RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN ALABAMA

2018

ANNUAL REPORT
ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF RCD&D COUNCILS
TABLE OF CONTENTS

ALABAMA’S MOUNTAINS RIVERS AND VALLEYS RC&D  7

ALA-TOM RC&D  11

CAWACO RC&D  15

COOSA VALLEY RC&D  19

GULF COAST RC&D  23

MID-SOUTH RC&D  27

NORTHWEST ALABAMA RC&D  31

TOMBIGBEE RC&D  35

WIREGRASS RC&D  39
RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS

WHAT IS RC&D:

RC&D is a unique process that helps people protect and develop their economic, natural, and social resources in ways that improve their area’s economy, environment, and quality of life.
INTRODUCTION

RC&D in Alabama depends on the leadership abilities and unique skills within the communities it serves. That is why so many worthwhile projects have been undertaken and accomplished throughout the state.

A significant accomplishment of RC&D is the rekindling of community spirit. There are so many ways to describe RC&D, but the heart of the program is people doing things for other people to improve the quality of life for fellow Alabamians.

In essence, it is local people identifying their problems and opportunities and dealing with them, with a little help from the government and from others.

The RC&D Councils in Alabama are proud of their accomplishments, but there is much yet that can be done to make our communities a better place to live.

The Association is dedicated to protecting, enhancing, and developing the state’s natural and human resources.
Alabama Association of RC&D Projects

ATFA Educational Website: The Alabama TREASURE Forest Association’s flagship educational program, Classroom in the Forest, takes fourth and fifth grade students out of the classroom and into the woods of private landowners. The first objective of the project was to provide video tutorials for private landowners who are interested in hosting a Classroom in the Forest on their property. The second objective is to provide recorded seminars and other information to stewardship-minded landowners who are interested in better managing their properties. Funds were spent on website development to make this possible.

Five Council RC&D Area Grant Workshops: To provide much needed assistance to small non-profits (including RC&D’s) to help them learn about the availability of grants and how to apply for them.

Alabama RC&D Outdoor Education Fund: The educational objective of this project was to connect students to our natural world in real and meaningful ways through nature-based educational programming, and to teach them about the importance of wise use and responsible stewardship of our natural resources. AWF awarded scholarships to 1,000 students from Alabama’s Black Belt region for an educational field trip to the Alabama Nature Center (ANC) located in Millbrook, Alabama.

The Super Citizen Programs in Alabama: Liberty Learning Foundation, Inc. provides the Super Citizen Programs to students, grades 1-5, throughout Alabama. They begin by delivering “Super Citizen” resource kits to every teacher with the materials needed to make the program successful. Liberty Learning’s education team trains the teachers and provides continuous support throughout the 10-week program. Each program is tailored to the targeted grade levels. Each week, a character trait is emphasized and explored. Courage, commitment, loyalty, responsibility, honor, respect, compassion, and patriotism, are integrated into the lessons – again providing examples of good citizenship.

Electrical Safety Testing in Schools: The objective of the Electrical Safety Testing in schools was to teach safe home electrical practices to science students using demonstration of electrical devices in a teacher’s toolkit and a discussion of safe and unsafe home practices. Also, to demonstrate use of thermal imaging and electrical ground testing to K-12 school maintenance staff. This project not only teaches students the importance of electrical safety it also tests the school’s electrical wires, checking for any unsafe wiring.

Your Town Alabama 20th Anniversary: The Your Town Alabama 20th Anniversary was conducted for Your Town Workshop alumni to share how they applied the Your Town concept in their community and to provide ideas on how the program can improve to further help the towns of Alabama. The meeting fostered peer-to-peer learning between Alabama communities.

Buckmasters Life Hunt: Buckmasters American Deer Foundation’s Life Hunt is a hunt wish granting service for children and young adults with critical illnesses and severe disability. Those awarded grants to participate in the Life Hunt spend three days hunting in Alabama with the Buckmasters American Deer Foundation.
Alabama Association of RC&D Councils Projects Continued

**Buckmasters Life Hunt:** Buckmasters American Deer Foundation’s Life Hunt is a hunt wish-granting service for children and young adults with critical illnesses and severe disability. Those awarded grants to participate in the Life Hunt spend three days hunting in Alabama with the Buckmasters American Deer Foundation.

**Alabama Indigenous Mound Trail:** The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development researched the various indigenous mound sites, photographed them and gathered photos from others, worked with Native American Tribes to be sure to include appropriate content, and worked with site managers and partners to ensure cohesive information. They developed a brochure, booklet, and website using all of the content developed by this project. The goal of the project was to increase heritage-based tourism traffic in nearby communities as an economic development strategy, and to also increase visitation to other recreation and tourism points of interest near each site (alabamamoundtrail.org).

**Legacy Environmental Education Workshop:** To bring Alabama educators into the field to provide hands-on experience to train them on how to properly integrate Environmental Education in their classroom curriculum.

**Alabama State Games/Opening Ceremonies:** The Alabama State Games are part of a nationwide network of state games with a national organization called the National Congress of State Games (NCSG). The mission of the NCSG is to support State Games member organizations in the promotion of health, fitness and character building through multi-sport competitions and physical activities. The State Games provide a motivational goal for all athletes within the state in which they are organized.

**LEGACY Workshops at Cheaha State Park and the Cahaba Environmental Center.**
ALABAMA’S MOUNTAINS, RIVERS AND VALLEYS RC&D COUNCIL

The Alabama’s Mountains, Rivers and Valleys RC&D Council covers the following Alabama counties: DeKalb, Cullman, Jackson, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marshall, and Morgan. The office is located in Hartselle.

PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2018

Youth Corp (Area Wide): This environmental, leadership, conservation awareness camp opened the eyes of the students.

Teacher CEU Workshop (Area Wide): This workshop showed teachers how to incorporate environmental education into any class with hands-on activities.

Stream Barrier Removal Match (Area Wide): The spring pygmy sunfish could become “locally extinct.” Funds matched a USFWS grant to restore habitat.

RC&D Promotion to New Markets (Area Wide): Outreach meetings held in the area highlighting the resources available through different government and non-profit entities. Farming, alternative energy, and RC&D resources were major topics.

Veteran Farmer Conference (Area Wide): Bringing awareness of therapy farming to Veterans by supplying resources and contacts to assist with PTSD.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (V.I.T.A.) Program (Athens-Limestone and Decatur-Morgan): Provided income tax services to the elderly and low income residents at no cost to the taxpayers.

Sidewalk Project (City of Bridgeport / Jackson County): The students at the Bridgeport Middle School now have new sidewalks instead of walking to school along the side of a narrow two-lane road that is a truck route.

Museum Operational Support (Courtland/Lawrence): Museum serves as the focal point for all community festivals and events, highlighting local history.

County Road 1507 line extension (Cullman): Potable clean drinking water to two existing residences, and access for three additional property owners.

Camp MB Outdoor Facilities Restoration (Cullman): Outdoor bathroom restoration allows students to stay outdoors and enjoy the educational boardwalks.

North Alabama Agriplex (Cullman): Program implementation and help with our summer feeding programs and summer camps.

Forestry Awareness Week Now (Cullman): Reaches 6th graders in the county and teaches them the importance of our forest lands with lessons taught about forest products, forest management, tree id, soils, and forest wildlife.

continued
Council Members

Cullman
Robert Harbison
Edwin Carter
Melba Federer
Charles Hollis
Tim Compton
Deb Widner
Travis Kress
Johnny Grantham
Kathy Holmes
Sue Craig
Tammy Roden
Merrie B. Gaines, Advisor

DeKalb
John Eason
Deanna Wilks
Philip Dewayne Hulgan
Billy Twilley
Beverly Noles
Vickie Goggans
Philip Abney, Advisor

Jackson
Laurie Gibson
Donald Smith
Shawn Manning, Advisor

Lawrence
Allen Pickens
Henrietta Taylor
Rob Rebman
Mike Hotchkiss
Richard Thompson
Kathy Gotcher, Advisor

Alabama’s Mountains, Rivers and Valleys RC&D Council Projects Continued

Cullman County Water Festival (Cullman): The water festival reaches 4th grade students and teaches them the importance of protecting and conserving water.

Heating and Cooling for Council Building (Cullman / Falkville): Provided heating and cooling in new council building for all meetings and events.

Cullman County Maps Archive (Cullman): Numerous invaluable documents of County and State history preserved for future generations. The documents will be easily accessible with no damage to the originals from excessive handling, protecting these historic documents for generations to come.

Sportsman Lake Fountain Learning Area (Cullman): Create a learning area near the lake at Sportsman Lake Park, including installation of a fountain and an educational sign.

Wonders of Water (WOW) Water Festival (DeKalb): The water festival reaches 4th grade students and teaches them about protecting and conserving water.

Station Generator (DeKalb / Dogtown): Operate during weather events or any other situations that would cause power loss at our station.

Faces Of Agriculture Tour (Jackson): The tour highlighted the importance of agriculture in Jackson County. Conserving natural resources is a continued theme.

