THE PEE DEE PROGRESS PAGE 4

Pee Dee Regional Trails Plan Released

The Pee Dee Regional Trails plan which was prepared by the Palmetto Conservation Foundation through a grant from the South Carolina Trails Program, was recently presented to the public and is available on the internet at: http://www.palmettoconservation.org/pee_dee_trail_plan.html (all spaces in the URL are underscores). This plan includes existing as well as planned and proposed facilities in the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina. The Pee Dee RC&D is a sponsor of this plan and is available to assist local communities with implementation projects.

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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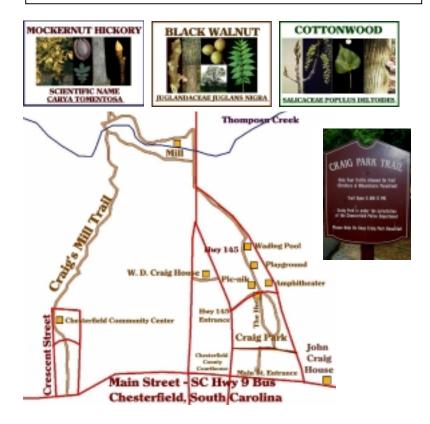
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March 2002 Spring Edition Volume 2 Issue 2

Craig Park & Craig's Mill Trail Tree Identification Project Completed

The Craig's Mill Trail Tree Identification project in Chesterfield County was recently completed. This project was funded by an Urban and Community Forestry Grant from the South Carolina Forestry Commission. Components of this project include Tree ID signs along the trail, a project brochure, and a project website (http://craigmilltrail.tripod.com). Sponsors of the project include the Town of Chesterfield, Pee Dee RC&D, and The Chesterfield Soil and Water Conservation District. Others contributing to the project were the Chesterfield Field Office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA), the Chesterfield High School Agricultural Science Class, and the South Carolina Forestry Commission. This facility provides an excellent opportunity for the local citizens to experience nature, learn about the environment and local history, and get some healthful exercise.





Marlboro High School Nature Center

Tree Identification Project

The Marlboro SWCD with assistance from the Pee Dee RC&D has obtained a grant from the Urban & Community Forestry Program of the SC Forestry Commission for identifying the native trees along Nature Center Trail. Other components of this project include the placement of durable tree identification signs along the trail, developing a trail website, establishing an amphitheater, and promoting the Nature Center as an Urban Forestry Resource.

Primary Contributors

Urban and Community Forestry Program of the South Carolina Forestry Commission Marlboro County Public Works Marlboro High School Science Club Dale Willis Dimension Stone The Pee Dee Resource Conservation and Development Council Marlboro School District Marlboro Soil and Water Conservation District Willamette Industries Hanson Minerals Palmetto Brick Company Southern States Bennettsville

http://mhsnature.tripod.com

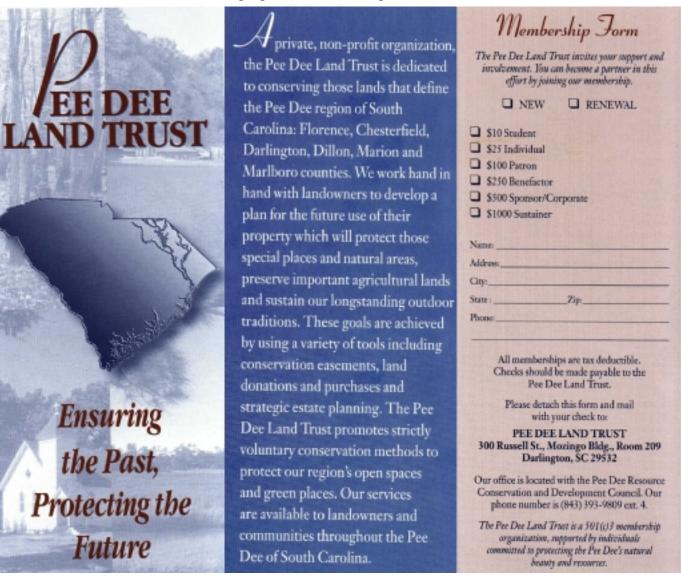




Marlboro Nature Center

Pee Dee Land Trust Conducting Membership Drive

http://peedeelandtrust.tripod.com



Current Efforts of the Pee Dee RC&D

- Craig Mill Park Chesterfield Urban Forestry Grant Completed
- Blenheim Nature Center (Baker's Trail) Urban Forestry Grant requesting funding for a Forestry Learning Lab Not Funded
- Marlboro HS Nature Center Urban Forestry Grant. Completed Phases I&II
- 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. Not Funded
- Pine Recreation Center (Darlington) Outreach Grant application submitted for facility restoration/enhancement. Pending
- POWER for Wildlife Seven FY 2002 Applications received.
- 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, characterization of the Watershed started.
- Pee Dee Carolina Bay Preservation Grant Application Submitted to The Foundation for Deep Ecology. Pending
- Pee Dee Geographic Information Emphasis this year is on Staff Training and development of software for Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planning. We also plan to provide local soil surveys to the public in an electronic format on compact disk.
- St. Johns School Nature Center Darlington We have a new project assisting the Darlington County School District with a grant application.