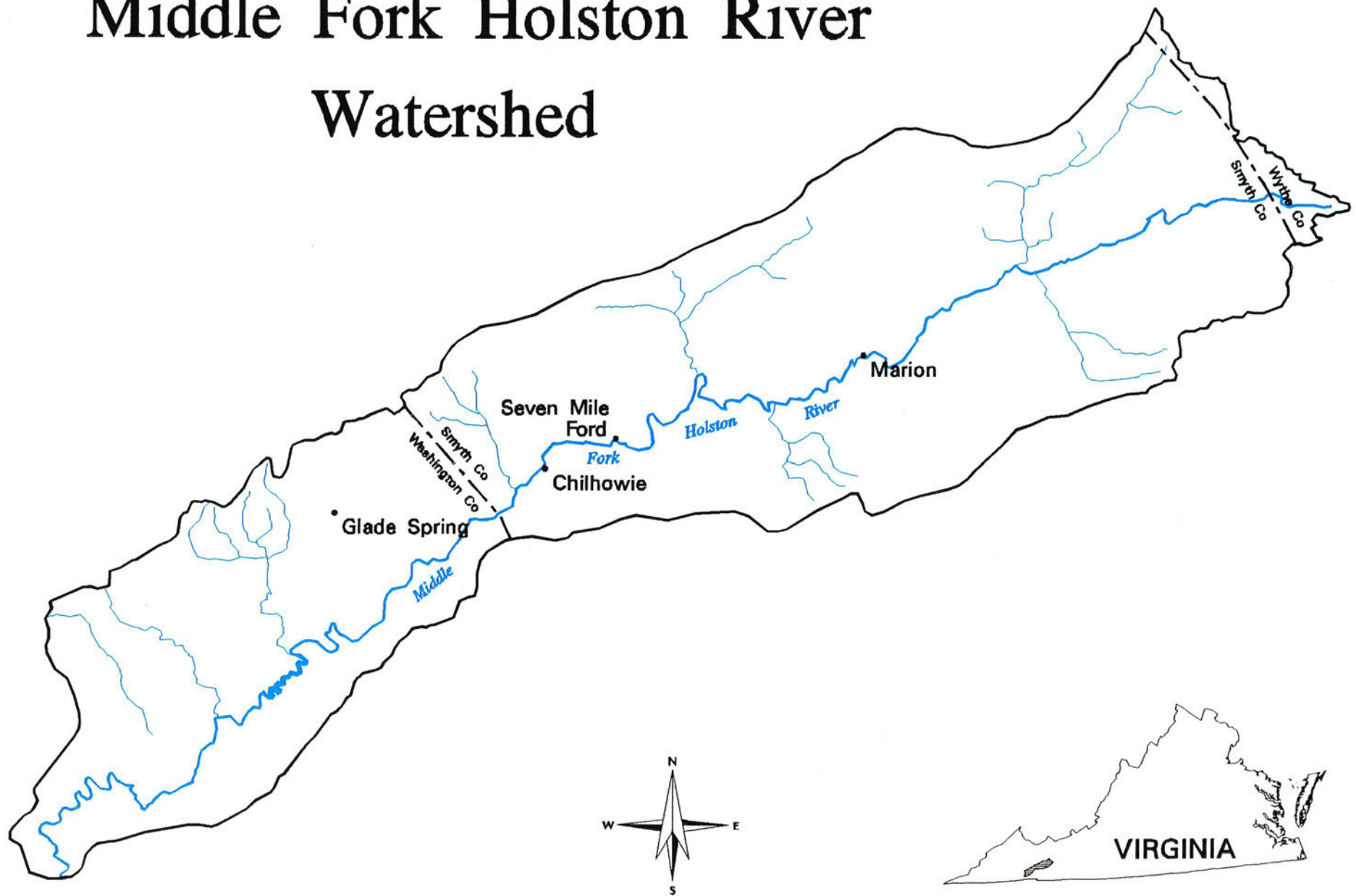
Cost: \$1,000

When: Complete by August 1995

Listing of Commonly used Acronyms:

|          |                                                         |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| E&S      | Environment and Sediment                                |
| NRH RC&D | New River Highlands Resource Conservation & Development |
| TVA      | Tennessee Valley Authority                              |
| NRCS     | Natural Resources Conservation Service                  |
| AAW      | Adopt-A-Watershed                                       |
| SWCD     | Soil & Water Conservation District                      |
| USFWS    | US Fish & Wildlife Service                              |
| VDCR     | VA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation                   |
| VDEQ     | VA Dept. of Environmental Quality                       |
| RAT      | River Action Team                                       |

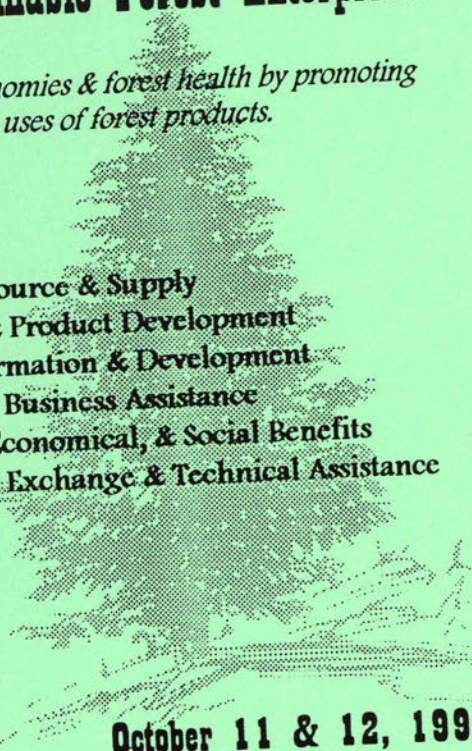
# Middle Fork Holston River Watershed



**Four Corners Regional Symposium**

## **Growing Sustainable Forest Enterprises**

*Improving rural economies & forest health by promoting  
new & more efficient uses of forest products.*

- 
- ☐ Status of Resource & Supply
  - ☐ Utilization & Product Development
  - ☐ Market Information & Development
  - ☐ Financing & Business Assistance
  - ☐ Ecological, Economical, & Social Benefits
  - ☐ Information Exchange & Technical Assistance

**October 11 & 12, 1995**

**Location To Be Announced**

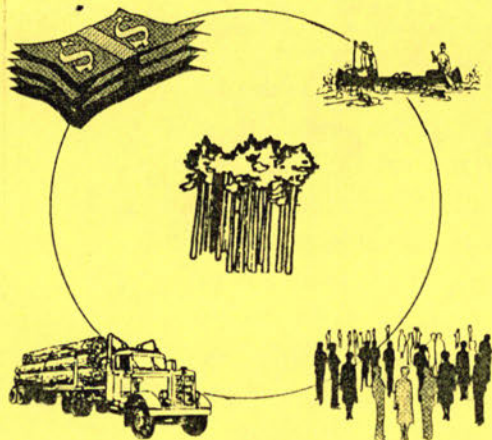
**SAN JUAN FORUM**

1000 Rim Drive  
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(970)247-7573

**Mark your calendar now!**

*Come see what benefits a healthy forest can offer your community.*

*Registration and agenda will follow.*



# NEW RIVER-HIGHLANDS RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT FORESTRY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

## About this Newsletter

Welcome to the New River Highlands Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Forestry Committee Newsletter! This new quarterly publication will function as a communication "bridge" between the forest industry (wood products users and producers) and local municipalities, governments and economic development boards. It will share information about current projects so that interested parties will know how to become involved. This newsletter will provide local forestry information that directly impacts Southwest Virginia, and it will summarize events important to towns and counties in this RC&D Area. Overall, the newsletter is to help inform all recipients of forestry related events and topics.

Enclosed, you will find a survey asking your opinion about this newsletter. Please take a few minutes to complete and return this survey so that we can tailor the newsletter to the needs of the readers. Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!



## Jerry McReynolds

Jerry McReynolds, Chairperson of the New River Highlands Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Forestry Committee, is originally from Tazewell where he grew up and graduated high school in 1958. During his twenty year assignment in the US Army, Jerry served as an aviator in Vietnam and ultimately retired as a major. While in the military, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach. He then went to work for Coleman Altizer Corporation and served four years as General Manager and four years as Vice President. In 1986, Jerry and his brother Buddy bought Coleman Altizer and changed the name to C&A Wood Products which now consists of two sawmills and produces 10 million board feet a year. Jerry's on-the-job training in the forest industry since 1978 has mixed with his enthusiasm to make a better future for his home county and its residents. As a result, he is heavily

involved with forest related activities such as serving as chairperson of the Forestry Committee; participating as a member of CHIPS (see Loggers' Committees), the self-insurance board, Forest Products of Virginia Board, Chamber of Commerce, and Log a Load for Kids Committee; and he participates in Christmas parades and county fairs. He spends all of this time to make his hometown and Southwest Virginia a better place to live for his three children and three grandchildren.

Jerry thinks the role of the RC&D is to fill in the gaps between the private sector and the government by bringing in volunteers from the community because they know what needs to be done. As chairperson, he presides over the meetings and gives them direction. He motivates members to volunteer and go the extra mile. Jerry notes that the Council has been very active since its inception.

As chairperson, Jerry believes this newsletter should serve the needs of the Forestry Committee to get out educational and informative news about events to come so that people can plan to be involved. He sees it as telling what will happen in the future rather than reporting too much of what has already past. He wants to see the newsletter going somewhere more than showing what has been done.

Jerry thinks that the biggest thing affecting business today is the compensation issue (see Self Insurance). Accompanying that issue is health insurance. Also he is weary of calls to regulate forestry, which would require permits, engineer studies and pre-harvesting plans; all of which would cost so much they would drive many of the

small loggers and sawmillers out of business. He thinks the best thing Southwest Virginia can do is increase the use of proper forest management in our area because it is a renewable resource and the supply of coal is finite and going fast. To do so he believes we need to make education the first priority.

To improve forestry operations in Southwest Virginia Jerry believes there should be more emphasis on adding value to products rather than exporting logs. This would provide more jobs, add to the tax base and lower the need for social services. He thinks that log concentration yards are detrimental because they encourage poor forest harvesting practices. Log yards only buy premium logs, causing loggers to cut only the best trees and leave a forest of less quality. Landowners lose because they do not sell as much wood and this practice leaves undesirable trees. Therefore, concentration yards need to be more concerned with the future forest and not leave a poor forest that will be harder to sell. They set the standards for logging practices and it will get worse if they don't begin to broaden the limits of what they will accept.



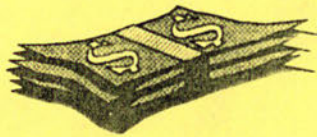
## Becker Joins RC&D

Charlie Becker is the new Forester for the Virginia Department of Forestry, headquartered in the New River-Highlands Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area. A native Virginian, Charlie began his career

working for the Forest Service and TVA, then spent the last seven years as area forester for Wythe and Bland Counties.

Charlie earned a master's degree in forestry from the University of Tennessee and a bachelor's degree in forestry and wildlife from Virginia Tech. His previous involvement with the New River Highlands RC&D Forestry Committee will be a valuable addition to his experience and education while working with the RC&D Areas. Charlie's goal is the improvement of the quality of life in Virginia through promotion of proper forest management in all of the RC&D Areas in our state. His responsibilities include developing logger training workshops and demonstrations, promotion of better use of wood waste, and arranging educational seminars. Charlie will also supervise three AmeriCorps positions for their one year term, and he is a forest firefighter.

Charlie's hobbies include the renovation of his old farm house when he has time. He took the Forester position in July after it was vacated by Rob Morgan, who is now a Private Forest Consultant.