Bridgeport Vol Fire Dept Air Packs (Jackson): The packs are more efficient for firefighters to fight fires. The smaller air tanks can be changed easier and faster.

Wheelchair ramps (Jackson): Provided 41 Wheelchair ramps for seniors and disabled persons in Jackson County.

Side by Side (Jackson / Rosalie): The side by side will allow us to get to areas not accessible by automobile.

Swimming Pool Repairs (Jackson): We made our pool a safer swimming pool by filling in the deep end to prevent injuries and drowning.

Turnout Replacement (Jackson County, Dutton): Provided updated protection gear to fireman, allowing them to perform their duties in a safer manner.

Eagles Working for Wood Ducks (Jackson/Pisgah): Program constructs, erects, monitors and maintains wood duck nesting structures across the community.

Raised Bed Garden (Lawrence): Built raised bed gardens for the school and community. This was a great learning experience for the students.

Recycle Trailer Project (Lawrence County): We have used the recycle trailer at the community parks & plan on using at the schools this year as well.

WELP Student Environmental Workshop (Marshall): Provided 18 students an opportunity to explore natural environment and learn environmental biology.
Alabama: Field Studies in America’s Amazon (Limestone County):
Students contribute to the community, build problem-solving skills and identify career paths. They became water chemistry certified through AWW, got Wilderness First Aid certifications, took part in citizen science initiatives, learned map reading, competed in the State Evirothon competition, rappelled down an 85 foot cliff face, kayaked out to the champion cypress, followed a botanist through a carnivorous plant bog and consulted with experts on various topics.

Encounters with Urban Wildlife Educational Programming (Madison):
Extension provided education on wildlife species, instincts, range, habitat, and concerns. It helped people better understand wildlife concepts, eating habits, survival tendencies, and nocturnal behavior of wildlife native to Alabama.

Urban Living Expo: Plan, Prepare, Practice; Don’t Get Caught off Guard! (Madison):
The project supported educational extension programs that provide knowledge of disaster preparedness and management and as well as the impact of sound management on forestry, wildlife and natural resources.

Free Classroom Supplies and Teacher Resources (Madison):
Madison County public school teachers along with students received over 1.2 million dollars in school supplies and resources from Free 2 Teach Foundation! Each visit of the Free 2 Teach store resulted in an average of $548 in school supplies!

Creative Farming Methods AG Tour (Madison):
A tour educating leaders making decisions for farmers on the actual practices and hardships farmers have today. Participants learn a new appreciation for the many hats a farmer wears.

St. Mark Playground Project (Madison):
The new playground provides a safe and secure environment for children to learn and grow.

UCAN American Indian Resources, Inc. Web Maintenance and Community Resources Outreach (Marshall):
Hosting herb walk and improving website to make people aware of the benefits of what is in our yards.

Singing River Trail Economic Impact Study (Madison/Limestone/Morgan):
Having an economic impact study completed has made the concept of a greenway connecting all three counties seem like a realistic project to hundreds of residents in the 3-county region.

4-H Clubs Skins n Skulls (Marshall):
Extension provided education on wildlife species, instincts, range, habitat, and concerns to help people better understand native wildlife eating habits, survival tendencies, & nocturnal behavior.

Douglas K-8 21st CCLC Community Garden (Marshall):
This project strengthened the learning of elementary and middle school students and showed them how to help supply food to their community as well as their family.
**Council Members Continued**

**Area Wide**
- Scottie Bolden
- Janetta Thompson
- Brian Brown
- Rahonda Everett
- Marvin Warren
- Bill Latimer
- Marcus Garner
- Robert Spencer

**Alabama’s Mountains, Rivers and Valleys RC&D Council Projects Continued**

**Swinging Away Student Sensory Issues (Marshall/Boaz City Schools Special Education Department):** Provide students with special needs in wheelchairs the ability to participate with peers on the playground by using wheelchair swings and sensory activities for special needs students with sensory processing issues to increase focus and decrease sensitivities.

**Making an Agriscience Welding Shop Modern (Marshall/Guntersville):** Students taking Agriscience classes such as Intro to Metal Fab will now have the skills to enter the workforce with enough training to operate a larger CNC Plasma cutter similar to what we have purchased with the help of the RC&D.

**WaterWorks Habitat (Morgan):** Enhance the turtle habitat and add aquariums to show the fishes of our area.

**WaterWorks Low Ropes & Elementary Yard (Morgan):** The addition of the ropes area enabled us to invite younger students to WaterWorks. The sooner the students learn about environmental responsibility the better off we all will be.

**Board Staff Training (Morgan):** Several events held throughout the year for board members and staff. The National Association of RC&D Council meeting in St. Paul, MN was among those training sessions.

**Making Money Count - The Art Of Sewing (Morgan County):** Each student learned new and different techniques to include easier ways to hand mend garments as well as mending using the sewing machines and sergers.

**Danville High School Dugouts (Morgan County/Danville):** Dugout remediation allows students athletes a safer environment to use during practice and on game days.

**King’s Memorial UMC Pre-K Raised Bed Garden (Morgan County/Decatur):** Created a garden as purchased playground supplies. This garden will be planted and maintained each year by students and teachers at the KMUMC school. The garden’s produce will be used in the classroom and taken home to supplement fresh foods in the home.

**Eva Recreation Park Pavilions (Morgan, Town of Eva):** The pavilions have provided a place for grandparents, parents an friends to have a place to watch their child to play and be out of the sun.

**Banks-Caddell Community Gardens of Hope (Morgan/Decatur):** Create a garden area and begin planting crops to teach students about gardening, the value of healthy eating and self-reliance, and service learning.

**Clothes For Kids (Morgan/Lawrence County):** Restructure space to create more space for clothing. The ability to store more clothing allowed us to clothe 700 children in the 2017-2018 school year (a 200% growth rate over last year).
ALA-TOM RC&D COUNCIL

The ALA-TOM RC&D Council covers the following nine Southwest Alabama counties: Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Dallas, Marengo, Monroe, Perry, Washington, and Wilcox. The office is located in Thomasville.

PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2018

American Legion Post #81 Building Renovations: The American Legion has been working diligently to renovate their post to use as a meeting place, conduct post business, provide a place for community members to hold family functions, school reunions, and use by Arts Council for yearly production.

Choctaw County Chamber Welcome Sign: Purchase six Welcome signs for major entrances in hopes of increasing our marketing efforts to out of area tourists.

Pennington Police Department Body Armor: Pennington Police Department chief and officers needed new vests to make sure our officers are safe.

Sports Complex: The Southern Choctaw Sports Committee is working to build a regulation size baseball field and a regulation size softball field.

Butler Youth Programs 2018: Funding for Butler’s 4th year of youth programs. For our third year we hosted half day events during Christmas and Spring break for children and extended our two weeks of half summer camps to three weeks.

Southern Choctaw High School FFA Outdoor Learning Center: Creating an outdoor learning area for students. This area would consist of raised plants and research experiments along with a small animal area used to raise chickens.

Senior Ambassador Program: Provide an opportunity for local students to engage in civic service and help them pursue a post-secondary education.

WeConnect: This is a global youth citizenship curriculum modified to meet the needs of the youth in Choctaw County. Our best and brightest students are leaving the region at an alarming rate. Youth left behind are the workforce of tomorrow.

Backpack & Food Nutrition Program: To provide relief to the needy of Choctaw County, with emphasis on backpack for qualified children.

Thomasville Sports Hall of Fame: Honor people of Thomasville who have brought honor to Thomasville through their achievements in the world of sports.

Clarke County Bee Keepers Association Phase 3: To save honey bees by removing from houses, trees, bushes, and buildings. To aid and assist beginners in bee keeping and working to create interest in young people to become bee keepers.

continued
COUNCIL MEMBERS

CHOCTAW COUNTY
C.D. “Budd” Ruffin
Willie E. Sykes
Sharon Shepherd

CLARKE COUNTY
Jackie Ray Rush
Charles M. Rotch

CONECUH COUNTY
Leonard Millender
Bobby Ballard
Lula Palmer

DALLAS COUNTY
Johnny Jones
Kathy Traylor
Charlie Kee

MARENGO COUNTY
John Crawford Jr.
Andrew Williams
Cindy Neilson

MONROE COUNTY
Joe McKissick
Dan McDaniel
Jenny Countryman

PERRY COUNTY
Brett Harrison
Charles Holmes
Johnny Flowers

ALA-TOM RC&D COUNCIL PROJECTS CONTINUED

Fawn: Forestry Awareness Week: Is an educational program established as an outdoor classroom for all six graders in Clarke County.

Kids for Regional Robotics Competition: Funds for River Best to pay for materials included in kits provided to teams to build robots for competition.

Afterschool Youth Development: Help all the children that are falling behind and need to stay on track with their peers.

Summer Enrichment Program: Provide two meals & snack daily, and help in math, reading and comprehension, arts and crafts, music, and P.E. under supervision.

