

Southeastern Association of RC&D Councils to Convene in SC

The South Carolina RC&D Council is hosting the Southeastern Association Conference this October. The seven councils in South Carolina are diligently preparing for this event with the effort being led by the Santee-Wateree Council. The conference will be conducted at the Wyndham Resort in Myrtle Beach, October 9-12, 2002. All South Carolina RC&D Council Members are encouraged to participate by contributing their time and talents to make this a memorable experience for our visitors. Information is available on the conference website at: <http://scrcd.tripod.com/SE2002.html>

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

Chesterfield	Darlington	Dillon	Marion	Marlboro	Staff
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All programs and services of the Pee Dee Resource Conservation and Development Area Council are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.

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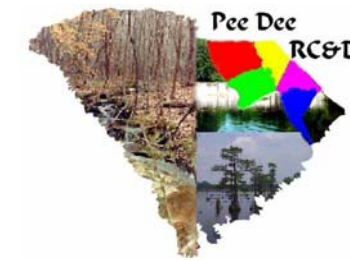
The Pee Dee Progress

SERVING THE COUNTIES OF
CHESTERFIELD DARLINGTON DILLON
MARION MARLBORO

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Soil Survey Information on Compact Disk being Developed

We are currently in the process of developing fully self-contained compact disks with digital soils information suitable for the non Geographic Information System (GIS) user. The Pee Dee RC&D has developed a unique data format which allows for the viewing and printing of soil mapping data. Polygons of mapping units with symbology of soil types are overlaid onto 1999 aerial photography and then converted to Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf).

The data is available in several files. A data set for the entire county is in one file which can be zoomed, from the entire county down to a view of one inch equaling six hundred feet of ground surface. Mapping at the latter scale is not recommended since the data was developed to be accurate at a scale of approximately one inch equaling approximately sixteen hundred to two thousand feet. Another file on the CD contains a zoomable index to locate your area of interest within the county. The CD contains a file with an interactive index of the county, which allows the selection of portions of the county to be printed on letter size paper at a scale of approximately one inch equaling 1667 feet.



Soil Survey of Darlington County, South Carolina

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

In cooperation with
South Carolina Agricultural
Experiment Station and
South Carolina Department
of Natural Resources,
Land Resources and
Conservation Districts
Division

**Preliminary Data
in advance of the
"Official Survey"
Publication**

This data presentation
is a product of the
Pee Dee Resource
Conservation and
Development Council.
May 2002

Also contained on the compact disk is a file containing the manuscript text data and soil interpretation data in table format. Each compact disk is self-contained, not requiring that any software be installed your computer. The shareware, Adobe Acrobat Reader, is installed on each disk and automatically opens when the CD is placed into your computer's CD ROM. The disk when inserted opens to an interactive page with the same characteristics as an internet web page. The user may select the file of choice from this opening page. Furthermore, the files are interlinked with Acrobat bookmarks, which allows the user to move to and from the different files. The CDs are being made available to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts in each County and may be obtained for a small duplication fee by contacting the local SWCD office or the Pee Dee RC&D.

Pee Dee RC&D Area Plan Update

The long range plan for the Pee Dee RC&D Area is in the process of being updated. A draft of the updated plan is available in its entirety from the RC&D's website at: <http://pdrcd.tripod.com> Everyone is encouraged to submit comments pertaining to community needs, which should be included in this effort. The images on the facing page depict many of the projects implemented during the Pee Dee RC&D Council's first nine years. An overview of the proposed updates suggested thus far follows below.

THE PEE DEE

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREA PLAN

Overview of the 2002 Update

The original broad goals A – D have been deemed sufficient and remain unchanged.

A. A GROWING ECONOMIC BASE WHICH PROVIDES JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND A BETTER QUALITY LIFE FOR OUR RESIDENTS

While significant accomplishments have been made in the areas of environmental education and dry hydrant/water storage installation, these objectives are being continued in the updated area plan. Additional objectives for this goal added in 2000 are: Assist units of governments, planning boards, chambers of commerce, soil & water conservation districts, and others with transition into the digital information age. Provide guidance and assistance with digital data development, and digital technology transfer; and, Encourage and assist local governments with adoption/implementation of Geographic Information Systems for cadastral data management and land use planning. Objective 3 has been modified to include an emphasis on cultural heritage facility/program development as a means of promoting the tourism industry.

B. A FLOOD REDUCTION PROGRAM WHICH PROVIDES A QUALITY ENVIRONMENT

Numerous ongoing projects have been adopted for this goal. Notable accomplishments are the Brown/Miles Drainage Project in Marlboro County and the Latta Flood Control Project in Dillon County. No new objectives have been added for this goal, however objective 3 has been modified to place an emphasis on the development of digital flood insurance maps for the area.

