



FOUNDATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVERVIEW (1.29.15)

All work is performed in partnership with NC Soil and Water Conservation Districts, NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, NC Soil and Water Commission, NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Soil and Water Conservation, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service as well as other specific project partners; only funders are identified below.

IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT

- Funded the closure of 223 inactive animal waste lagoons; impacting treatment of over 270,000,000 gallons of waste including 880,000 pounds of Nitrogen and 3,000,000 pounds of Phosphorus (over \$5,000,000 – Smithfield Foods/ NC Attorney General’s Agreement of July 2000)
- Established a pilot program to test alternative tools to protect a vital military training route over 18 eastern counties; directly impacting over 4000 private landowners and 600,000 acres, indirectly influencing the national Sentinel Landscapes efforts (over \$3,000,000 – Department of Defense, Marine Corps, and Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund)
- Funded water quality projects on tobacco farms; impacting over 3,600 acres of cropland (over \$1,000,000 – NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission)
- Funded the On-Farm Water Resources Initiative including development of an agricultural water resource report: AgH₂O, <http://www.ncagwater.org> and 6 on-farm water resource systems. The report was used in justification to develop a new state conservation program, Agriculture Water Resources Assistance Program (over \$250,000 Altria Group, Smithfield Foods/ NC Attorney General’s Agreement of July 2000, the Rural Center)
- Funded a Soil Heath Initiative including planting over 50 acres of cover crop demonstration plots conducting educational workshops; impacting over 300 producers and conservation professionals (over \$180,000 Cotton Incorporated, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Conservation Innovation Grant Program)
- Funded transactional costs for conservation easements on over 2,200 acres of prime farmland (over \$84,000 – Phase II Tobacco Certification Entity)

EDUCATING THE CITIZENS

- Funded the installation of 87 outdoor environmental learning centers on school campuses and District education facilities; impacts over 200,000 children (over \$194,000 – Caterpillar, Z. Smith Reynolds and Walmart Foundations)
- Funded a Careers in Conservation Scholarship program for college aged people training in natural resource management; to date awarded 19 scholarships (over \$37,000 in private donations)

BUILDING DISTRICT CAPACITY

- Provided 35 no-till drills to districts and funded planting Native Warm Season Grass demonstration plots (over \$545,000 – NC Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Golden LEAF Foundation, the Altria Group, and the Tobacco Trust Fund Commission)
- Provided 82 computers and 66 laser printers to districts helping farmers meet nutrient management requirements (\$350,000 – NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission)
- Funded an Ecosystem Services Initiative to explore alternative methods of offsetting impacts to threatened and endangered species in the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem (over \$200,000 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Conservation Innovation Grant Program)
- Provided over 2,500 training experiences to district supervisors and staff related to management issues, meeting procedures, conservation easements, grant writing, and intensive leadership skills (over \$190,000 – The Altria Group, Philip Morris USA)
- Funded development of “Guidebook on the Law and Practice of Soil and Water Conservation in North Carolina”, the “Working Lands Preservation Resource Manual” as well as a Strategic and Communications Plan for the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (over \$65,000 – The Altria Group, Philip Morris USA, Progress Energy, Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund)