

## **IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT**

- Funded the **closure of 250 inactive animal waste lagoons**; impacting treatment of over 296,000,000 gallons of waste including 1,151,000 pounds of Nitrogen and 4,809,000 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**, influencing the national Sentinel Landscapes designation. Current focus is targeted landowner outreach and natural resource assessments. (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: AgH<sub>2</sub>O**, <http://www.ncagwater.org> and 7 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 transactional costs for **conservation easements on over 2,200 acres of prime farmland** (over \$126,000 – Phase II Tobacco Certification Entity)

## **EDUCATING THE CITIZENS**

- Funded the creation of **4 regional Mobile Soils Classrooms, including 3 Rainfall Simulators**, an NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts education initiative (over \$110,000 NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, NC Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, Duke Energy Foundation, Smithfield Foods Hog Production Division, Associations of North Carolina Farm Credits)
- Funded the installation of **104 outdoor environmental learning centers** on school campuses and District education facilities; **impacts over 200,000 children** (over \$268,000 – Caterpillar, Z. Smith Reynolds, Duke Energy Foundation and Walmart Foundations)
- Funded a Careers in Conservation Scholarship program for college aged people training in natural resource management; to date **awarded 35 scholars with scholarship** (\$72,500 in donations, Bowman Family lead donor)

## BUILDING DISTRICT CAPACITY

- Provided **54 pieces of pasture management equipment to districts** and funded 30+ pasture management demonstration plots (over \$889,000 – NC Agriculture Development & Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, Golden LEAF Foundation, the Altria Group, the NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, and the NC Agriculture Foundation)
- Funded a Soil Health Initiative including planting over **150 acres of cover crop demonstration plots** and conducting educational workshops; **impacting over 1000 producers** and conservation professionals (over \$255,000 Cotton Incorporated, NC Agriculture and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Conservation Innovation Grant Program)
- **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)

*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 above.*