## Self Insurance

The Virginia Forestry Association plans to join with loggers from Southwest and Eastern Virginia, with the help of Manry Rawls Insurance, to combat rising compensation rates for the industry. Self insurance will require a nine member board of 75% premium payers to set standards for the evaluation of companies on their work record and attitude toward safety. These

evaluations will determine eligibility for the lower rates. Four of the board members will be Southwest Virginia loggers. This ensures that local loggers will be making decisions for fellow loggers. Another bonus will be Loss Control Engineers (LCE's), who will have a background in both the forest industry and insurance. These LCE's will aid loggers with their practical, on-the-job experience by visiting the logging sites to point out safety problems, educate loggers about solutions for these problems, and encourage the speedy return to work of an injured employee. They will be the most important element to ensure success since they will reduce accident rates by improving safety measures.

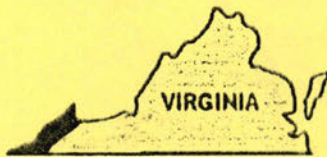
Applications for self-insurance will be accepted after January 1, 1995. Anyone interested should contact Bill Rilee at Chesapeake Corporation in West Point (804-843-5370), Jerry McReynolds at C&A Wood Products in Tazewell (703-988-2711), the Virginia Forestry Association in Richmond (804-741-0836 or 1-800-421-TREE [8733]), or Bob Shaffer at Virginia Tech (703-231-7671).



## Loggers' Committees

When loggers need to join together to accomplish a political, educational, informational or any goal, they should consider forming a county loggers' committee to present a strong, unified voice. Because of educational opportunities and the importance of bringing individual loggers together, the Virginia Forestry Association has

endorsed and sponsored these committees. With 15 to 18 committees in the state, three are in Southwest Virginia. TREES (Timber Resources Economic Environmental Society), which represents Buchanan County, meets every third Monday at the Rainbow Restaurant in Grundy at 6:00 p.m. for the meal and 7:00 p.m. for the meeting. CHIPS (Citizens Harvesting Important Products Society), which represents Tazewell and Bland Counties, meets every second Tuesday at the Fincastle Restaurant at the same times. The third group, Tri-County Loggers Association, is newly formed and represents Lee, Wise and Scott counties. The relatively low dues are based on production and number of employees. Anyone interested should contact Jerry McReynolds at C&A Wood Products (703-988-2711), Bill Rilee at Chesapeake Corporation in West Point (804 843-5370), the Virginia Forestry Association in Richmond (804-741-0836 or 1-800-TREE [8733]), or Bob Shaffer at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg (703-231-7671).



## **A new RC&D for Virginia**

Six of the Southwestern Virginia counties have come together to form the new Black Diamond Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Area, a result of much encouragement from the current chairperson, Ralph Miner, and vice-chairperson, William Kimbler. Lee, Wise, Scott, Buchanan, Dickenson and Russell Counties, as well

as the City of Norton, will pull together with planning and conservation districts to decide what problems face the area and tackle them as a team. The four main issues are likely to be (1) water quality, (2) alternative agriculture products/markets, (3) tourism (Eco-tourism/Agri-tourism such as nature trails) and (4) environmental education.

The RC&D Area's first long range work plan will be developed 1995 and they will appreciate any input. They plan to fill the gaps and not duplicate any efforts of other organizations.

The Black Diamond RC&D Coordinator is Blaine Delaney. His degree from Penn State is in agriculture engineering. He was District Conservationist for five years in Tappahannock and Coordinator for the North Central Washington RC&D for the past two years. Blaine can be reached at (703) 889-1150.



## **AmeriCorps**

The New River-Highlands RC&D has hired five AmeriCorps members to work with Rural Development in Southwest Virginia. The members will receive a living stipend provided by a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service. Three of the positions are with the USDA Forest Service and all five will be a great asset to the Committee this year. (See page 5.)

(AmeriCorps, continued from page 4.) Delton Alderman, Forest Engineer, will design and construct portable, low-cost, stress laminated timber bridges for logging, and possibly design a permanent residential stress laminated bridge. He will also assist volunteer fire departments with grants for and the installation of dry hydrants in the New River-Highlands RC&D Area. As part of an AmeriCorps group project, Delton will develop the technical information for the dendrology guide used as a teaching aid in the outdoor classroom along the Riverwalk in Marion. His bachelor's degree is in forestry and wildlife management with a concentration in industrial forestry operations from Virginia Tech. Delton brings the experience of ten years as a Private Forestry Consultant to the AmeriCorps Team.

Adrienne Perkins, Forest Economic Specialist, will promote the value of proper forest use and management to the local economy. She will present forest growth and harvest statistics to each county economic development board to encourage an increase in forest utilization. Adrienne will gather information for articles and edit this newsletter, as well as lead a Jefferson National Forest videography project. She will also assist with public relations for the Riverwalk. Adrienne earned her bachelor's degree in communication studies with a concentration in public relations from Virginia Tech.

James Pratt, Forest Products Marketing Specialist, will locate and promote

specialty forest products in Southwest Virginia, explore and develop potential markets, give demonstrations, and expand the use of established products. He will also contribute to the Riverwalk development. James earned two bachelor's degrees from Virginia Tech; one in communication studies and one in english.

Two of the AmeriCorps positions were allocated to the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Audrey Biggs is the Outreach Coordinator and Mindy Clark is the Landscape Architect.



## Calendar of Events

February 14, 1995 CHIPS Meeting

February 20, 1995 TREES Meeting

February 23, 1995 New River Highlands  
RC&D Forestry  
Committee  
Meeting

June 23-24, 1995 Appalachian Hard-  
wood Expo

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To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, US Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 690-1538 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

# ???QUESTIONNAIRE???

Please take a few minutes to tell us what you think about our newsletter. We will use this information to improve the future issues. All comments, whether positive or negative, are welcome and necessary for this newsletter to be successful. Please return this questionnaire to: New River-Highlands Resource Conservation and Development Forestry Committee Newsletter, 110 West Spiller Street, Suite C, Wytheville, Virginia 24382-1929. Thank you!

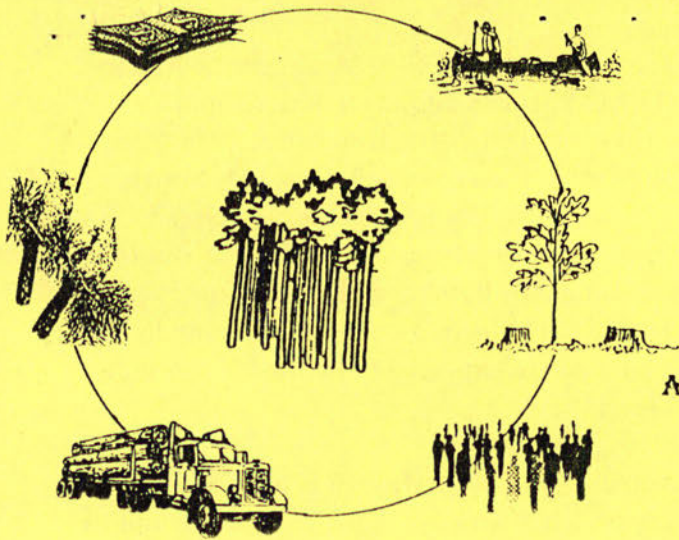
1. Do you like the format? (Graphics, columns, is it easy to read, pleasant to the eye?)
  
2. What information would you like to see in future issues ? How often would you like to see it published (Quarterly)?
  
3. Does this newsletter accomplish its goal? (To be a communication bridge between governments, wood industry and economic professionals?)

Other comments:

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New River-Highlands  
Resource Conservation and Development  
Forestry Committee Newsletter  
110 West Spiller Street, Suite C  
Wytheville, Virginia 24382-1929  
(703) 228-2879



# THE FOREST RESOURCE CIRCLE

A NEW RIVER-HIGHLANDS RESOURCE CONSERVATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT FORESTRY COMMITTEE  
NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #2, MAY, 1995

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

By Jerry McReynolds

We are working in some very exciting times for the Forest Industry of Southwest Virginia. The most noticeable part is the logging sector. You and I have witnessed a continuous growth in logging and while that is good, we all need to consider the other, almost unlimited possibilities which exist right here at our back door. We are blessed with "Mountains of Hardwoods," a renewable resource which, with proper management, can be the vehicle to carry us into the 21st Century and beyond. It will give us an opportunity to diversify our livelihoods from dependence on coal and farming to an additional avenue of unprecedented possibilities.

**Loggers:** The newest employment craze in Southwest Virginia. Not necessarily the easiest of jobs, nor the most lucrative but a vocation which most anyone can enter with very limited training and in most cases, small capital outlay. Loggers are finding that business is not as usual with all of the requirements they are now forced to do because of new OSHA laws. Logger Committees are now forming all over the state as a means of keeping current on all issues and to serve as a combined voice for their industry in their county.

Congratulations are in order for the loggers in Grayson County for an excellent turnout on March 21, 1995 as they gathered at the Western Steer Restaurant in Galax for their initial meeting. After several speakers had presented information on the importance of such groups, these loggers decided to organize. We expect more of these groups to form and look forward to working with them.

**Virginia Forestry Self Insurance Association:** This organization has been in operation since January 1, 1995 and we expect this much needed service to be a great help to those loggers and sawmills which qualify. Should you be interested in this, please contact me at (703) 988-2711 or call Emma Turner of Manry-Rawls Corporation, Franklin, Virginia, at 1-800-666-6131.

**Virginia Forestry Association:** This is the loggers best friend! You should consider becoming an active member of this association as it is constantly working for you. When the lawmakers in Richmond and even Washington, D.C. are working to pass new legislation, VFA is always there ensuring the Forestry community is protected. You will receive a quarterly magazine and there are semi-annual meetings which you are invited to attend. They also assist in training, printing of safety materials and many other worthwhile projects which benefit all of us. Individual dues are \$30/year, \$40 for a family membership and

you will never spend a better 30/40 dollars. For additional information and/or an application please call me at (703) 988-2711 (w) or (703) 988-6457 (h). Note: You must be a member of VFA to qualify for the Self-Insurance Group.

Training: Forestry: S A V E R!

What is it? Southwest and Appalachian Virginia Economic Resource. It is an initiative to begin training at Southwest Virginia Community College (SVCC) by establishing the beginning of what we hope to be a two-year curriculum in Forestry. Our initial meeting was held on March 31, 1995 at SVCC and we are seeking a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to set this program in motion. Our goal is to develop a program which will offer high school students who select forestry for their vocation an opportunity to get the technical training necessary to prepare them for immediate job placement. This is a big step in us "growing our own" within the precept of developing our own value-added businesses. I am excited about the possibilities and if you are interested in this program, please let me know your thoughts.



## Do Not Burn Brush!

The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDF) urges everyone not to burn their brush piles this year. Due to the increased amount of debris on the forest floors from ice storms and insect damage, forest fires are more likely to get out of hand this year. When they do, they are expected to burn eight times hotter and three times the area because of the extra fuel from these disasters.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided funds to hire temporary workers to help battle forest fires. The workers in Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Tazewell, and Wythe Counties are already busy controlling forest fires fueled by out of control debris burning and other sources. They were trained in forest fire fighting by the VDF and are expected to be funded through May 15, 1995.

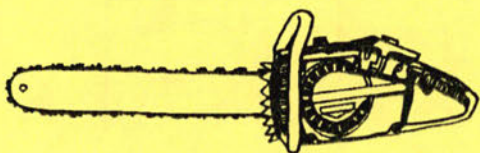
**March 1 through May 15** is the peak fire season when fires are more likely to get out of hand because of warm, dry, windy weather conditions.

When not battling forest fires, the FEMA workers assist with other public and community projects. They have assisted the AmeriCorps workers on the Marion Riverwalk and removed storm damage at the New River Trail State Park, Rural Retreat Lake and other areas.