Playground Project: There is no gym on site; therefore, accommodations for physical education will need to be made within a classroom settings and outdoors.

“No More Rainy Day Blues”: Improve student safety in inclement weather.

4-H Makerspace – Learn by Doing: The Conecuh County 4H program delivered by Alabama Cooperative Extension System provides experiences where young people learn by doing.

Cogongrass Control Assistance: Cogongrass is invading Alabama. It covers most uncultivated lands. Cogongrass stops productive is in forest lands, pastures, pecan and other orchards and impacts crops and right of way management.

“No Round Em Up”: We are in need of livestock panels. These livestock panels will be used to allow us to round up our horses, cows, and pigs at livestock events.

Mill Village Community Garden & Food Park: Mill Village Community Garden & Food Park is a neighborhood garden and park open to the public.

Staff at Central Alabama Regional Child Advocacy Center: Central Alabama Regional Advocacy Center provides the location and personnel for forensic interviews after an allegation of child sexual or physical abuse.

Camp Grits Enhancement Project: To create a safe environment for park attendees and also enhance the facilities, park grounds, park equipment and office.

Youth Leadership Selma-Dallas County: Youth Leadership Selma-Dallas County is a multicultural program designed to assist youth in developing strong, effective leadership skills to work in diverse community settings.

Craig Fence Project: Provide a safe environment for the students served by the school. This fence also ensures the safety of children in the community who sometimes cross through the lumber yard to get to other neighborhoods.

Bogue Chitto Revitalization Cultural Enrichment Project: This is an ongoing project to improve the community. This is an organized, instructional program offers opportunities for underserved senior citizens and at-risk youth.
Selma PAL After School Enrichment Program: Selma PAL program will be used to support its recreation-oriented crime prevention program that relies heavily upon athletic, recreational activities and education to help kids.

City of Linden Revitalization Project: Continue the beautification and revitalization of downtown Linden to attract other business to locate there.

Updating Fire Equipment Putnam: Purchase water hoses, fire extinguishers, LED Lights, uniforms, fire boots, and a helmet to improve fire equipment.

Jefferson Community Club Repairs: Maintenance and restoration of 1850’s schoolhouse formerly known as Jefferson Female Academy Building.

Community Center Repairs TUCCA: The United Christian Community Association (TUCCA) provides community development services for Marengo, Perry, Dallas, Wilcox and surrounding counties.

ALJHS (Amelia Love Johnson High School) New Baseball/Softball Field: Revitalize baseball/softball program to provide baseball and softball to our students.

Helping Students Reach Their Full Potential: Students in grades 4-6 will utilize the East Tech digital computer program to learn basic keyboarding and computer skills to enhance computer literacy skills across the curriculum.

Collection Development: Educational Resources: purchase non-fiction common core books for children in grades k-8. Having access to and reading nonfiction helps student develop knowledge.

Monroe County Conservation Education Center: Transform the Teen Center building into an educational center for Monroe County students. Once renovations are complete, students will be able to learn about our natural resources.

Pavilion for Murphy Park Playground: To provide a place where children can host Birthday parties and have easy access to the playground.

Forestry Awareness Week Now (FAWN): Educate the students in Monroe County about all aspects of forestry with hands on learning experience.

Community Enhancement: Provide broadband services to the Monroe County Library, the Monroeville/Monroe County Community Development Corporation, and the Monroeville/Monroe Economic Development Authority.

Marion Perry County Library Summer Reading Program 2018: Funding is needed to continue this year’s successful Summer Reading Program, which for the first time in years, has been attended by over 750 children visits.

Marion Walking Trail Interpretive Treescape: Design and purchase of an interpretive treescape sign. Painting of trees, leaves, and fruit of 8 species of trees.

continued
Ala-Tom RC&D Council Projects Continued

Marion Academy Celebration of Learning: The Celebration of Learning Project will involve the entire pre k-12 grades. This project will involve research, documentation, and presentations on the history of Marion and Perry County.

Raised Bed Garden: This project is for fencing to go around two raised bed gardens and hand tools for working in the gardens.

Disc Golf Course: Install a Disc Golf Course at St. Stephens Historical Park.

Celebrating Alabama’s Bicentennial History: Washington County, the first county in Alabama, is home to historical sites and documents.

Firehouse Standby Generator: Purchase generator for Fruitdale Fire Dept.

E.C.I. Greenhouse Project: Alabama Cooperative Extension System, along with the Educational Center for Independence operate the Chatom greenhouse.

FAWN: Forestry Awareness Week Demonstrates why trees are planted, managed, and harvested to explain how forest practices affect wildlife.

Identification Badges for all first Responders: Equipment for making ID badges for First Responders and Volunteers.

Elijah “Tracy” Shaw III Community Center: To build a picnic shed for the community to have a place to come together for reunions or whenever they feel the need to sit outside and enjoy their surroundings.

Sunny South United: Non-profit provides a place for community meetings, sick and shut in, community reunions, and summer events for children.

Workforce Development Program: Wilcox Works is a one-stop workforce development center to prepare job seekers for employment.

BBTCAC Art House Enrichment Program: The education of the Black Belt region’s adults and youth, including in-school enrichment programs, after school programs, artist demonstrations, festivals, and adult classes and workshops.

Pine Hill Training Project: To improve and remodel the training facility, of the Pine Hill Volunteer Fire Dept. Tables, Chairs, Whiteboard, training materials.

Choctaw County Welding Program Phase 2: To provide highly skilled welding instruction to students. Students will receive articulated credit through Alabama Southern Community College.

Old Cahaba Park Fence: Funding help to construct a new fence around the entrance of the park. This will help to keep trespassers out bring an exciting new look to the park.
CAWACO RC&D COUNCIL

Located in central Alabama, the Cawaco RC&D Council serves the five following counties: Blount, Chilton, Jefferson, Shelby and Walker.

PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2018

Update Computer System (Blount): Remlap Fire & EMS District. Purchase updated computer, printer and software for the fire department to train firefighters and send reports. Remlap is a limited resource community.

Turnout Gear Extricator For Ricetown (Blount): Rice Town Volunteer Fire Department. Turnout gear extractor/washer and water heater. This washer will reduce the risk of exposure to cancer causing substances to firefighters. The equipment will be shared with other VFDs in the area.

Project Life Saver (Blount): Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department. Alzheimer’s and at-risk patients are provided a small personal transmitter that emits an individualized tracking signal. If an enrolled person is missing, the caregiver notifies the Project Lifesaver agency, and a trained emergency team responds.

Van For Food (Jefferson): Greater Birmingham Ministries. Cargo van to assist with food and clothing distribution to 10,000 people each year – 1/3 of whom are children and 1/3 of whom are elderly or disabled.

Minooka Park Expansion (Chilton): Chilton Parks & Recreation. Cawaco provided matching funds for an ADECA Recreational Trails Program grant. The ADECA grant was used for land acquisition and trail development.

Hope House Kitchen (Walker): Hope House. Updated kitchen in order to better serve the elderly, homeless and underemployed citizens of Walker County.

Allgood Fd Bay Door Replacement (Blount): Allgood Volunteer Fire & Rescue. Replacement of two obsolete bay doors to safely maneuver fire engines, rescue vehicles, equipment and personnel. Allgood is a limited resource community.

Nyota Station #4 (Blount): West Blount Fire & Emergency Services District. Partial funding to build a fire station in an area that is not quickly accessible from current station. This will increase emergency response times.

Nauvoo Equipment Upgrade (Walker): Nauvoo Volunteer Fire Department. Upgrade equipment to create more adequate water supply capabilities for larger fire suppression. Nauvoo is a limited resource community.

Communications For Cordova VFD (Walker): Cordova Volunteer Fire Department. Purchase of communications equipment to replace outdated or broken pagers. Cordova is a limited resource community.
CAWACO RC&D COUNCIL PROJECTS CONTINUED

**Fire Equipment For Glennwood (Jefferson):** Glennwood Volunteer Fire Department. Acquire fire fighting equipment to stay within ISO rating. Glennwood is a limited resource community.

**Lights In The Park (Blount):** Town of Highland Lake. Purchase of solar lights inside the park to increase access and safety.

**Wastewater Treatment Repair (Multiple):** Alabama Historic Ironworks Commission. Phase I is a temporary addition that will expand capacity to treat wastewater to 15,000 gallons per day, enabling the park to remain open while Phase II, a wastewater treatment facility replacement, is designed and installed.

**Outdoor Electric Box (Chilton):** Chestnut Creek Heritage Chapel. Continuation of historic preservation and development of a community center.

**Vestavia Fire Dept (Jefferson):** City of Vestavia. Purchase of swift water rescue equipment to assist victims trapped during flood events.

**Communications Upgrade (Blount):** Oneonta Fire & Rescue. Replace radios used by on duty firefighters for on-scene communications during increased hazardous conditions.

**Revitalize Community Center (Walker):** Town of Eldridge. Improvements to community center. The Town of Eldridge is a limited resource community.