C. WATER QUALITY/QUANTITY INITIATIVE TO UPGRADE OUR STANDARD OF LIVING

Notable accomplishments include: Establishment of the Pee Dee Land Trust/Mitigation Bank, The Crooked Creek Water Quality Demonstration Project in Marlboro, and development of the Decision Support System for Agricultural Waste Management in cooperation with the University of South Carolina's Earth Science Resource Institute. The Thompson Creek Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Water Quality Assessment Project is an ongoing project related to this goal. Also, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources is currently inventorying the amount/quality of surface and subsurface water for this area.

D. RECREATIONAL AND WILDLIFE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CITIZENS AND VISITORS

Accomplishments include: Power for Wildlife, development of the Pee Dee Regional Trails Plan in cooperation with the Palmetto Conservation Foundation, Love Sports Complex in Marlboro, Blue Street Ball Field in Darlington, and developments on the Craig's Mill Trail in Chesterfield. A new objective is added to assist with implementation of the Pee Dee Regional Trails Plan. Also, Objective 4 has been modified to emphasize the development of cultural heritage/agritourism facilities and programs.

Pee Dee RC&D Plan Update Cover with Credits

The cover of the Area Plan Update has been designed to depict many of the projects implemented during the Council's first nine years of existence. Sincere gratitude is expressed to those who have helped make the council a success.



Cover Credits Pee Dee Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, Incorporated Area Plan 2002

300 Russell Street, Room 209 Darlington, South Carolina 29532	Pee Dee RC&D	(843) 393-9809 Ext. 4 http://pdrcd.tripod.com
The Thompson Creek Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Water Quality Assessment Project	Logo	Blenheim School Outdoor Classroom "Baker's Trail"
Performing Velocity Measurement in Thompson Creek for data model.	Pee Dee Land Trust The Pee Dee Land Trust/Mitigation Bank was established in 1999 to serve the needs of area citizens.	Boardwalk along the Nature Trail
Marlboro High School Nature Center Bennettsville, SC	Signing of the first easement accepted by the Pee Dee Land Trust	Craig's Mill Trail Chesterfield, SC
Amphitheater, Arboretum, and Pavilion for environmental education.		Swinging Bridge over Thompson Creek and Chesterfield High School Students participating in tree identification along the trail.
Constructed Wetland Marlboro County	Crooked Creek Water Quality Demonstration	Power for Wildlife
Constructed wetland demonstration, for the treatment of residential waste from a failing septic system.	Strip-till Planter bought by the project and loaned to cotton producers for trial demonstrations.	Winter grain planted for wildlife forage beneath a Santee-Cooper Transmission Line in Darlington County.
Marlboro High School Nature Center Bennettsville, SC	Soil Surveys on Compact Disk	Geographic Information System Development
Touch Ponds and footbridge for environmental education.	Digital soil surveys on CDs provide soils information for landusers in a user friendly format.	Digital farm field boundary development in Marion County. This data layer was also developed for Marlboro and Dillon Counties in cooperation with USC.
Sublimation printing of tree identification signs.	"Greenwoods" Outdoor Classroom at Bennettsville M.S.	Brown Miles Flood Control Low income area Marlboro, Co.
Dry Hydrants for fire protection were installed in all five counties.	Pee Dee Regional Trails Plan in cooperation with Palmetto Conservation Foundation	PageLand H.S. Erosion Control Chesterfield County
	Water Storage for fire protection, Dillon County	

Current Efforts of the Pee Dee RC&D

- Soil Surveys on Compact Disk – Digital soil surveys in an easily accessible user friendly format - Ongoing
- St. John's School Nature Trail (Darlington) - Urban Forestry Grant requesting funding for an outdoor classroom – Pending
- Pee Dee Urban Forestry Awareness Project - Urban Forestry Grant request – Pending
- Pine Recreation Center (Darlington) - Outreach Grant application submitted for facility restoration/enhancement. – Pending
- POWER for Wildlife – Five FY 2002 Applications approved.
- 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 and WS characterization continuing.
- Pee Dee Carolina Bay Preservation - Grant Application Submitted to The Foundation for Deep Ecology. – Not Funded
- Pee Dee Geographic Information – Emphasis this year is on Staff Training and development.
- Cheraw Intermediate School – Chesterfield Co. – We have a new project request to assist the Chesterfield School District with development of an outdoor classroom.
- The Pee Dee Regional Trails Plan Implementation – The plan 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).