What can we do with our excess debris? **DO NOT BURN IT!** Several wise choices include:

- \* **Chip, mulch, or compost** storm debris.
- \* **Build a shelter** for wildlife by layering the broken branches and twigs on top of logs. This provides shelter, nesting areas, and "homes" for numerous wildlife species (such as ground-nesting birds, lizards, rabbits, salamanders, and winter birds). Raccoons, opossums, birds and other predators will tear apart the logs to make a meal of the spiders, centipedes, millipedes, sowbugs, and pillbugs within.
- \* Place these brush piles in your woods where they blend naturally into a woodland landscape.
- \* **Always make sure the brush pile is at least 30 feet from any structure or building.**

For further information, please contact Dwayne Stilwell with the VDF at (703) 228-4515, or your local forester.



## OSHA's New Regulations

The latest American Pulpwood Association (APA) publication, "The Loggers Guide to the New OSHA Logging Safety Standards," is a result of a meeting between the APA and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). After carefully reviewing the regulations slated to go into effect February 9, 1995, OSHA and APA published the guide to clarify the sometimes difficult legal language of the regulations. It contains the regulations as they appear in the Federal Register as well as comments from the APA and OSHA that are intended to further explain the standards. You can receive a copy of the Logger's Guide by writing: The American Pulpwood Association, 1025 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 1020, Washington, DC 20005. It is also included in the "Virginia Forestry Association's (VFA) OSHA Compliance Kit: Logger's Edition."

The kit contains:

- \* An OSHA inspection checklist
- \* OSHA regulation changes
- \* A regulation poster for the job site
- \* Necessary forms
- \* Hazard communication program (HAZCOM) information
- \* A hazardous materials checklist
- \* A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)
- \* OSHA standards
- \* An APA safety manual
- \* Information concerning blood-borne pathogens
- \* VFA membership information
- \* Crime prevention warning stickers for equipment.

The compliance kit costs \$35.00 and can be purchased by contacting:  
The Virginia Forestry Association  
8810B Patterson Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23229-6322  
or you can call (804) 741-0836.



## Master Logger Program

The New River-Highlands Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Forestry Committee plans to host an organizational meeting in early June to discuss a Master Logger Program for the RC&D Area. This program will organize training efforts into a single program designed to boost professional pride and show the public that loggers care enough to better their business. A certificate of completion will be awarded to those who finish the program. Master Logger training will include first aid and CPR, pre-harvest planning, proper harvesting and forest regeneration techniques, Best Management Practices, water quality, chain saw operation and timber felling techniques. For more information please call Charlie Becker at (703) 228-2879.



## Grant Money Requested

The New River-Highlands Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council is working very hard to secure funding for proposed projects. Recently, the three Forest Service AmeriCorps members wrote proposals for further AmeriCorps funding. One project is designed to establish the Master Logger Program, a top priority in the Forestry Committee's 1995 Work Plan. Another is for a timber bridge feasibility study

for Southwest Virginia. The third proposal is for pedestrian timber bridges for parks in Southwest Virginia. The grants will be awarded in May of 1995.

Grant proposals were submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for environmental justice grants. The Environmental Justice Program was established to address the higher amount of exposure to toxic pollutants that minority and low-income communities experience. The proposals requested funding for a recycling program, timber bridges, and a study of wood residue in Southwest Virginia. Notification of approved grants will be made May 31, 1995.



## Forest Products Directory

James Pratt, an AmeriCorps Member for the USDA Forest Service, is asking for participation in a project involving the creation of a forest products industry directory for Southwest Virginia. This includes **all** wood-related goods such as furniture, lumber, panels, posts, musical instruments, and crafts. The directory will act as a free form of advertisement and will include information on species and grades preferred, giving local lumber suppliers an idea of what sort of markets exist in our area.

Inclusion in the directory is free. All information gathered will be kept confidential except for directory purposes. If you are interested in being included or have any questions or comments, contact James Pratt at (703) 228-9353.



## Marion Riverwalk Update

The AmeriCorps Members and the Grassroots Conservancy held a Field Day Celebration for the Marion Riverwalk on April 22, 1995 at the Riverbend Park. The Riverwalk is a trail that runs through the Town of Marion, VA, beside the middle fork of the Holston River. It has been transformed into an outdoor tree identification classroom through work by USDA AmeriCorps members. This completes the Urban and Community Forestry Enhancement grant that was awarded to the Grassroots Conservancy of Marion. The grant provided for permanent identification plaques for 40 trees or shrubs along the Riverwalk, an informational Kiosk, and detailed outdoor classroom guides for the Smyth County Teachers (to use as an aid while training their students in tree identification). The field day was an open house for the public to visit the trail and take a nice walk. The ceremony included speeches by local, state and federal representatives. Activities included informative trail tours, concessions, and booths that displayed information about the groups that made the outdoor classroom/trail possible.

For more information about the Marion Riverwalk, please call any of the AmeriCorps Members: Mindy Clark at (703) 783-7355, or Delton Alderman, James Pratt, Adrienne Perkins and Audrey Biggs at (703) 228-9353.



## Fraser Fir Seed Orchard

The Forestry Committee would like you to know there is a Fraser Fir Seed Orchard in Burke's Garden, Virginia. When research found that wild sources of fraser fir were dying out due to insect destruction and pollution, The American Society for the Preservation of Fraser Fir was formed. This organization's main goal was to establish seed production areas away from natural stands with these problems. The Burke's Garden Fraser Fir Seed Orchard was started in 1992. A work day was held April 20, 1995 to replace some damaged trees and construct and repair some fences. With the help of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) workers, a few Forestry Committee Members and the guidance of Jim Brown, we were able to build and repair the fences, plant 300 fraser fir trees, cut brush and locate and mark all of the rows to prevent future bush-hog pruning. Thanks to all who helped and a special thank you to Ronnie Richardson at White Top, VA for donating the trees. A fall work day will be planned to do some weed control and fertilizing.

## Forestry Committee Meeting

The New River-Highlands Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Forestry Committee met February 23, 1995.

\* The guest speaker, Dr. Bob Shaffer, talked about legislation that affects forestry, including the passage of two bills (one increases the load length allowed on roads

from 60 to 65 feet for longer timber transportation, and the other requires that a study be performed on the economic impact of new regulations before they are enforced).

\* The Virginia Forestry Association Self-Insurance Program is already driving down private insurance companies' rates and loggers' groups are beginning to help loggers state-wide.

\* Three AmeriCorps members gave progress reports about their work.

\* Jim Brown spoke about the need for clean-up in the fraser fir seed orchard in Burke's Garden.

\* Mack Baker brought us up to date about the \$100,000 statewide dry hydrant program funded with fire insurance premiums each year from 1996 through 2006.

\* Charlie Becker's report: Natural disaster workshop; work on the Middle Fork Holston "Riverwalk" project in Marion, Virginia; logger training; the Appalachian Hardwood Expo; an upcoming Christmas tree workshop; request for new Forestry Committee membership; two BMP (Best Management Practices) demonstration grants; and forestry related grants.

\* Jerry McReynolds made sure everyone had a copy of the 1995 Work Plan and stressed the importance of member involvement. He spoke about the new OSHA regulations and the development of a master logger program.

\* Chuck Hutsell told of the logger groups in Southwest Virginia.

\* Donnie Garman informed the committee about a forestry Best Management Practices (BMP's) demonstration on Little Reed Island in Carroll County.



## Appalachian Hardwood Expo

Appalachian Hardwood Expo '95 will be held June 23 and 24 at the Brushfork National Guard Armory in Bluefield, West Virginia. Wood and wood-related industries and non-profit organizations will have display booths. This show is an excellent opportunity to view forest industry equipment, meet new people in the industry who may be able to help your wood related business, and learn about new technology and products. It is a marketing and sales experience as well as a learning environment. If you would like more information about the Expo, please contact Janet Bailey, Appalachian Hardwood Expo, 1500 West Main Street, Memorial Building, 2nd Floor, Princeton, West Virginia 24740. The telephone number is (304) 487-8910. Admission will be free to qualified pre-registrants and \$5.00 at the door.



## Natural Disaster Workshop

The New River-Highlands RC&D Council held a workshop January 31, 1995 titled, "Minimizing the Impact of Natural Disasters on Urban and Community Forests." The workshop was designed to assist public officials involved in dealing with natural disasters. Wind, ice and snow storms, as well as fires and insect epidemics, have ravaged

Virginia's Forests in recent years causing millions of dollars in damage. Some of the cleanup practices actually made the situation worse.

Speakers at the workshop included representatives from areas that have dealt with natural disasters. They shared their experiences and what they have done to prepare for future disasters. Winter storms were discussed at length by the Town of Wytheville and Appalachian Power Company (APCO). Other topics included urban and residential forest fires, the gypsy moth and the southern pine beetle. According to the speakers, the most important step is to pre-plan how to respond to future natural disasters.

The publication "Storms Over the Urban Forest" was recommended to assist in the development of a disaster plan. Major provisions should include: who is in charge, what are the priorities, who are the outside sources of help, what preventative measures are possible, and who activates the disaster plan.

For more information or for a copy of "Storms Over the Urban Forest," please contact Charlie Becker at the New River-Highlands RC&D, 110 West Spiller Street, Suite C, Wytheville, VA 24382-1929. The phone number is (703) 228-2879.

## Self-Insurance Information Update

The following information was taken from a brochure provided by the Virginia Forestry Safety Group Self-Insurance Association.

**What is it?** The Virginia Forestry Safety Group Self-Insurance Association offers a Workers' Compensation Insurance program which was formed by Self-Insurance Services and Mary-Rawls Corp. The program has

professional insurance people for the day-to-day operations of the Insurance program. Its objective is to reduce the net cost of Workers' Compensation Insurance for the members.

**How it Works:** Participants in the program pay their Workers' Compensation Insurance premium to the Association. The premium reflects the non-stock discount allowed by the Virginia Bureau of Insurance and the participant's experience modification. The State requires 25% of the annual premium be paid in advance and the remainder paid in monthly installments. Approximately 70% of each premium dollar is allocated to the loss fund. The other 30% is used to pay the cost of reinsurance, servicing the program and general administration. All money paid into the loss fund is invested until needed to pay a claim and the interest is added to the fund. At the end of the premium year surplus funds not required are available for return, with the approval of the Bureau of Insurance, to the participants in the form of a dividend. Dividends will reflect the member's contribution to the fund and losses. However, dividends are not guaranteed, and must be approved by the State Corporation Commission.

**Organization:** The Association is composed of three elements: a Board of Trustees, an Administrator, and a Service Company. The Trustees, who are participants in the fund, determine the policy of the Association within the guidelines established by the Virginia Bureau of Insurance. The administrator handles the day-to-day operation, which includes collecting the premium. The Service Company performs the functions usually associated with an insurance company. PMA Management Corp. is responsible for claims service.

**Protection:** To provide stability to the program and to protect members from excessive depletion of the loss fund, reinsurance is provided. There are two categories:

**A. Specific Excess Reinsurance** provides statutory limit coverage for each and every loss in excess of \$250,000. This provides stability to the loss fund, helps to produce more surplus, and reduces the possibility of using up the loss fund when a catastrophe occurs. There is no maximum on the number of losses covered; it is on a per loss basis. The Specific Excess Limit is statutory.

**B. Aggregate Excess Reinsurance** provides coverage should aggregate losses be in excess of the loss fund. This provides protection in the event there is a series of losses less than \$250,000 each which exceed the amount of money in the loss fund. The reinsurance attaches at 95%. The Virginia Forestry Safety Group Self Insurance Association Excess Limit is \$5,000,000.

**Cost Effective Because:** The Association provides specialized loss prevention programs tailored for each participating firm. Periodic computer printouts are provided to each member detailing their losses. Aggressive claims handling through investigation of all lost time cases is instrumental in saving actual claims dollars. The Association retains all investment income on premium dollars deposited with the fund, and this cash flow management provides substantial savings to members. Furthermore, by eliminating agent commissions and reducing administrative overhead, additional savings accrue. By implementing specialized loss control programs, aggressive claims management, cash flow management, and reducing administrative overhead, participants may earn substantial dividends.