**RC&D Grows Gardens (Area-Wide):** Cawaco Resource Conservation & Development Council. Distributed donated seeds and soil to over 62 school and community gardens state-wide.

**Tool Trailer (Area-Wide):** Cawaco Resource Conservation & Development Council. Cawaco provides a trailer full of tools to volunteer organizations and area parks to build or maintain trails. In 2018, 302 volunteers logged 30,200 hours maintaining or developing over 70,000 feet of trails.

**Summer Learning (Blount):** Blount County Education Foundation. Developed to reduce the impact of summer learning loss on Blount County Schools students and provide participants with safe and enriching experiences during the summer months. 41 events were held serving 1,120 students.

**Forest In The Classroom (Blount):** Blount County Extension Office. Fifth grade field trip where students learn about forestry, conservation and Alabama’s natural resources. 22 volunteers from forestry, ACES, FSA, NRCS and Soil & Water provided activities for 252 children.

**Chilton County Water Festival (Chilton):** Chilton County Soil & Water Conservation District. 650 fourth grade students learned water conservation through hands-on activities.
Young Stars Facility Improvement (Jefferson): Young Stars. Upgrade of facility used for after-school programs.

Watershed Video Competition- Valley Creek (Jefferson): Soil & Water Conservation Foundation. Five Birmingham City Schools competed in developing a public service video on litter abatement. This peer-to-peer project engaged students in litter reduction efforts, as well as taught team building, planning and creativity. The winning video was incorporated into paid advertising PSAs in conjunction with Jefferson County and the City of Birmingham’s stormwater programs. The winning schools won cash prizes.

Sea Teaching Kitchen (Shelby): Shelby Emergency Assistance, Inc. Purchase of appliances for the ‘teaching kitchen’ to provide free instruction and nutrition classes. SEA provides temporary assistance with basic needs to individuals and families in crisis caused by life situations such as job loss, illness, domestic violence, etc.

Hippy Hype (Shelby): Shelby County BOE. Purchase of curriculum for a home-based, parent involvement program that brings early learning educational materials into the homes of those most at risk because of poverty, parents’ limited education, and social isolation.

Every Kid At RMP (Jefferson): Red Mountain Park. Field trip to Red Mountain Park for 350 students who attend Title 1 schools in Birmingham and Jefferson County. Students learn history, environmental conservation and participate in team-building activities.

Conservation Education (Walker): Walker County Soil and Water Conservation. Provided conservation and natural resource educational opportunities and workshops. Events included land judging, forestry workshops, school outreach programs and wildlife school.

Backyard Blessings (Walker): Backyard Blessings. Teachers, administrators and school employees were reporting that students were returning to school on Mondays hungry as a result of little to no food on the weekends at home. Backyard Blessings distributed 26,444 food bags to children who live below poverty level, attend a Title 1 school, and live in food insecure homes.

Five Mile Creek Greenway Education And Promotion (Jefferson): The Freshwater Land Trust. Developed a consistent branding system for the Five Mile Creek Greenway that will be used to educate community members, trail users, elected officials, and potential donors about the Five Mile Creek Greenway.

Moving Towards Maker Spaces (Jefferson): Bluff Park Elementary. Create a literacy Makerspace lab in the library, to help prepare students for critical skills in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). They provide hands on learning, help with critical thinking skills and even boost self-confidence.
CAWACO RC&D COUNCIL PROJECTS CONTINUED

**Workforce Development (Area-Wide):** Alabama Public Television. Development of a marketing campaign targeted to increase awareness of free GED assistance through Alabama’s community college system and increase the number of individuals enrolling in adult education and workforce development programs. The number of inquiries to the community college system during the radio campaign nearly doubled—from 144 to 274. 3,107 Cawaco area residents registered for continuing education.

**Grandparent Mentoring (Chilton):** Westend Neighborhood Watch. The Grandparent Grant was written under an awareness that there was very little to no communications evident among the younger generation and the more mature generation. The grant was designed to facilitate communications among the two generations through storytelling, social events and educational trips so that each could share their experiences thereby creating a mutual bond and respect.

**BACK YARD BLESSINGS:**

*Students pick up their food to take home*

*Grandparent Mentoring- grandparents and youth trip*
COOSA VALLEY RC&D COUNCIL

The Coosa Valley RC&D Council covers an eleven county area located in east central Alabama which includes the following counties: Calhoun, Chambers, Cherokee, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Etowah, Randolph, St. Clair, Talladega and Tallapoosa. The office is located in Heflin, Alabama.

PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2018

Webster’s Chapel Multi-Purpose: Purchased and installed heating and cooling units, interior furnishings including tables and chairs for the Webster’s Chapel Multi-Purpose Facility.

Outdoor Education Building & Classroom Education Materials: Funding provided outdoor education building and classroom education materials.

Downtown Anniston Historical Markers: Purchased and installed historical markers and brochures.

Sharron Pritchett Greenhouse: Purchased and installed shutters, cooling system and benches to improve greenhouse at Cane Creek Community Gardens.

Streambank Stabilization Project: Stream bank stabilization project with AU Agronomy and Crop Soil & Environmental Science Department.

White Plains Volunteer Fire Department: Purchased goggles, hoods, gloves and miscellaneous items for First Responders.

Roberts Home Historical Museum Renovation: Museum needed new roof due to storm damage not covered by insurance plus purchased public viewing equipment.

The Super Citizens Program: 10-week program that taught and provided kits to children about being Super Citizens and the history of our country.

Pinhoti Trail Signage: Provided signage on two key overpasses in Cleburne County to spur interest in the trail system which includes Coosa, Clay, Talladega, Calhoun and Cherokee Counties.

Chambers County Agriculture Center Expansion: Finished painting livestock show barn; put six eight-foot tables and 48 folding chairs in education meeting room as well as panels for a round pen.

Chambers County CTC Teaching Farm: Finished pole barn, fence, and chicken facility.

continued
Coosa Valley RC&D Council Projects Continued

**Recruitment of Volunteer Firefighters:** Provided personnel with the necessary protection and communication equipment.

**Youth Leadership Cherokee:** Program helped students make decisions on college majors and prepared them to be future leaders of their county.

**Gaylesville Greenhouse:** Provided a concrete foundation for greenhouse plus power and water for students.

**Ashland Elementary School Playground:** Purchased additional playground equipment in order to complete entire project.

**Veterans Memorial Park:** Refaced items in the Veterans Memorial Park including airplane, helicopter and tank.

**Cleburne County H.S. Band Percussion Expansion:** Purchased percussion equipment for growing band program and replaced old instruments; some of which are over 40 years old. Provided students with the best possible high school band experience and prepared them for college scholarships.

**Wit and Wisdom Reading Program:** Gave students a renewed love of reading which prepared students for complex tests and rigorous assessments.

**BSA Troop 206 Restrooms at the Scout Hall:** Installed an ADA compliant restroom in Scout Hall where previously there was no facility.

**McIntyre Park Bridge Project (Heflin City Park):** Completed bridges in the City Park that are sturdy; support future floods as well as handicap accessible.

**Livestock Containment Pens:** Ranburne FFA Show Barn Pens to house exhibitor’s animals including lambs, swine, and cattle. This will enable and encourage more student involvement with the FFA show program.

**e-L.E.A.R.N:** Learning the Environment, Arts, Robotics, Nutrition and Natural Resources through Extension Project is a youth development plan designed to revolutionize the way today’s youth learn but also taught traditional life skills.

**Summer Brain Gain:** Helped prevent youth from falling behind and losing academic skills while school was out for summer vacation.

**JD Thompson Alumni Building Improvement Project:** Building improvements provided increased service to the community by offering a more efficient, multi-purpose facility for various community events.

**West Coosa Senior Center Auditorium Roof:** Replaced the roof on the auditorium where the center quilts, holds quilt shows, community events and fundraising events.
Cancer Outreach and Community Hope “COACH”: Added to the concession stand for future fundraising for the cancer patients of Coosa County. Also, built the COACH scholarship fund for Coosa County students who have immediate family with cancer.

Ag in Action Ag Books for Schools: Purchased Agricultural related books to distribute to each teacher that the Ag in Action Trailer visits.

Carlisle Outdoor Classroom: The outdoor classroom plan included raised beds, a butterfly garden, a fish pond and other wildlife habitats.

Etowah County Student Leadership Academy: The mission of Etowah County Sheriff’s Office Student Leadership Academy was to provide practical and educational experiences for future leaders of Etowah County, Alabama.

Volleyball Court & Fencing: Built a Valley Ball Court for Glencoe High School and Glencoe Kids Volleyball and included fencing.

Hokes Bluff City Handicap Playground: Placed a wheelchair swing and safety surfacing.

Operation Build-Up: Students developed, constructed and evaluated solutions for a tiny house project. Automotive, Welding, Utility Line Worker, Building Construction, and Industrial Tech students were involved.

Folsom Head Start Playground Protective Surfacing: Provided resilient surfacing on playground as required by National and State standards.

