

The Pee Dee Progress

SERVING THE COUNTIES OF
CHESTERFIELD DARLINGTON DILLON MARION MARLBORO

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Marlboro High School Nature Center



Students and Faculty putting the finishing touches on the tree planting. Larger trees were planted by Marlboro County Public Works.

Work is progressing on the *Touch Ponds* for the Marlboro High School Nature Center. An underground irrigation system has been installed. Tree selection and planting for the *Arboretum* is complete. There was a *Community Workday* on March 17th with approximately 35 participants from the community. This Project is funded by an Urban and Community Forestry Grant from the SC Forestry Commission with contributions from Marlboro County Public Works, Marlboro Soil & Water Conservation District, the High School Science Club and Marlboro County School District.

When completed, this facility will also include *Pond Plantings*, a *Footbridge* across the stream between the ponds, an *Ampitheater* with seating for fifty or more persons, a *Composter*, *Boardwalks*, a *Pavilion* and *Feature Gardens*.

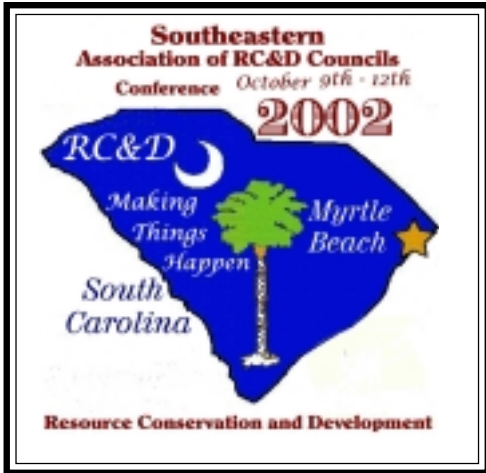
The Site Plan below shows the general layout of the facility. The Arboretum is nearing completion with the recent planting of four Palmetto trees, the State Tree of South Carolina. Other tree plantings consist of twenty different varieties of trees native to South Carolina including, sycamores, white oaks, tupelos, live oaks, maples, dogwoods, river birches, willow oaks, redbuds, and southern magnolias.



Developing the trail, Faculty, Students and Volunteers, doing what it takes to get the job completed.

Everyone is encouraged to visit the project website where numerous photos of the progress to date are available. <http://pdrcd.tripod.com/MCHproject.html>

South Carolina Resource Conservation and Development Councils to host Southeastern Association of RC&D Councils in 2002.



Preparations are underway for the Southeastern Association of RC&D Councils' Regional Conference to be hosted by the South Carolina Councils next year. The conference will be held in Myrtle Beach on October 9th - 12th, 2002 at the Spring Maid Beach Convention Center. The planning committee is being led by the Santee-Wateree Council with assistance from the other six councils in South Carolina. The Pee Dee RC&D Council is assisting by developing a website for the conference. The early version of this site may be visited at: (<http://scrcd.tripod.com/SE2002.html>). The Pee Dee Council also developed the conference logo which is displayed to the left. This Conference and associated tours will provide an excellent opportunity for RC&D in South Carolina to present accomplishments to the RC&D community of the region.

Other Current Efforts

Craig Mill Park Chesterfield - Urban Forestry Grant requesting funding for improvements to the Nature Trail - Pending
 Blenheim Nature Center (Baker's Trail) - Urban Forestry Grant requesting funding for a Forestry Learning Lab - Pending
 Marlboro HS Nature Center - Urban Forestry Grant requesting Phase II funding to complete this project. - Pending
 Learning Tree Child Development Center - Grant application submitted for grounds improvement - Pending
 Snake Branch Water Quality (Hartsville) - DHEC 319 Proposal requesting funding for TMDL Implementation. - Pending
 Pine Recreation Center (Darlington) - Outreach Grant application submitted for facility restoration/enhancement. - Pending
 POWER for Wildlife - FY 2001 contracts have been approved and FY 2002 Applications being accepted.
 Rural Fire Protection Water Storage Tanks (Dillon) - Tanks being installed and fitted with hydrant heads.
 Dry Fire Hydrants (Darlington) - Additional hydrants being installed in the Hartsville area.
 Thompson Creek TMDL Project (Chesterfield) - Collection and analysis of water samples is continuing.

The Pee Dee RC&D is grateful to the local Conservation Partnership; including the NRCS Field Staff, the Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners and Staff, SC Department of Natural Resources Field Staff, and Citizen Volunteers. Without the support and efforts of the Partnership, many of these projects which we coordinate would not exist.

Pee Dee Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, Incorporated

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