**Services:** Service is provided by PMA and Manry-Rawls Corp. A loss control consultant assists each fund member in loss prevention programs and activities. In addition, the service firm is under contract to, and works for, the Association Board and Self Insurance

Administrator, assuring a high degree of personalized service.

Comprehensive computer services will give all association participants a complete periodic report of all claims including the cause of each accident, nature of the injury, amount paid and amount estimated to be paid. Full status reports are issued to the Association Board Members and Administrator, indicating overall fund status. PMA Management Corp. is responsible for claims handling.

Administrator: Peggy DeBoard, CPCU, CIC  
Self-Insurance Services, Inc.  
8002 Franklin Farms Drive  
Suite 217  
Richmond, VA 23288  
(804) 285-8100

### **Program Highlights**

- \* Reinsurance**
- \* Bonded (trustees, administrator, and service company)**
- \* Potential for dividends**
- \* Lower administration cost and experienced management**
- \* Investment earnings from premiums**
- \* Stringent claims control**

- \* Safety and loss control programs**
- \* Membership selectivity (limited to those with good experience)**
- \* Convenient toll free service number 1-(800) 572-7624**

## **Calendar of Events**

Forestry Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
June, 1995 Western Sizzlin'  
Wytheville, Virginia

Christmas Tree Workshop, May 23, 1995  
Peak Creek Community Center  
Laurel Springs, NC

Stress Laminated Timber Bridge Fabrication Workshop, May 31-June 2, 1995  
Holiday Inn, Bluefield, West Virginia

Appalachian Hardwood Expo, 9:00 a.m.  
June 23-24, 1995 Brushfork Armory,  
Bluefield, West Virginia

Master Logger Program Organizational Meeting, June, 1995  
Wytheville, Virginia

**THE FOREST RESOURCE CIRCLE**, a New River-Highlands Resource Conservation and Development Forestry Committee Newsletter. Adrienne D. Perkins, Editor.  
(703) 228-2394

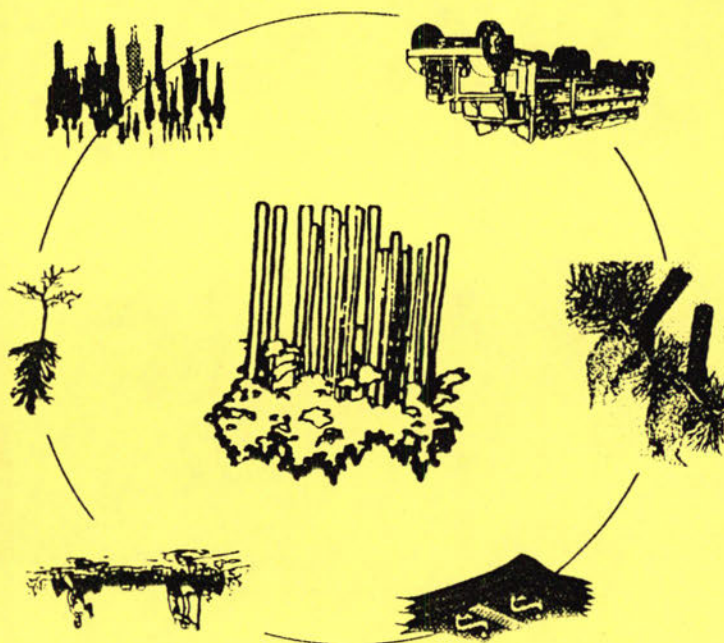
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A NEW RIVER-HIGHLANDS RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
FORESTRY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

# THE FOREST RESOURCE CIRCLE

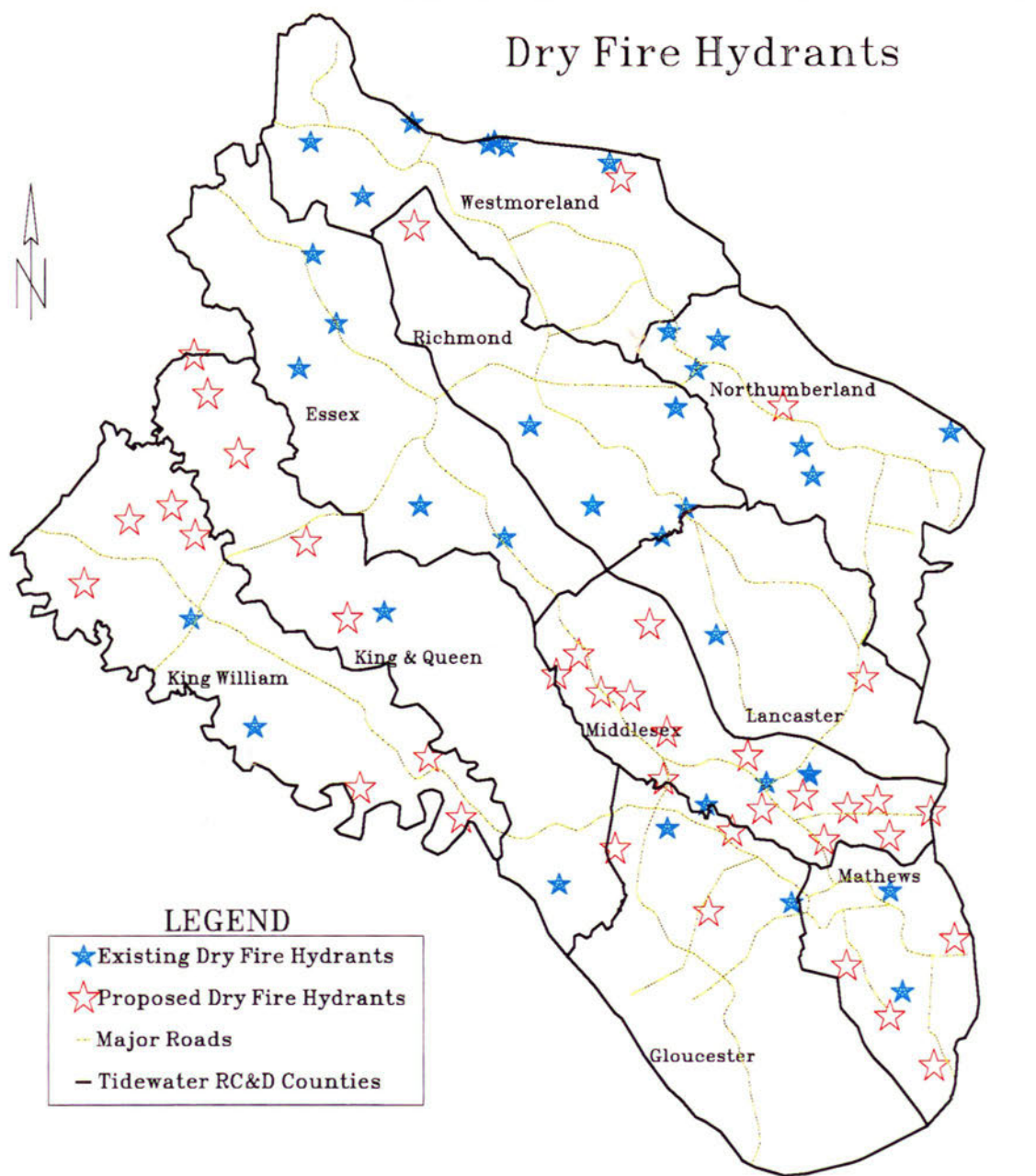


New River-Highlands RC&D  
110 West Spiller Street, Suite C  
Wytheville, VA 24382

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
MAX MEADOWS, VA 24360  
PERMIT NO. 16

# TIDEWATER RC&D COUNCIL AREA

## Dry Fire Hydrants



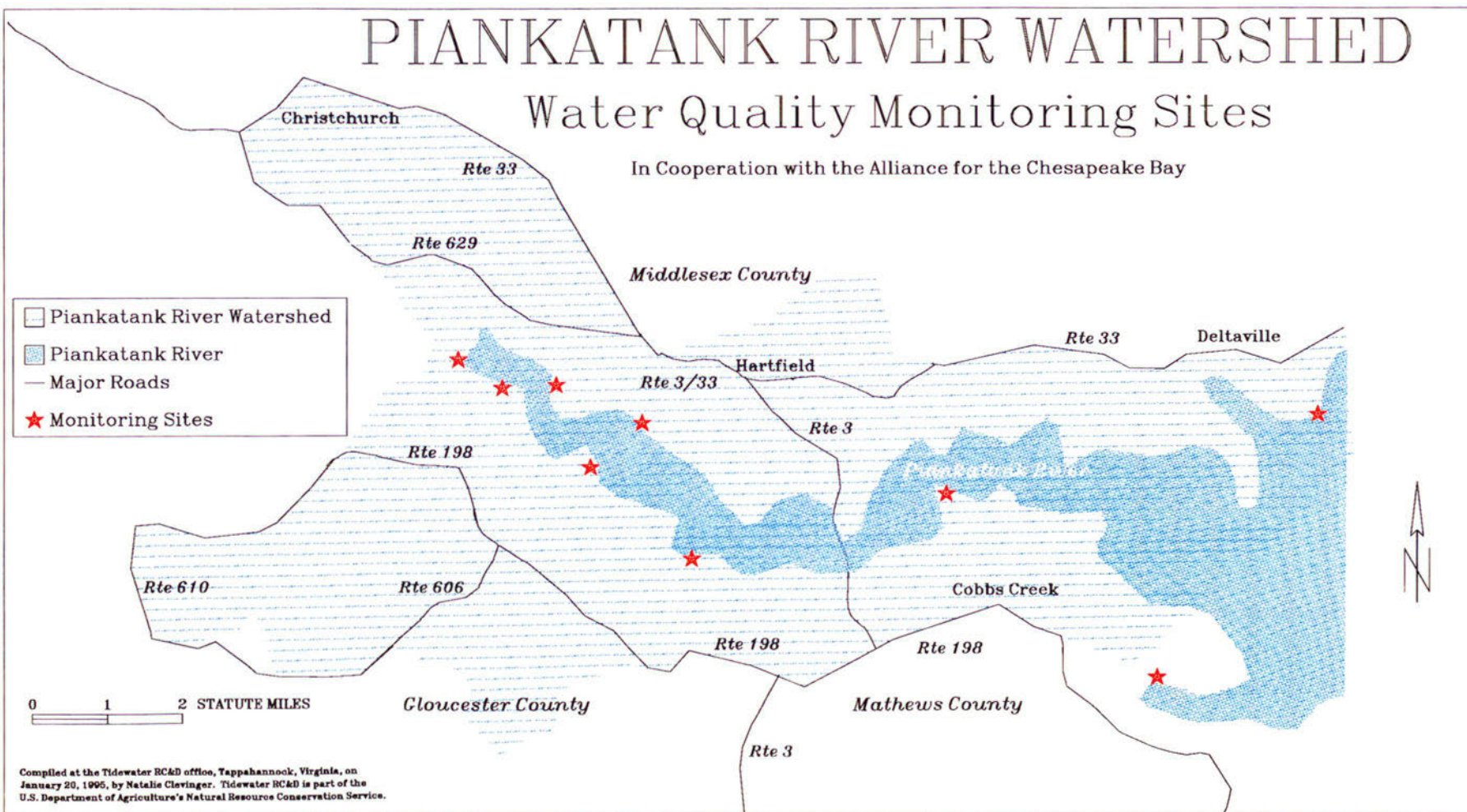
Compiled at the Tidewater RC&D office, Tappahannock, Virginia, on December 21, 1994 by Natalie Clevinger. Tidewater RC&D is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service.

