

De-Go-La RC&D NEWS

Building a Better
World Through
Partnerships

September, 2000

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De-Go-La RC&D Represented at National Association of RC&D

The National Association of RC&D Councils held their 3rd Meeting in Ogden, Utah on April June 18-21, 2000. Approximately 2000 people attended the event.

The De-Go-La RC&D Council was represented with Kenneth Finster, and Coordinator, Jerry Pearce attending the meetings. An exhibit booth that featured information on the Sustainable Poultry Litter Management Project was manned in the exhibit hall along with exhibits from all 50 states. Informational brochures on the project were handed out to some 1200 individuals in attendance.

Concurrent sessions were held on many topics relevant to RC&D councils, such as Board Development, Fundraising, Legislative Affairs, Non-profit Structure and Management, and Financial Management Principles. In addition, lectures and training sessions were held on Carbon Sequestration Issues, Constructed Wetlands for

Home Sewage, Civil Rights and Ethics for Government Employees. Overall, this meeting offered a wide variety of opportunity for improving operations of RC&D councils by allowing participants to share ideas.

The General Session was highlighted by addresses to the group by Pearlle Reed, Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Reggie Skains, President of the National Association. Throughout the meeting, there were many opportunities to network with council members and coordinators from across the United States. A special opportunity for De-Go-La occurred when a session was held on alternatives for livestock waste management. During this session, we were able to exchange ideas with other councils and individuals involved in managing poultry waste.

The next National Meeting will be held in Spokane, Washington in 2003 and promises to be another outstanding event. Make plans now to attend!

New Dry Hydrant Funds Are Available!!!

As a result of the State Dry Hydrant Committee Meeting in Kurten, TX on June 28th, the Texas Forest Service was able to increase the 50/50 cost share program for Dry Hydrants from \$500. to \$800. per fire department. In addition to the cost share increase, the Forest Service agreed to include cost share for culverts to be put in bar ditches along state and county roads to

allow fire trucks easy access to the hydrants. Grant funding has been increased from \$200,000. last year to \$400,000. for the year ending September 1, 2001. The grant monies can only be used by non-profit entities and units of government.

Interested parties are encouraged to apply for the funds early. The De-Go-La RC&D council can provide assistance in ordering dry hydrant materials.



RC&D..... "Making Things
Happen"

Don't Forget!!! Mark November 16th on your calendar for the De-Go-La Annual Meeting!!!

De-Go-La RC&D NEWS

The De-Go-La RC&D Board of Directors meets quarterly to conduct business. Anyone wishing to attend these meetings is welcome and encouraged to attend. Your input is appreciated!

Projects, etc. by: Jerry Pearce, Coordinator

The Board of Directors are sponsoring a grant writing workshop for October 4th and 5th for non-profits, units of government and others interested in learning the basics of grant writing. Cost of the workshop is \$100. per person and will cover refreshments and working materials for the two days.

De-Go-La RC&D is co-sponsoring a Fire Protection Workshop for firemen, homeowners and others interested in preparing their community for fire fighting. The Workshop will be held October 3rd at the 4-H Activity Center in Helotes, Texas.

The De-Go-La Board of Directors will take a Board Retreat on October 25th and 26th. During the retreat, directors will receive training on RC&D Basics, Marketing the RC&D Program, and Grass Roots Lobby-

ing. They will devote a portion of the retreat for strategic planning to set objectives for the Area over the next 3-5 years.

We want to welcome the Port of Port Lavaca/Point Comfort as a sponsor. Robert Van Borssum has been designated as the port representative to the RC&D.

We are nearing the end of the year for reporting projects in the National RC&D Database. During the year, the De-Go-La RC&D has added 26 new projects to the Area. Of the total projects added, 20 have been completed.

As a reminder, the De-Go-La RC&D office has a grant library and grant search software available for use. There is a fee of \$25.00 per grant search. Sponsors are allowed up to two free grant searches per year. For info. call 361-570-7138