Gay - Battle House: Moved a historic log cabin from its present location to a safer & more prominent site in downtown Wadley.

Randolph County 4-H Shooting Sports Club: Engaged youth with the skills and disciplines of safe shooting. Taught youth the principles of responsible firearm ownership.

Powerline Worker Training Project: Funding allowed safety stop fall protection lanyards and secondary lanyard to meet OSHA safety requirements for Power Pole Climbing Training. This helped train students to climb power poles that are interested in careers with the power companies.

Go Green Preschool Play Space: This outdoor play space is filled with earth friendly features and fun activities to help kids learn about recycling, solar power, gardening and much more!

St. Clair County High School Orchard: This orchard will be used to teach twelve state content standards associated with the AG program’s pathway.

Council Members continued

Randolph
Terry Lovvorn
Dean Wysner
Larry Raughton

St. Clair
Paul Manning
Terry Templin
Lee Ann Clark

Talladega
Tony Haynes
Jay Watson
Frank Bannister

Tallapoosa
George Carleton, Jr.
Tommy Futral
Terry Martin

Cleburne County: Wit and Wisdom Reading Program gave students a renewed love of reading which prepared them for complex tests and rigorous assessments
**Coosa Valley RC&D Council Projects Continued**

**Emergency Notification Equipment**: The City used all funds to purchase NOAA weather radio units and distributed them throughout the communities.

**The Jolley Trolley**: Funds were used to purchase a handicap accessible golf cart to travel to and from the Joe Tom Armbrester Agriscience Center.

**Town of New Site Playground Equipment**: Installed playground equipment in the town’s park to complement the pavilion and walking track.

**Dadeville Elementary Club Days**: Half a day every month students were learning above and beyond the standard elementary learning.

**Mastering Math with Technology**: Implemented chrome books into the classroom. Students developed an understanding of statistic variability, how to summarize and describe distributions.

**Food for Life Farm Tour**: The program educated students in various Agriculture related fields and sparked an interest in fulfilling Ag related careers.

**Trillium Trail-Pathway to Learning**: Improved outdoor living classroom and walking/path for the Community; and provided access for Radney Elementary School students.

**Coosa Valley RC&D Meeting Travel**: Enabled Coosa Valley RC&D members to attend the RC&D National Meeting held in Minnesota.

**Coosa Valley RC&D Capacity-Training-Meeting Grant**: Funds were used for capacity building activities.

**Gardens Grow Communities**: Taught the ABC’s of gardening, converted vacant lots to productive gardens, provided fresh locally grown produce, and increased physical fitness opportunities through gardening activities.

**Mt. Canaan Church (Talladega)—** This after school program taught kids about soil, vegetable production, nutritional value and how to prepare the foods they harvested. The participating seniors mentored 3-4 students each and made themselves available to the students beyond the after-school program.

**Chambers County Career Technical Center Teaching Farm—** Students learned “hands on” to finish a pole barn, install fencing and build a chicken facility.

**St. Clair—** Emergency Notification Equipment—The City used all funds to purchase NOAA weather radio units and distributed them throughout the communities.

**Etowah 2018 Leadership Academy—** Representative Craig Ford making a few statements before presenting check to the Etowah County Sheriff’s Office where the mission of the program is to provide practical and educational experiences for future leaders of Etowah County.
GULF COAST RC&D COUNCIL

The Gulf Coast RC&D Council serves Baldwin, Escambia, and Mobile Counties. Its Board of Directors is comprised of representatives from the County Commissions and Soil and Water Conservation Districts from each of the three counties and the Poarch Band of the Creek Indians. The office is located in Atmore.

PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2018

19th Annual Catfish Roundup (Baldwin): A day fishing, fun & games with various disabilities and elderly.

Baldwin Watershed Coordinator (Baldwin): A Watershed Coordinator could implement projects within watersheds in Baldwin County, administer grants, & strengthen partnership within municipalities, county government & through collaborating agencies.

Baldwin County Farm Safety Day (Baldwin): The progressive Agriculture Safety Day will be offering many safety activity stations such as electrical, Sun, Fire, Tractor, Animal, Weather, Firearm, 911 & 811, & Weather Safety.


NBU Water Quality Grease Recycling (Baldwin): NBU is hoping to increase public awareness of the water quality and enhance our Grease Recycling program with an expanded outreach & education campaign.

Blakely State Park Culture Heritage (Baldwin): Educational signage project for the Historic Blakely State Park.

Livestock Facilities at BCHS Agriculture Dept. (Baldwin): Baldwin County High School would like to expand the livestock program. Students will need tools such as clippers, blowers, & a grooming chute to prepare the animals for the shows.

Atmore Rotary Splash Pad (Escambia): The Atmore Rotary and other community groups are collaborating to build a splash pad in Atmore to provide a safe environment for our children.

Flomaton Fire Dept./Personal Protective Gear (Escambia): Fire Gear and other Protective Gear.
COUNCIL MEMBERS

BALDWIN COUNTY
Otis French
Blaine Chastang
Randall Hastings
Frank Trione

ESCAMBIA COUNTY
Larry White
Raymond Wiggins
Frank Nalty
Nell Wiggins

MOBILE COUNTY
Tyler Cooley
Dr. Brenda Litchfield
John Pafenbach
Brenda R. Barnes

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS
Tracy Sells
Billy Smith

GULF COAST RC&D COUNCIL PROJECTS CONTINUED

McCall VFD Fire Prevention (Escambia): Provide all students in Pollard-McCall junior high school (k-8th grade) with Residential & School Fire Safety Procedures.

Turtle Point Boardwalk Renovation/Phase 3 (Escambia): Boardwalk Renovation Phase III for this educational facility open to the public and to school age children.

Lady Eagles Training Facility (Escambia): Covered training facility for girls softball athletics.

WS Neal Greenhouse (Escambia): Greenhouse for the WS Neal Agra science Program.

Collaboration Stem Lab (Escambia): Our goal is to open a collaboration lab designed to promote communication & collaboration skills through problem solving & hands on learning. The collaboration lab will be used for class group projects however the emphasis will be on robotics.

Semmes VFD Safety Initiative (Mobile): Our goal is for every home in our community to have working smoke alarms & a fire extinguisher. They also would like to purchase a fire extinguisher simulator to train people how effectively to use a fire extinguisher at schools, workplaces or in their home.
South Mobile Spay and Neuter (Mobile): Spay and neuter cats and dogs to decrease the population of unwanted animals in South Mobile County and to protect wildlife from feral populations.


Mobile County Septic Tank Voucher (Mobile): Program is to work reducing and/or eliminating the potential impact of polluted runoff into our coastal waters.

J E Turner Outdoor Learning Lab (Mobile): Expand their outdoor learning area by adding a handicap access. Add additional plants, a songbird sanctuary & nature trail.

USA Center Citrus Greening (Mobile): Will allow chemistry teachers and student’s professional training in high tech lavatory experiences.

Girl Scouts Camp 2018 (Area-Wide): To help provide camp scholarships/financial assistance for our 2018 camp season for girls in low income.

Baldwin, Escambia, & Mobile Water Festivals (Area-Wide): Request support to continue providing water festivals during 2017-2018 school year in all three Counties so that students can experience this program either during the one-day event of our subsequent mini-festivals.

GRRCD Outreach, Education, & Capacity Building (Area-Wide): Provides funding for training and travel to state and national meetings as well as any needed office equipment.

Atmore Rotary Splash Pad (Escambia): The Atmore Rotary and other community groups are collaborating to build a splash pad in Atmore to provide a safe environment for our children.
Gulf Coast RC&D Council Projects Continued

Community Development Projects:

Taylor-White Elementary Computer Lab: Replacement of computers for computer lab.

City of East Brewton: Sidewalk will provide safe routes for pedestrians from the neighborhoods to multiple destinations which include W.S. Neal Elementary School, W.S. Neal Middle School and the Summerchase Apartments.

Sail Center Restrooms Renovations: To provide safe, handicapped restroom facilities to our seniors that attend the SAIL Center.

Escambia County Commission: Boykin Damascus VFD desperately needs to purchase a brush truck and perform maintenance to existing equipment.

Digital Sign Project Nora Mae Hutchens Elementary: A new digital sign would help our school communicate with the parents and other members of our community.

Baker Baseball/ Softball Facility: This project will provide extra storage for both the Baseball and Softball teams in regards to saving and protecting equipment.

Collaboration Lab (Escambia): The collaboration lab will be used for class group projects however the emphasis will be on robotics.
The Mid-South RC&D Council covers the following counties: Autauga, Bullock, Butler, Elmore, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, and Montgomery. The office is located in Montgomery.

PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2018

Azalea Training Center (Autauga): Funds awarded to purchase computers, software and furniture.

Autauga County Water Festival (Autauga): Educate 4th grade students, teachers, volunteers on the importance of protecting and conserving our water resources, presentation by The Fishing Magician with hands on educational activities for students.