5 0 5 10 15 Miles

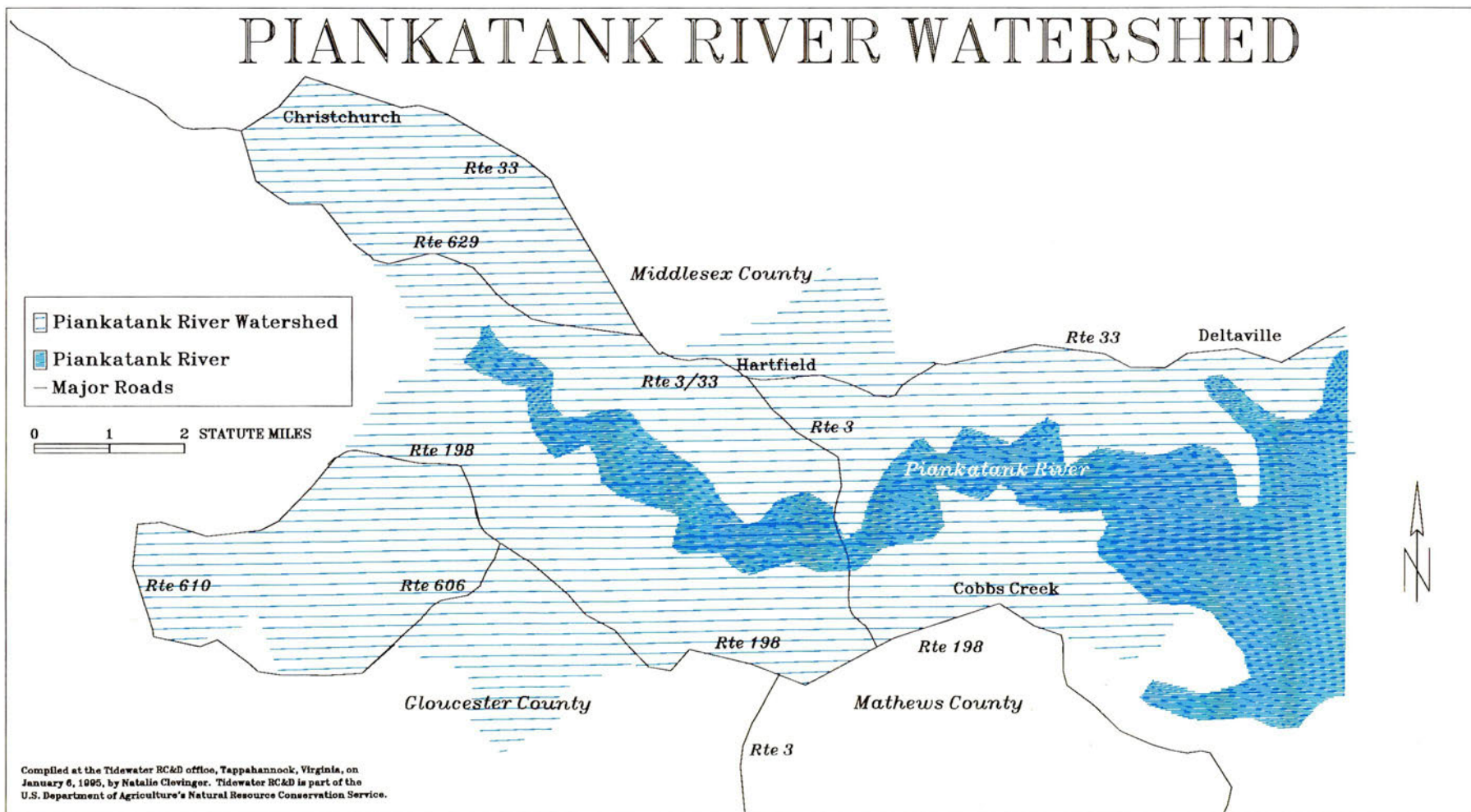
# PIANKATANK RIVER WATERSHED

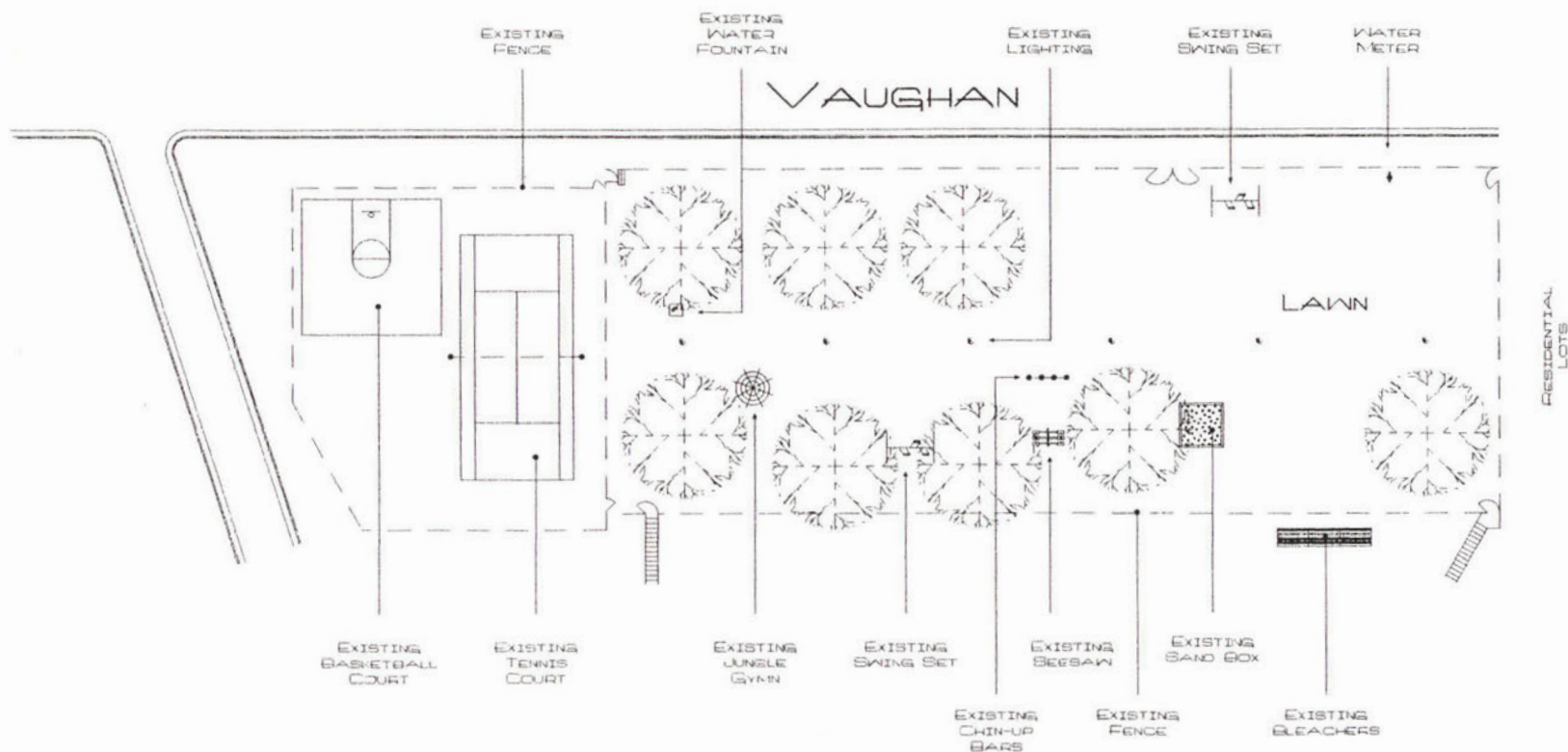
## Water Quality Monitoring Sites

In Cooperation with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay



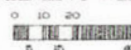
# PIANKATANK RIVER WATERSHED





\*8.5" x 11" SCALE  
1" = 60'

SCALE: 1" = 20'



# SITE INVENTORY

VAUGHAN PARK  
SOUTH BOSTON, VA

OWNER:  
AVENUE CORP.  
DIST. OF  
AGRICULTURE

JOB:  
SOUTH BOSTON  
PARKS AND REC

DRAWN BY:  
DOUG F. BENDER

DATE:  
1/10/95

REVISIONS:

APPROVED BY:  
RAY CORBETT

NOTES:

PAGE

1

OF 2

\*SELECTIVE TRIMMING  
OF LOW BRANCHES  
ON EXISTING TREES  
IS REQUIRED

EXISTING  
POLE  
(ADD LIGHT)

EXISTING  
LIGHTS  
(NEED REPAIR)

EXISTING  
POLE  
(ADD LIGHT)

VAUGHAN

LAWN

RESIDENTIAL  
LOTS

EXISTING  
POLE  
(ADD LIGHT)

PROPOSED  
POLES

EXISTING TREES  
TO BE REPLACED  
(SAME LOCATION)

\*8.5" x 11" SCALE  
1" = 60'

SCALE : 1" = 20'  
0 10 20  
5 15 40



|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| SERIES                               |
| AMERICAN<br>DEPT. OF<br>ARCHITECTURE |
| JOB                                  |
| SOUTH BOSTON<br>PARK AND REC         |
| DRAWN BY                             |
| DOUG F. BOKER                        |
| DATE                                 |
| 1/10/90                              |
| REVISIONS                            |
| APPROVED BY                          |
| RAY CORBETT                          |
| NOTES                                |

LIGHTING PLAN

VAUGHAN PARK  
SOUTH BOSTON, VA

PAGE

3

OF 3



\*8.5 x 11 SCALE  
1" = 50'



ALLEY

BRUCE

FACTORY

EXISTING  
BRICK PAVERS

EXISTING CABOOSE

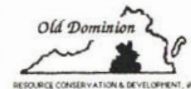
LAWN

EXISTING  
BRICK PAVERS

SEYMOUR

MAIN

EXISTING  
BRICK PAVERS



SERIES  
ANNECORPS  
DEPT. OF  
AGRICULTURE  
JOB  
SOUTH BOSTON  
PASS AND DEC  
DRAWN BY:  
DOUG F. SPENCER

DATE  
11/25/94

REVISIONS

APPROVED BY:  
RAY CORBETT

NOTES

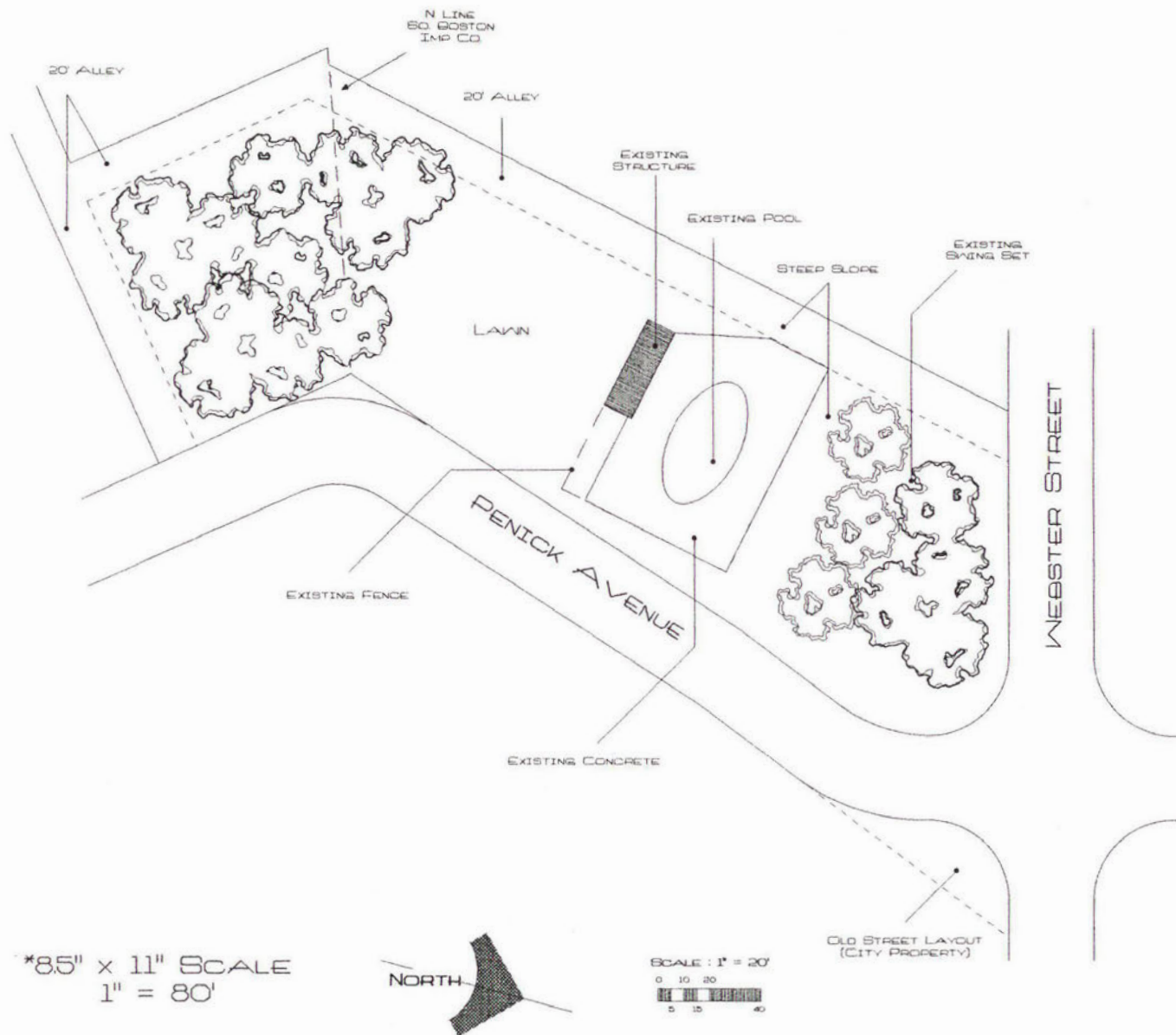
SITE INVENTORY

CONSTITUTION SQUARE  
SOUTH BOSTON, VA

PAGE

1

OF 3



|               |
|---------------|
| SERIES        |
| ARCHITECTS    |
| DEPT. OF      |
| ARCHITECTURE  |
| JOB           |
| SOUTH BOSTON  |
| PARKS AND REC |
| DRAWN BY:     |
| DOUG F. BAKER |
| DATE:         |
| 11/25/94      |
| REVISIONS     |
| APPROVED BY:  |
| RAY CORRETT   |
| NOTES         |

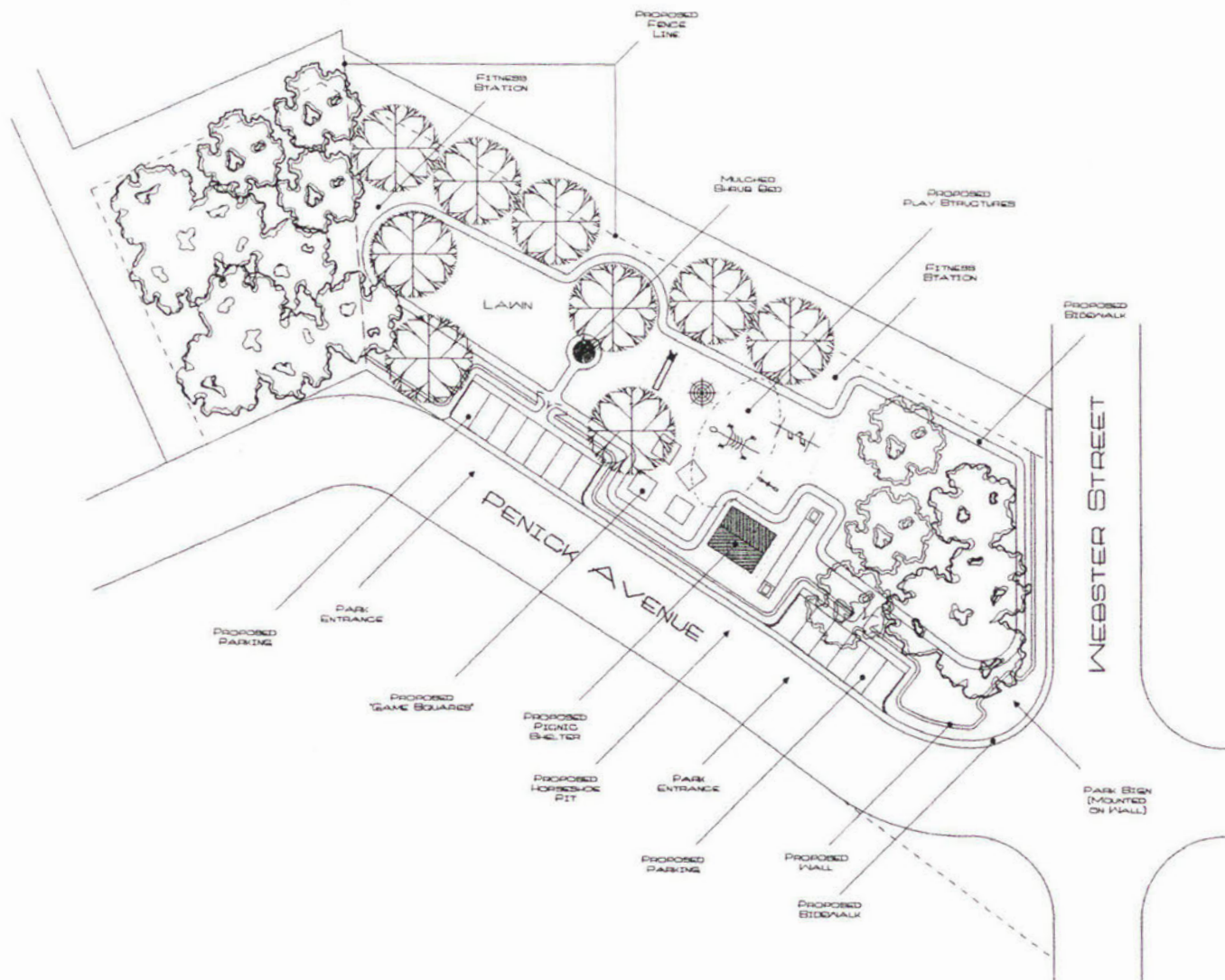
# SITE INVENTORY

PENICK PARK  
SOUTH BOSTON, VA

PAGE

1

OF 2



SCALE: 1" = 20'  
0 10 20  
5 10 20 40

\*8.5" x 11" SCALE  
1" = 80'

SCHEMATIC  
ANNE SCORRIS  
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
JOB  
SOUTH BOSTON  
PARKS AND REC  
DRAWN BY  
DOUG F. BRIDGER  
DATE  
11/25/94  
REVISIONS  
APPROVED BY  
RAY CORBETT  
NOTE

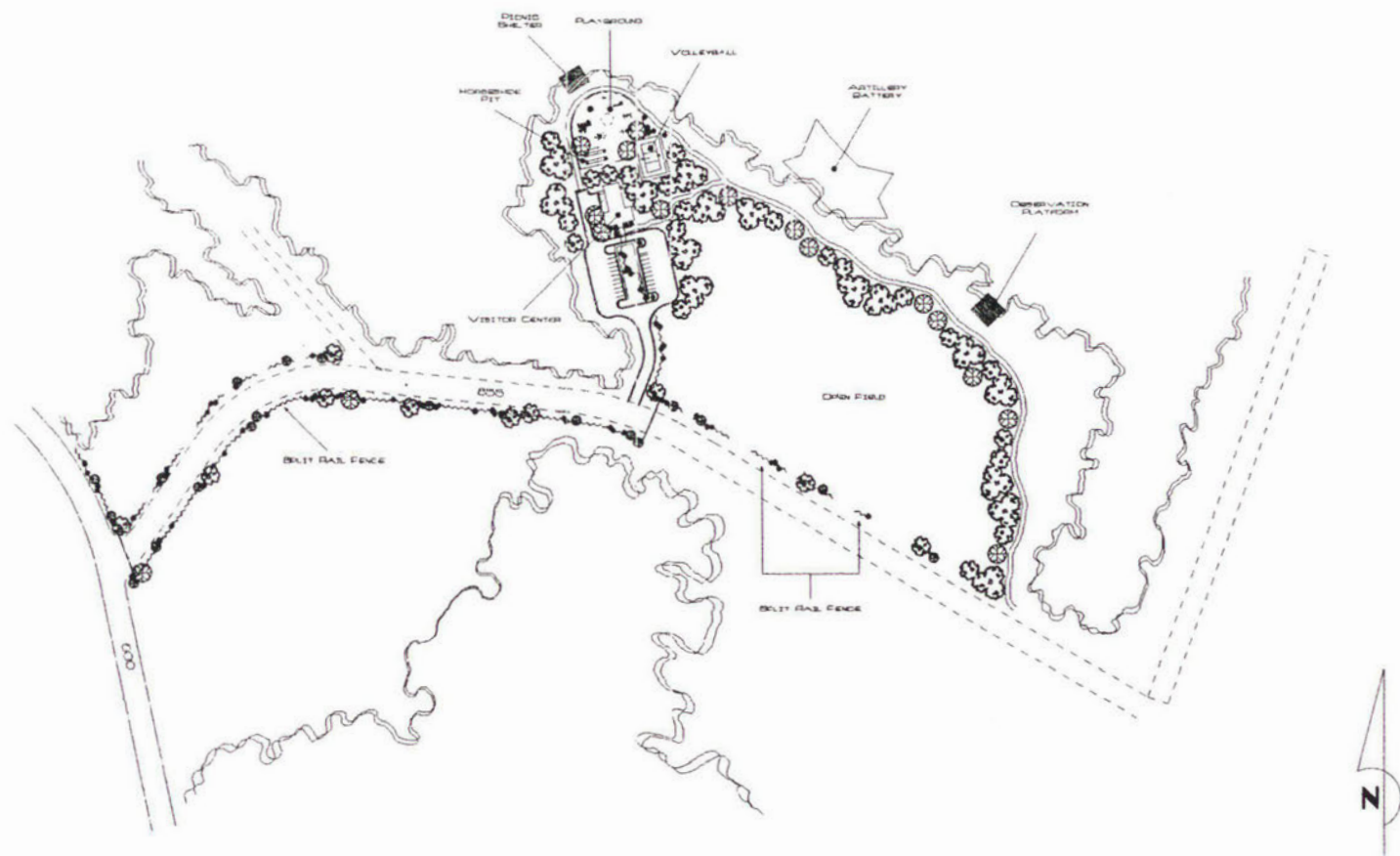
# ILLUSTRATIVE SITE PLAN

PENICK PARK  
SOUTH BOSTON, VA

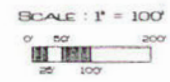
PAGE

2

OF 2



\*8.5"x11"  
SCALE  
1" = 400'



|                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------|
| AMERICAN<br>NATURAL<br>RESOURCE<br>CONSERVATION<br>SERVICE |
| JOB:<br>HISTORIC<br>STAUNTON RIVER<br>FOUNDRY              |
| DRAWN BY:<br>DOUG F. SPENCER                               |
| DATE:<br>4/1/00                                            |
| REVISIONS                                                  |
| APPROVED BY:<br>RAY DOBNEY                                 |
| NOTES                                                      |

# ILLUSTRATIVE SITE PLAN

STAUNTON RIVER  
BATTLEFIELD PARK  
CLOVER, VA

PAGE

2

OF 9

ANNECOODS  
NATURAL  
RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION  
PROJECT