City of Prattville MS4-QCP (Autauga): ACSWCD requested funds to acquire MS4 facilitator to educate City of Prattville personnel, homebuilders, land developers and homeowners; included site inspections and notated problems.

Tools and Supply for Truck (Autauga): Autauga County Rescue Squad, Inc. – funds support purchases of three side rail tool boxes, air compressor and power wrench.


Education Tour Trailers (Autauga): Funds awarded to purchase two tour trailers for landowner educational tours in multi-county areas.

Keep Our Green Space (Autauga): Grant funds supported purchase and installation of (3) tree hugger benches in Pratt Park.

C.A.M.O. KIDS (Bullock): Purchase enclosed cargo trailer and supplies to safely store-transport educational and outdoor supplies.

The City of Union Springs/Pavilion and Kitchen (Bullock): Grant funds used to construct an outside pavilion –Union Springs Trail-provide quality public facilities/programs for access.

Town of Midway –Merritt Community Complex (Bullock): Purchase plumbing materials for installation.

Union Springs VFD Monitor and Water Curtains (Bullock): Funds awarded to purchase monitor and two water curtains; protect firefighters, increase firefighting capabilities enhance exposure protection.
Mid-South RC&D Council Projects Continued

Firehouse Repairs – Shackleville VFD (Butler): Purchase concrete, reinforcement materials -25x30x6 concrete slab for fire house truck bays.

Chromebooks and Cart-McKenzie School (Butler): Purchased Chromebooks with management software and storage cart.

Smokey Bear Suit (Butler): Purchased a Smokey Bear Suit to assist foresters in providing public education awareness on fire prevention and fire readiness in schools, special events and communities throughout Butler County.

Butler County Forestry Youth Camp (Butler): Grant funds used to purchase 22 twin mattresses for bunk beds in camp cabins.

F.I.W. Volunteer Fire Department (Butler): Funds were used to purchase (15) 32 Channel Hand held two-way radios and pagers.

Ag and Career Education Days (Elmore): ACES-ELMORE-Funds used to provide transportation for students and educational event materials.

Sparking the Arts-Elmore County Youth Art Show (Elmore): Purchase display panels w/storage facility, awards, printing, scholarships.

Tallassee Mills Preservation (Elmore): Preservation of 1884 Tallassee Mill – removing stair well, window casements, repair windows, doors, tilling debris.

Bobwhite Quail Project (Elmore): Purchased bobwhite quail day old chicks and quail eggs to educate 4-H youth on environmental stewardship and conservation education.

Tulotoma Snail Trail Phase One Mural (Elmore): Funds used to paint murals for Downtown Main Street Wetumpka, Alabama (pictured below).
Council Members continued

**Macon**
- William Hodge
- Tony Haygood
- Miles Robinson
- Vicki Watkins

**Montgomery**
- Jimmy Smitherman
- Bob Brooks
- Florence Cauthon
- John Mitchell

**At Large**
- Michael Jordan
- Sharon Redd

Heimlich Heroes (Lee): Curriculum materials to train and educate 4-H youth in the Heimlich Maneuver were purchased with grant funds.

Elder Abuse and Neglect Awareness Event (Lee): Grant funds used to support Elder Abuse and Neglect Awareness Month Event.

Lee County Extension (Lee): Funds supported the purchase of a refrigerator / freezer to accommodate children and adults attending classes, meetings, or other programs.

Lee County Extension (Lee): Purchase a double oven stove to provide diabetic cooking classes in partnership with East Alabama Medical Center.

Lee County Water Festival (Lee): Grant funds used to educate 4th graders about the effects of unclean water/water ways including the Amazing Water Planet Magic Show.

Lee County Soil Health Workshop (Lee): Purchased soil health test kits, infiltration kits, slake test kits for soil health workshop.

Central Elementary School Library Teaching Reading through Technology (Lowndes): Funds used to purchase Chromebooks.

Lowndes County Sheriff’s Office (Lowndes): Purchase personal protection vests with cases for torso area of body; includes firearm safety protection for deputies.

The Fort Deposit Senior Center (Lowndes): Funds used to assist in the partnership with new senior center in Ft Deposit. Purchased a stove, refrigerator, ice maker, washer/dryer, (2) Televisions, (1) computer.

Fishing for Families (MCSWCD) (Macon): Grant awards used to stock pond and site enhancement for general public use.
Mid-South RC&D Council Projects Continued

District 3 Multi-purpose Trail and Picnic Tables (Macon): Purchased materials needed to provide a crusher run multi-purpose walking trail and picnic tables.

Montgomery County Water Festival (Montgomery): Funds supported the Environmental Magic Show.

MCSWCD Tables/Chairs/Tent Educational Outreach Programs (Montgomery): Grant funds used to purchase tables/chairs/tents for outreach programs and events.

Youth Summer Program and Conservation Program (Montgomery): Grant Funds used to purchase educational materials to develop an Outdoor Classroom for youth during the summer months, including portable restrooms, wildlife classes and stock ponds for fishing.

MCSWCD Grain Drill (Montgomery): Purchased a 10' Great Plains No-Till Grain Drill for Montgomery County farmers and landowners.

Swim and Safety Program (Montgomery): Grant supported the purchase of materials for the Girl Scouts’ Lifeguard/CPR Training and Certification classes.

Alabama Birding Trails Education and Outreach (Montgomery): Funds awarded used to design, produce and install (2) 36x48 signs and metal stands in the MSRCD council area with logo. Develop curriculum and hold workshop for teachers held at Alabama Nature Center-Lanark-Millbrook, Alabama.
NORTHWEST ALABAMA RC&D COUNCIL

The Northwest Alabama RC&D Council consists of five counties: Lauderdale, Colbert, Franklin, Marion, and Winston. The office is located in Tuscumbia.

PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2018

Adaptive Physical ED Equipment: Funds were used to purchase special playground equipment for handicapped students at Phillip Elementary School in Marion County.

Beautification of Old Lee Hwy: Landscaped, purchase trees, roses, and other plants to be added along Old Lee Highway in the Town of Cherokee in Colbert County and the grant allow for landscaping as well of Main Street.

Building STEAM (science, technology, arts, engineering, and math) in Libraries: Funds were used to purchase 185 STEAM books and 55 STEAM activity sets for Marion and Franklin Counties.

Cancer Awareness: Purchase five hundred for shirts for the “Rogersville Cancer Awareness”/Town of Rogersville in Lauderdale County.

City Building Surveillance Camera: Purchase two cameras to enable the city to monitor town building and property in the Town of Hackleburg, Marion County.

Russellville Elementary Classroom Improvements: Purchase Dell Chromebooks for students to use at Russellville Elementary in Franklin County.

Russellville High School Classroom Projectors: Purchase 3 Dell Projectors to be used in classrooms and Optoma Projector to be used in the auditorium at Russellville High School in Franklin County.

Ashridge Fire Dept. Communication Project: Funds were used to purchase eleven Vertex VX-264 radios for Ashridge Fire Department which enable their firefighters to receive calls more efficiently in Haleyville, Winston County.

Computers and Printers: Funds were used to purchase computers and printers for the Town of Brilliant Police Department in Marion County.

Computer Upgrade: Purchase a tv, printer, cameras, and sixteen switch port for technology upgrade for the Guin Police Department in Marion County.

Cover Shed: Funds were used to purchase and install cover sheds for the Town of Double Springs in Winston County.

CPR Training: Purchase CPR equipment to replace damage and outdated equipment for the City of Haleyville Fire Department in Winston County.

continued
**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**LAUDERDALE**
Larry Irons  
D. C. Thornton  
Nancy O’Neal

**COLBERT**
Charles Hovator  
Bill Taylor  
James Bingham

**FRANKLIN**
Don Hastings  
Frank Mitchell  
Joel Pounders

**MARION**
Bob Burleson  
Charles Stone  
Don Barnwell

**WINSTON**
Ken Sunseri  
James Peak  
Roger Hayes

**NORTHWEST RC&D COUNCIL PROJECTS CONTINUED**

**Electrical Safety Training:** Funds were used by ARTAG to visit seventeen schools (K-12) to teach students safe electrical practices, to check buildings for electrical controls for hot circuits and code-required wiring and make recommendations to administration.

**Envirothon:** Funds were used to purchase t-shirts and materials in support of the Envirothon events which benefit high school age students as it tests their knowledge and skills in a competition.

**Farm City Tours:** Funds were used to assist in providing for the cost of nine buses for the tour that was held in conjunction with ALFA’s Farm City Week, led and organized by the Lauderdale County Extension Office.

**Fire Dept Smoke Detectors:** Funds were used to purchase smoke detectors to be given free to the residents by the Double Spring Police Dept in Winston County and to educate them on fire safety.

**Foster Grandparent-Colbert/Lauderdale:** Funds help support five Foster Grandparent volunteers in Colbert County Workstations.

**Franklin County 4-H Archery Program:** Funds were used to bow kit and archery equipment for 4-H Archery Program in Franklin County.