JOB  
HISTORIC  
STAUNTON RIVER  
FOUNDATION

DRAWN BY  
DOUG F. BRIDGES

DATE  
4/1/95

REVISIONS

APPROVED BY  
RAY CORRETT

NOTES

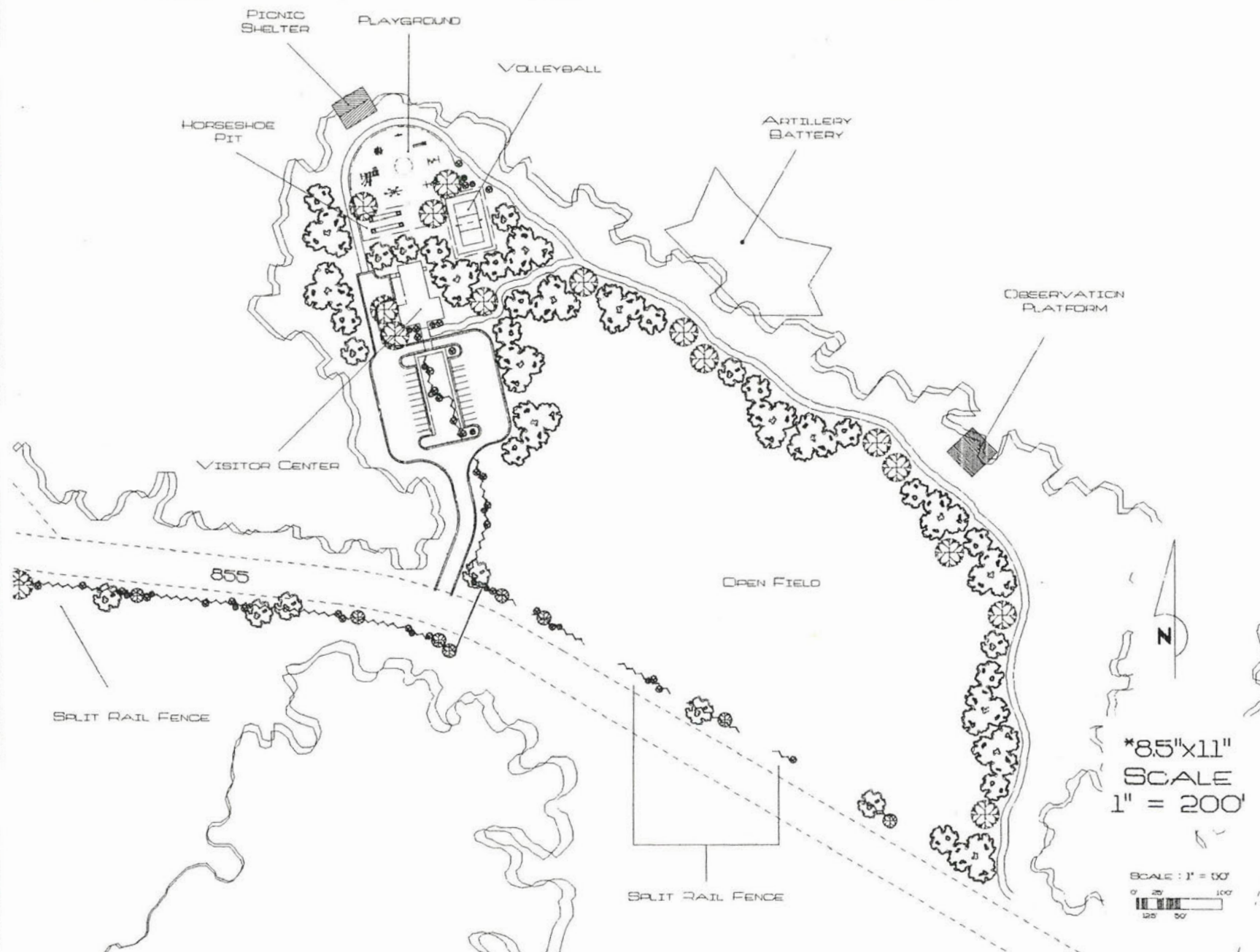
# ILLUSTRATIVE SITE PLAN

STAUNTON RIVER  
BATTLEFIELD PARK  
CLOVER, VA

PAGE

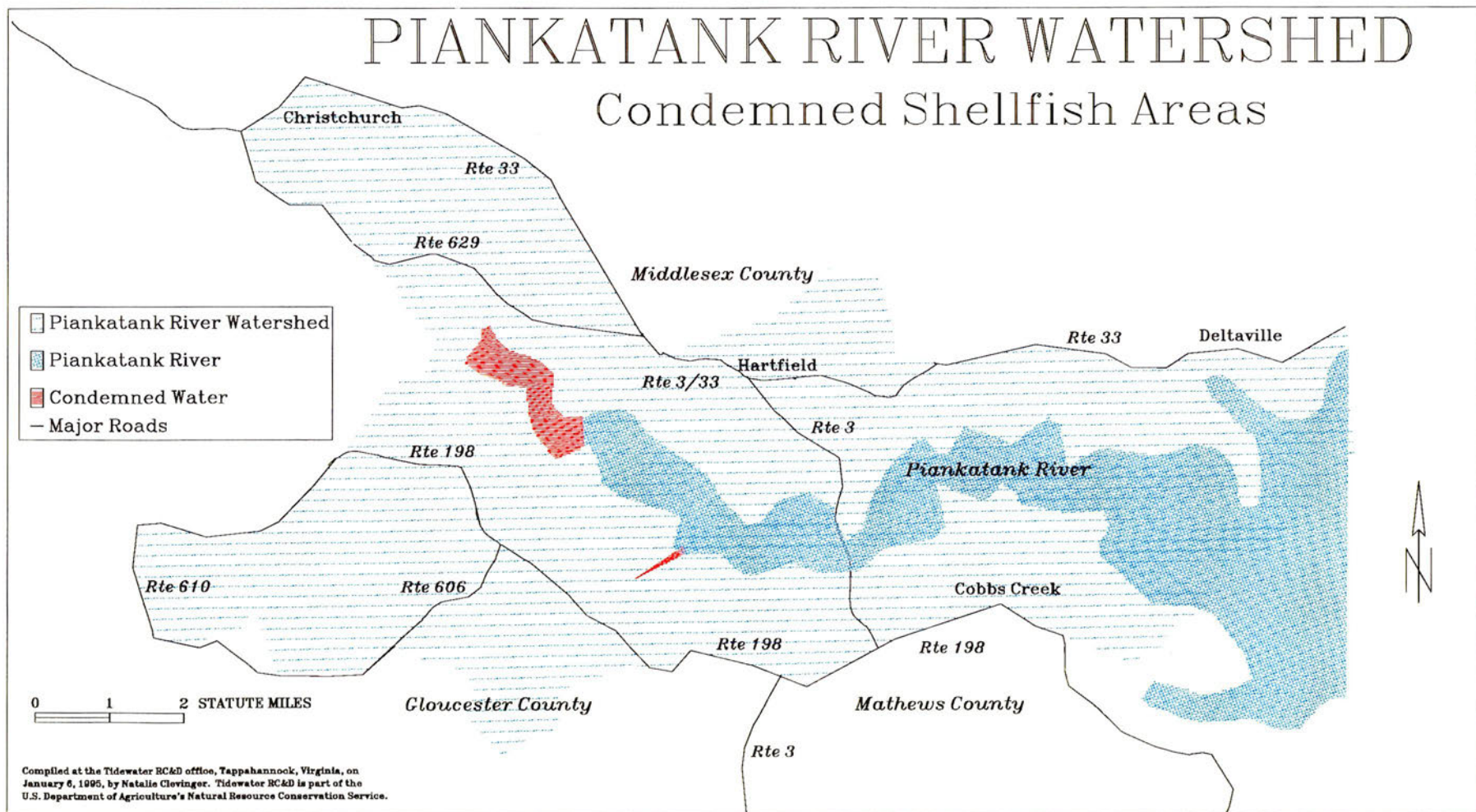
3

OF 9



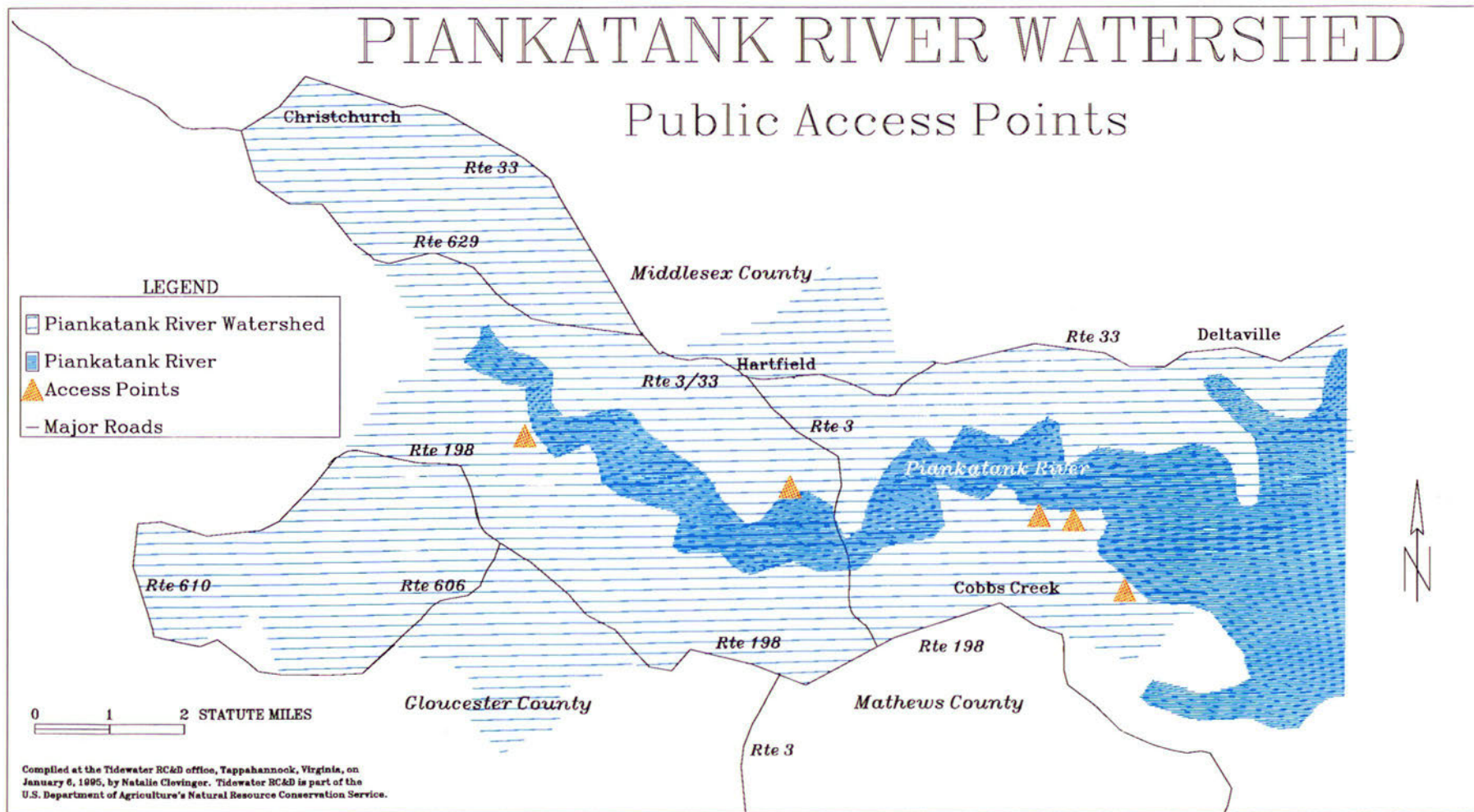
# PIANKATANK RIVER WATERSHED

## Condemned Shellfish Areas



# PIANKATANK RIVER WATERSHED

## Public Access Points



Denise: Here are some talking points for AmeriCorps Wytheville Cluster

1. Diverse Group:

Our AmeriCorps members in Wytheville include 3 females, 1 minority and 1 handicapped.

(You have met Audrey Biggs, Mindy Clarke, Dalton Alderman and Adrienne Perkins; you haven't met James Pratt who started November 10).

2. Principal Projects are:

a. Marion Riverwalk Trail: To develop a community attraction around the river.

b. Forestry products and Timber Bridge Construction for economic development.

3. Number of Hours of National Service

Provided to residents in rural communities to date: approximately 7,000 hours

4. Benefits to Community from Grants:

For activities carried out or assisted by AmeriCorps members total over \$200,000 in FY-95 (Cost for stipends & education awards for five (5) members = \$83,500 which gives a 2.4:1 benefit cost ratio.

These grants include:

|                                                       |                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| America the Beautiful                                 | \$ 16,550 (Riverwalk Project)                                                                               |
| Istea (Va. Transportation Board)                      | 115,000 (Riverwalk)                                                                                         |
| US Forest Service Timber Bridge Initiative            | 17,400 (To be matched 50/50 by RC&D)                                                                        |
| Forest Service Community Development Funds            | 10,000                                                                                                      |
| Forest Service grants for AmeriCorps position support | 36,000 (For AmeriCorps work including timber bridge plan, master logger program, pedestrian bridge project) |
| Assistance for VDOF Dry Hydrant Grants                | 6,000                                                                                                       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                          | <b>\$200,950</b>                                                                                            |

NOTE: Press who may be there include:

Wytheville News  
Smith County News  
Bristol Herald  
(Radio/TV from Bristol also invited)

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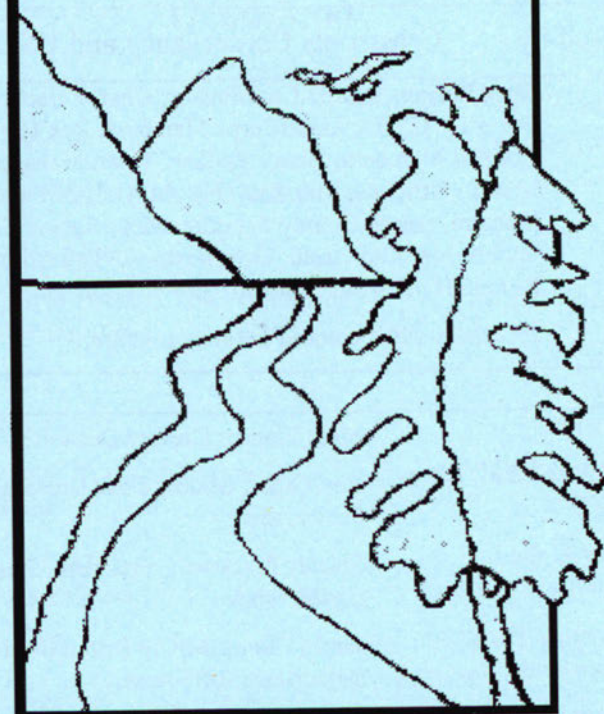
Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

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Riverwalk Tree Identification  
Day [brochure]

7 pages

# Riverwalk



## TREE IDENTIFICATION FIELD DAY

Saturday, April 22, 1995

11:00-3:00

Riverbend Park,

Marion, VA

**Project Abstract**  
**Sarah Buchanan**  
**AmeriCorps Environmental Educator**

**Projects:**

**Garbage Busters** - A second grade solid waste education program administered in Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins and Union County schools by AmeriCorps member.

**Accomplishments:**

- Developed the curriculum itself. This program contains five, thirty minute lessons on litter reduction, recycling, waste reduction and green shopping.
- Program was administered to 40 classrooms, over 800 students, in the five counties served by the RC&D Council.
- Wrote an EPA grant with Liz Upchurch for funding. The grant for \$6,667 was awarded April 15, 1995 for the 1995-96 school year.
- Developed identification cards for the students completing the program.

**Water Wizards** - A third grade water quality curriculum distributed to the schools in Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins and Union Counties.

**Accomplishments:**

- Completed revisions of the nine lessons and activities contained in the curriculum.
- Contacted area third grade instructors for enrollment. Over 800 students participated in the program.
- Arranged for students completing the program to receive a T-shirt with the logo on it.

**Conservation Camp** - A field day for 1200 sixth grade students in Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins and Union Counties.

**Accomplishments:**

- Located and arranged for lease of property to hold the event. In previous years private land had been used which made arrangements difficult.
- Revised, updated and added material to the accompanying workbook. Students receive a workbook with a summary and questions about each learning area.
- Arranged for 19 learning sites to be manned, five of which were taught by AmeriCorps members.
- Selected T-shirt and cap colors, each year a different color is used. Counted and delivered t-shirts and workbooks to participating schools and instructors.
- Worked with the Tennessee Division of Forestry to clear trails and teaching areas along the river bank and wooded area.
- Arranged for the Grainger County Highway Department to donate manpower, grading work and gravel for the access road.

- Arranged for delivery and spreading of bark chips on the trails.

Envirothon - A team competition for High School students in aquatics, soils, forestry, wildlife and a current environmental issue which changes yearly. Each team takes a test about each challenge area, tests consist of identification, problem solving, equipment use and general knowledge questions.

Accomplishments:

- Responsible for all publicity and school contacts.
- Aided soils specialist in selecting site for the soil judging site and arranged for the TN Division of Forestry to dig the soils pit.
- Contacted each site specialist to ascertain any special needs or requirements for the day of the event.
- Delivered study materials to each participating school.
- Had a total of 18 teams participating for an 80% increase.
- Served on the state Envirothon committee. I was responsible for ordering and selecting a design for the state T-shirt.
- Accompanied regional winner, Powell Valley High School, to the state event.
- Assisted George Smith, UT Extension Service, with the groundwater challenge area at the state Envirothon.

Environmental Education Resource Center - Established with a grant from the US Forest Service, this program provides teachers access to environmental education materials and information. Materials available include books, videos, curriculums, posters, handouts, pelts, skulls, computer software and equipment.

Accomplishments:

- Developed a cataloguing system for all materials by grade levels and topic area.
- Developed a system for checking out and using materials.
- Developed a promotional campaign for the schools to inform the teachers and administrators about the program.
- Used materials in planning and giving presentations to school, 4-H and civic groups.

Newsletter - A newsletter describing program activities and programs available to the teachers through the Council education staff.

Accomplishments:

- produced and distributed to schools in the five counties served by the council.
- Featured new programs such as the resource center, garbage busters, and earthday festival.
- Increased teacher interest due to reading the newsletter.

Enviro 2000 - A teacher inservice workshop for instructors in Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins and Union Counties. This inservice focuses on Environmental Education based curriculums and activities.

In progress:

- Securing instructors for learning sessions.
- Developing a presentation on the Clinch-Powell Education Program.
- Securing sponsors for the event.
- Meeting with County Supervisors of Instruction to secure inservice credit for teachers attending the workshop.
- Permission to use elementary school for the workshop.

Dear Wood-Worker,

If you wish to be included in a forest products directory of Southwest Virginia, please complete and return this questionnaire at your earliest convenience. It is already post-marked so you only have to seal it and place it in the mail. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at (703) 228-9353.

Sincerely,

James Pratt  
US Forest Service-USDA AmeriCorps.

### FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY DIRECTORY QUESTIONNAIRE

#### SECTION I: BUSINESS

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Name of Business _____ | Type _____        |
| Key Contact _____      | Title _____       |
| Address 1 _____        | # Employees _____ |
| Address 2 _____        | Phone # _____     |
| City _____ State _____ | Zip _____         |

| Product | Volume | Product | Volume |
|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| _____   | _____  | _____   | _____  |
| _____   | _____  | _____   | _____  |
| _____   | _____  | _____   | _____  |

Circle the answer that best describes your wood-crafting:

A) Full time business B) Part time business C) Hobby

Major Market: A) local (county/nearby counties) B) in-state C) out of state D) export

Are you interested in expanding? (Y/N) What markets are you interested in reaching: A) local (county/nearby counties) B) in-state C) out of state D) export

#### SECTION II: RAW MATERIALS

| Species used | Volume/Type | Grade | Sources(indicate if local or otherwise) |
|--------------|-------------|-------|-----------------------------------------|
| _____        | _____       | _____ | _____                                   |
| _____        | _____       | _____ | _____                                   |
| _____        | _____       | _____ | _____                                   |
| _____        | _____       | _____ | _____                                   |

| Species desired | Volume/Type | Species desired | Volume/Type |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| _____           | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| _____           | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| _____           | _____       | _____           | _____       |

Is this wood source able to meet your needs? (Y/N/Sometimes)

Would you be willing to use local sources of wood? (Y/N)

**SECTION III: WOOD WASTE/RESIDUE**

| Residue | Volume | Residue | Volume |
|---------|--------|---------|--------|
|         |        |         |        |
|         |        |         |        |
|         |        |         |        |

Are you having problems getting rid of residue(s)? (Y/N) How are your residues used or disposed of? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Does the accumulation of residues affect your business? How?

\_\_\_\_\_

List the names of people/businesses and their phone numbers that would be interested in the directory:

| Name/Phone# | Name/Phone# |
|-------------|-------------|
|             |             |
|             |             |
|             |             |
|             |             |

Other Comments:

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# **NEW RIVER-HIGHLANDS RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**November 1994      UPDATE!!!      Vol. 1. 1**

## **AmeriCorps Comes to RC&D**

After a great deal of hard work for the New River Highlands RC&D Area, there were two grants approved for five AmeriCorps workers. The grants create five positions for one year. The Council has filled all five of these positions. Each AmeriCorps participant will receive a living stipend as well as health and child care benefits. At the end of the year of service, an education award is given for use toward future education or to repay part of an existing education debt.

The Council will supervise the AmeriCorps members as they form a collaborative rural development team for both the United State Departments of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service and the Forestry Service. The team's primary goal is to promote the activities of the RC&D Council. Some additional goals are to promote the best management practices for natural resources, and to develop an environmental and education project for tree identification along the Riverwalk trail in Marion, Virginia.

The positions for SCS are; Landscape Architect and Outreach Coordinator. The positions for the Forestry Service are; Forest Engineer, Forest Economic Specialist and a Forest Product Marketing Specialist.



L to R: Audrey Biggs, Mindy Clark, Delton Alderman, Adrienne Perkins, and James Pratt (Not shown here).

## **Landscape Architect**

Mindy Clark is originally from New Hampshire. She earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Horticulture, with a concentration in Landscape Design, and a minor in Soil Science from Montana State University in 1994.

As an AmeriCorps member, Ms. Clark is working on the Marion Greenway Project for the New River-Highlands RC&D Council. As Landscape Architect, she is responsible for the development of site plans and securing public support for the Marion Riverwalk project. In addition to this project she will oversee creative aspects of the Outdoor classroom.

Her goal as an AmeriCorps member is to assist in community growth by creating a lasting impact on the environment while improving her own growth as a professional.

Ms. Clark is a single mother with a 13 year old son named Uriah and together they have a number of interests together including cooking, dancing, hiking, gardening, and Taekwondo.

## **Outreach Coordinator**

Audrey Biggs is a resident of Blacksburg, VA. She earned her master's degree in Corporate and Professional Communication from Radford University in 1993. Most recently, Ms. Biggs was a management trainee in Training and Development for TransAmerica Marketing Inc., where she performed daily operations and trained Customer Service Representatives in proper telephone sales techniques.

As the AmeriCorps Outreach Coordinator for Soil Conservation Service, Ms. Biggs will be responsible for the development and implementation of newsletters for four watershed committees and the Council. Some of her duties will include writing press releases, identifying funding sources, and assisting with a videography project for the Jefferson National Forest. Ms. Biggs is also assisting with the development of the Outdoor classroom, which includes assisting in creating a partnership with Smyth County,