**Hamner Memorial Park:** Purchase six loads of infield dirt for our ballfields at Hamner Memorial Park in the Town of Arley in Winston County.

**Haleyville 9-1-1 Festival:** Funds were used for advertising and marketing efforts expanding the coverage area; the festival is held annually in Haleyville in Winston County, this year celebrated 50 years.

**Highway 57 Project:** Funds were used to assist in the installation of a 6” water main starting at Gravel Hill Road, 2.5 miles down County Road 57 in Franklin County.

**H.O.P.E. (Herbs Offering Personal Enrichment):** Funds were used to assist in the building of a greenhouse at Florence High School in Lauderdale County.

**Horticultural Training Center:** Funds were used to assist in building and in the installation of a greenhouse at Lauderdale County High School.

**IFDC Feed the Shoals:** Funds were used to assist in building a community garden comprised of ten raised beds on land adjacent to IFDC facility, built by 4-H programs and Extension Services in Colbert and Lauderdale Counties.

**Imagination Library Preschool Literacy:** Purchase and mailing of books to participants in the preschool literacy program in Franklin County.
Jerry Brown Arts Festival: Promote Festival to allow rural Northwest Alabama communities and students in Marion County exposure to the arts.

Lynn High School Computer Upgrade: Funds were used to purchase 61 Dell Chromebooks for Lynn High School in Winston County.

Marion County 4-H River Kids: Purchase an enclosed trailer to house Marion County 4-H River kids’ kayaks, paddles, personal flotation devices, educational supplies and safety equipment.

MayFest 25th Anniversary: Purchase printed pictures, frames, supplies, MayFest t-shirts, and accessories for the City of Guin in Marion County.

NWAL RC&D Lamb Jam: Funds were used for a WC Handy Music event, that NW RC&D used to promote locally raised lamb, prepared by a local chef.

NWAL RC&D 4-H Summer Programs: Promote the 4-H summer programs in each of our counties: Marion, Colbert, Lauderdale, Franklin and Winston.

Oka Kapassa Native Am Festival: Help pay performers, travelers, advertising and hospitality cost during the annual festival in Tuscumbia, Colbert County.

Park Playground Equipment: Funds were used to purchase playground equipment for A. L. Phillips Park in the Town of Lexington, Lauderdale County.

Parking Lot Paving: Pave Brilliant High School parking lot in Marion County; the parking lot had not been paved in over 25 years and had dangerous potholes.

PHS Robotics/Engineering: Purchase a Next Wave CNC machine, laser module and CNC router bits for the Phillip Robotic/Engineering students at Phillip High School in Marion County.

Picnic Area Improvements: Levelling, grading and sodding of the picnic area around the Old Railroad Bridge in Sheffield, AL in Colbert County.

Playground Equipment: Purchase playground equipment for the Lynn City Ball Park. Town of Lynn is located in Winston County.

Pre-K Nature Inspired Outdoor Play Area: Purchase sandboxes and sand for the nature-inspired outdoor play at West Elementary School in Franklin County.

Project LifeSaver: Purchase Project Lifesaver equipment for the Winston County Sheriff Dept.

Roxy’s Legend Toyland: Assist in the cost of reviving the musical production of Toyland through Franklin County Arts and Humanities Council in Russellville.

RHS Track & Field Digital Upgrade: Funds were used to purchase a tripod and timing clock for the timing camera for the track event, safety equipment, and tracking equipment for Russellville High School in Franklin County.
Northwest RC&D Council Projects Continued

Marion County River Kids

School Resource Office Project: Purchase supplies and laptop for school training purposes in the Town of Double Springs in Winston County.

Special Education Projects: Purchase Chromebooks and printers for the special education department at Tuscumbia City Schools in Colbert County.

Sugarplum Marketplace: Funds were used for advertising of the Shoals Junior League annual event (Sugarplum Marketplace) in Lauderdale County.

Super Citizen Program - Franklin County: Funds were used to assist in providing resource kits for schools, funding for the Great Americans Tour, and to provide educational/volunteer material and supplies for K–12 in Franklin County.

Super Citizen Programs - Colbert County: Funds were used to assist in providing resource kits for schools, funding for the Great Americans Tour, and to provide educational/volunteer material and supplies for K–12 in Colbert County.

Swayback Bridge Boat Ramp: Help with repairing and improving the Swayback Bridge boat ramp at Smith Lake in Winston County.

Tailgating with Local Foods: Promote a co-effort tailgating event with Lauderdale SWCD by providing free food prepared by a chef using local food ingredients. The event this year was held at Killen’s Farmers Market.

Virtual Computer Lab: Assist in upgrading and create a state of the art lab with 44 NComputing RX300 at Haleyville Elementary School in Winston County.

World War 1 Project: Designing and building a kiosk that tells the story of the Village built during World War I for officers working on the Wilson Lock and Dam which was originally a munitions plant for World War. The Village is located in Sheffield, Colbert County.
TOMBIGBEE RC&D COUNCIL

Tombigbee RC&D serves an eight county area: Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Pickens, Sumter, and Tuscaloosa.

PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2018

Living River: A Retreat on the Cahaba, Inc. (Bibb): Replace an unsafe, eroding canoe ramp with a safer version providing stable ease of public access while maintaining a light environmental footprint.

Bibb County Pregnancy Resource Center (Bibb): Purchase basic infant needs and to assist in healthy, safe parenting advice for mothers of infants.

Bibb County Child Advocacy Center (Bibb): was granted RC&D Funds to be used for staffing of a Bibb County satellite office.

The Bibb County Child Advocacy Center (Bibb): Work with child abuse prevention efforts and mandatory training for school employees in Bibb County.

The Neighborhood House (Bibb): Held a summer training program.

Bibb County Conservation District (Bibb): Conduct a 4-day workshop to help AgriScience teachers prepare students for career development.

The Fayette County Commission (Fayette): Replace old sodium arc lights with updated LED lights at the Fayette Multi-Purpose Complex.

The Fayette County Middle School (Fayette): used RC&D Funds to purchase 8 Lenovo Chromebooks for classroom use.

Hubbertville School in Fayette County (Fayette): utilized RC&D Funds to purchase 10 Chromebook laptop computers for students in ACCESS.

The Hubbertville Agricultural Department (Fayette): Replace deteriorating siding on the school’s greenhouse.

Hubbertville FACS Department (Fayette): Purchase necessary equipment to allow students to complete entrepreneurship classroom projects and activities.

Berry High School (Fayette): Purchase blinds to complete building renovation.

The Greene County CPC (Greene): Create a computer lab at the Resource Center to be used by students and citizens without access to technology.

The Greene County Commission (Greene): Remodel bathroom facilities at the Eutaw Activity Center making them handicapped accessible.

Hale County Natural Resource Council (Hale): Sponsor forums and tour Alabama Treasure Forest in Florence, Alabama to assist citizens in learning proper care of their forestry resources.
Tombigbee RC&D Council Projects Continued

Sawyerville Community Outreach Creation (Hale): Improve a playground and picnic area with children’s play equipment styled for children ages 6 months to 12 years.

Moundville Elementary School (Hale): Purchase Chromebooks to allow teachers to integrate technology in an effective manner to connect with students of diverse learning styles.

The Newbern Library, Inc. (Hale): Sponsor programs of tutoring and homework for younger students and job search/job skills training for adult students.

Southern Academy (Hale): Purchase iPads to make apps available to students for projects and activities using green screen technology and/or QR codes.

Hale County Fire Association (Hale): Purchase a battery powered cutter and spreader combo for vehicle extraction.

Hale County EMA (Hale): Construct a 30 x 30 building with concrete floor to house the EMA Shop.

Lamar County School of Technology (Lamar): Purchase updated simulators and equipment to better train high school students for today’s automotive repairs.

Sulligent High School received (Lamar): Purchase tables and chairs for 5 school classrooms to replace older furniture in poor condition.

Northwest Regional Library (Lamar): Purchase STEAM educational activity sets and books for Lamar County Libraries.

Emory Chapel CME Church Community & Family Life Center (Pickens): Utilized Tombigbee RC&D funds to improve the surface of the church parking lot for safety reasons.

Lamar County School of Technology purchased updated simulators and equipment to better train high school students for today’s automotive repairs.
The Town of Pickensville (Pickens): Purchase iPads and software upgrade to equip the town’s computer lab for use by its citizens.

Carrollton Public Library (Pickens): received RC&D funds to purchase 4 computers and toner for use by local citizens at the library.

UWA Charter School (Sumter): Purchase fencing to enclose the playground area for the newly created University Charter School.

The Panola Community Center (Sumter): received RC&D funds to make much-needed repairs to the aging roof at this public facility.

The Undergraduate Research Symposium (Sumter): Host the Undergraduate Research Symposium for students who have engaged in an independent research project under the leadership of a faculty mentor.

The University of West Alabama (Sumter): Host the Science Saturdays for under-privileged K-12 students to introduce them to the exciting fields of science and mathematics.

The Sumter County SWCD (Sumter): Sponsor the Sumter/Marengo County Water Festival to 4th grade students from both counties.

Walker Elementary School (Tuscaloosa): Pour concrete and add landscaping to a rock gravel courtyard, creating an attractive area for students to enter the school.

Holy Spirit School (Tuscaloosa): Drill a deep well outfitted with pump to provide a constant water source for irrigation at Jeremiah’s Garden.

UWA Charter School purchased fencing to enclose the playground area for the newly created University Charter School.

Buhl Elementary School Project turned a rocky hillside into a grassy area for students to enjoy sporting activities.

A memorial school monument was erected at Kennedy High School which was destroyed by fire in 1983.
Tombigbee RC&D Council Projects Continued

**Buhl Elementary School (Tuscaloosa):** received RC&D funds to be used for seed application (fertilizer, herbicides, grass removal) to prepare a playing field for students to enjoy physical activities.

**Lakeview Fire District (Tuscaloosa):** Purchase a skid tank and 11 HP pump along with various plumbing supplies.

**Walker Elementary School:** Poured concrete and added landscaping to a rock gravel courtyard, creating an attractive area for students to enter the school.

**Living River: A Retreat on the Cahaba, Inc.** utilized $5,000 in Tombigbee RC&D funds to replace an unsafe, eroding canoe ramp with a safer version providing stable ease of public access while maintaining a light environmental footprint.
Wiregrass RC&D Council


Projects and Accomplishments for 2018

Barbour County Groundwater Festival: Fourth graders learned about all aspects of water and other natural resources and instilled in them a general environmental and stewardship ethic.

Barbour County 4-H Leadership: This project impacted youth in a positive way by developing leadership qualities to become better leaders and citizens.

Coffee County Groundwater Festival: The Coffee County Groundwater Festival Committee conducted education activities focusing on water conservation to all 4th graders in the Coffee County schools.

Coffee County Forestry & Wildlife Field Day: The mission of the Coffee County Forestry & Wildlife Field Day is to educate children on the benefits of proper forest management while developing a desire to protect and conserve our forestland. Approximately 250 students from Coffee County Schools attended educational activities to support this mission.

Archery Equipment for Camp Humming Hills: Archery equipment was purchased for the Girl Scouts of America to use in summer camp.

Pleasant Home Envirothon Team: This project will provided students with instruction in soils/land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife and current environmental issues.

3rd Grade Poster Contest/Youth Event: The Covington County Education Coordinator went into classrooms and teach different aspects to students on a national conservation theme. The children then created posters capturing what they learned.

Covington County 4-H Supplies: Supplies were purchased to carry out the 4-H program in the Covington County Schools.

Crenshaw County 4-H Program: Crenshaw County Extension Office conducted classes to educate students and their families about forestry, wildlife management, natural resources and water quality.
COUNCIL MEMBERS

BARBOUR COUNTY
Pam Snead
Anne Adams
Carol Threatt
Earl Gilmore

COFFEE COUNTY
Dean Smith
Al Britt
Mike Newman
Shirley Bryan

COVINGTON COUNTY
Mike Birge
Lynn Ralls
Ken Northey
Bill Godwin

CRENSHAW COUNTY
Lisa Harris
Benjie Sanders
Troy Hudson
Ricky McElwain

DALE COUNTY
Kurt McDaniel
Monica Carroll
Dawn Peters
Doug Williamson

GENEVA COUNTY
Steve Dunn
Justin Barfield
Todd Brannon

WIREGRASS RC&D COUNCIL PROJECTS CONTINUED

Crenshaw County Groundwater Festival: The students participated in three hands on learning activities focusing on what groundwater is, the importance of water to all life, the water cycle and groundwater's role in it.

ACES 4-H Supplies: Dale County ACES purchased supplies for the 4-H program to be used in the Dale County Education System.

Geneva County Groundwater Festival: SWCD provided hands-on teaching for students about groundwater, conservation and recycling water for irrigation.

Mobile Cart of Wireless Technology: Purchased a mobile cart to house Ipads/laptops to provide tools that help students become 21st century learners.

Fire Department Training Tower: A fire tower was built to train firefighters and rescue personnel to become more efficient in using extension ladders and ropes.

Henry County GWF: Provided financial assistance to the Henry County Extension office to purchase supplies and materials to provide educational opportunities to 4th grade students to learn about groundwater.

Henry County 4-H: Provided financial assistance to Henry County Extension Office for the purpose of carrying out the 4-H program in Henry County Schools.

E-911 Education Materials: Henry County E-911 provided students coloring books, stickers, pencils and other materials to help them learn about 911.

Houston County GWF: Provided financial assistance to Houston Co. SWCD to purchase supplies for a groundwater festival to 1200 4th grade students.

Houston County Poultry Equipment for Education Exhibits: Equipment to host poultry exhibits will be purchased for this project.

Pike Conservation Education: SWCD held several educational programs to promote groundwater, conservation and forestry and wildlife.

4-H Water Quality & Leadership: Provided financial assistance to the Russell County ACES to help carry out the 4-H program in Russell County Schools.

Glenwood Education Garden: Students learned hands-on planting, caring for and harvesting plants.

Eufaula Elementary Drainage Repair: Sections of roads and drainage systems around the lunchroom, back school entrance and outdoor classrooms were damaged during storms. These areas were repaired.

Coffee Co. Technical Equipment and Infrastructure: Purchase Chromebooks, Interactive LCD Panels, and install additional infrastructure to support technology.

Wing Cemetery and Community Building: For the second phase of restoring the Wing Community Building, a new heating and cooling system was installed.
Giving Garden Rainwater System: A rainwater harvesting system was added to the Giving Garden to help in the demonstrations that take place. As a standalone component, the system provides an opportunity to talk about historical agricultural practices, technological changes in the way societies have obtained and stored water, and the benefits of water conservation.

Florala Recreation Park Revitalization: Work was done on two baseball fields in the park. Existing fence was repaired, along with the dugouts, provide bleachers and other general maintenance to the park.

Prepared: When It Counts: An AED was purchased for Covington County High Schools in case of an emergency. Time is of the essence in an emergency.

Tom Harbin Ag. Center Repairs: Lights were changed to LED to provide brighter lights in livestock arena. This will also save on electricity. Minor repairs to the roof were made.

Weather Radios: Weather radios were purchased and given to as many residents in Crenshaw County as possible.

Ariton Multi-Purpose Field: Created a multi-purpose field, collocated with current facilities. It will be used for football practice in the fall and softball and t-ball in the spring.

Old Clopton School: Repaired the roof so the community can use the school for community functions.

Breathing Air Bottles: Fadette VFD purchased 10 self-contained breathing apparatus’ with 20 air bottles. These are used for firefighters to be able to enter a burning building while breathing clean air through air masks.

Slocomb Police In Car Camera System: The police dept. purchased six in car dash mounted video surveillance systems. The cameras can be used for in court evidence the behavior of the police if someone wrongly accuses them.

Samson H. S. Access Road: Funds were used to properly solve drainage issues on an access road at the school where buses load and unload.

Henry County Back to School Supplies: School supplies were purchased and distributed to 200 disadvantaged students.

Police Vehicle Equipment: Emergency lighting, radios, in-car P/A system and cages for police vehicles.

Band Uniforms: Ashford High School purchased new student band uniforms.

Playground Equipment: Playground equipment was purchased and installed in an area that has nothing for kids.
Crawford Park – Phase II: Phase II will consisted of restoring an old 1900’s general store, construct a gazebo and a walking trail.

L.P. Stough Community Garden: A community garden was planted and maintained by low income residents to supplement vegetables for their tables.

Capacity Building: Provided funds for council members and staff to attend training meetings, staff development and conventions designed to share info.

Community & Economic Training: Training for legislators and grantees helped familiarize them with the rules pertaining to the RC&D grant program.

Super Citizen Program: A 10-week program designed to teach, inspire and empower elementary students through a deeper understanding, and applied practice, of their important roles as citizens.

Project Nature: Incorporates educational, recreational, and environmentally positive activities providing opportunities for special needs individuals to connect with nature, receive nature’s restorative benefits and enhance their quality of life while building skills learned in the classroom.

Chainsaw Safety Workshops: This project seeks to train municipal, professional, emergency response and homeowners of the safe use of chainsaws.

Brantley Fire Department 5 inch water hoses: Replaced outdated fire hoses to meet standards and increase water supply to fight large structural fires.

Tributary to Blanket Creek: Stabilized and restored an urban stream located in a densely populated and long-established residential neighborhood.

IPADS for Student Engagement: Purchased 50 IPADS to be used for K-5 and general and special needs classrooms.
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS

NON DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Alabama Association of RC&D Councils prohibits discrimination in all of its programs against race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The Association will take affirmative action to ensure that its programs are delivered without regard to their race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs and marital or family status. For additional information or to file a discrimination complaint write to:

The Alabama Association of RC&D Councils
P. O. Box 3128
Montgomery, AL 36109
Office: 334.240.3863

Web: www.alabamarcd.org