

Highlights from the Hills

A Newsletter of the
Rolling Hills Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc



Issue 22, Fall 2010

SOUTHERN QUILT TRAIL UPDATE!



Council Member, Denney Rogers, installing Cotton Ball Quilt on barn in Heard County

The Southern Quilt Trail continues to expand and more communities are gaining interest in participating! To date, there are more than 30 quilt squares across five counties. This project will promote local tourism and support local businesses in addition to providing exposure to folk art and history in our area.

Contact the home of the Southern Quilt Trail at 770-439-1780 or the Rolling Hills RC&D Council office more information about how to participate!



Old Schoolhouse/Buchanan

Inside this issue:

Quilt Trail	1
SE RC&D Conference	1
No-Till Update	2
Farm Succession	2
Tree Planting Project	3
Wheels to Work	3
UPCOMING EVENTS	4

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
ROLLING HILLS RC&D ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2010
Location: Hightower Falls-Polk County

SE RC&D Conference

We are honored to report that our Coordinator, Cindy Haygood, received the award for 2010 Southeastern Outstanding Coordinator at the SE RC&D Conference last month!

The SE Conference was held at the Beau Rivage Hotel in Biloxi, Mississippi. Representatives attended from RC&D Councils from across the SE United States. The Rolling Hills delegation included Council President, Johnny Groover; Council Member, David Jackson; and Council Coordinator, Cindy Haygood.



ROLLING HILLS WELCOMES OUR NEWEST NO-TILL CUSTODIAN!

During the spring of 2010, Rolling Hills added a new no-till custodian to our team. **Bill Cline** accepted the responsibility of managing the no-till drill in Coweta County. Since he has taken on this responsibility, he has also coordinated an effort to transfer the Council's aerator to Coweta County and serve several landowners.

Bill is currently the Secretary of the Coweta County Cattlemen's Association and the Vice President of the West Central Georgia Region.

To contact Bill regarding scheduling the Coweta County no-till drill or aerator, you can contact him at 770-502-3583.



Bill Cline, No-Till Custodian

FARM AND FOREST LANDOWNER-FARM SUCCESSION EDUCATION

A grant from the **USDA, Risk Management Agency** was secured by Rolling Hills in order to establish a multi-state education effort (through Georgia and South Carolina) to assist landowners with farm succession planning. *Farm succession is defined as the process of decision making that protects a land's agricultural and forest productivity while preserving family relationships and enhancing community development.* The material developed and presented will be geared towards farm and forest landowners and include specific information on wills, trusts, business development, transfer of assets, taxes, land preservation, etc.

A bi-state workbook is underway to assist landowners with planning the future of their farm. Andrew Branan with the **North Carolina Farm Transition Network** will be leading the development of this workbook and assisting with educational activities.

Rolling Hills will be working with partners throughout Georgia and South Carolina to initiate workshops and providing speakers to groups to introduce the information.

Keep an eye on our website for upcoming events and educational activities. If you are interested in hosting a workshop, please contact the RC&D Office. Funding is available to assist with these educational events through the RMA grant.

We are partnering with the following events to deliver the farm succession message. Check out our website for more info.

October 7— Oconee River RC&D/Bartram Forestry and Wildlife Field Day, Milledgeville
October 7—Seven Rivers RC&D/Brantley County Forestry Field Day, Nahunna
October 26— GA Organics/Conservation Easement Workshop, Atlanta
November 3-5—GA Agritourism Conference, Dillard
November 16—SC Dept of Ag/Farmers Market Managers Workshop, Columbia, SC





TREE PLANTING GETS ROLLING AGAIN!

by John Hendrickson, Certified Arborist

After a summer hiatus, **Georgia’s Growing Green Program**, is gearing up again for tree planting. Rolling Hills RC&D is partnering with **Limestone Valley RC&D** in this local tree planting initiative funded by the 2009 **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)** and administered by the **Georgia Forestry Commission**.

We have 39 additional projects planned for the fall and next spring in six area counties. A total of 389 trees will be planted and maintained for 1 year on public property in our Council areas. Projects benefit the region by supporting local nurseries, landscape contractors and designers, and equipment sales and rentals. Additionally, the trees will offer lasting benefits by providing shade and reducing energy consumption, reducing storm water runoff and soil erosion, improving water quality, and contributing to the aesthetic appeal of the landscape.

The 426 trees that were planted last spring under the program have thrived, recording over 90% survival, despite withering temperatures and a significant rainfall deficit this summer.

Location	Projects	Trees
Government services	11	51
Public parks	12	163
School yards	11	154
Other public facilities	4	17
Right-of-way projects	1	4
	39	389



WHEELS TO WORK UPDATE

by Kevin Patterson, Project Administrator

July through September 2010 was a good quarter for Wheels to Work. Four clients were placed in vehicles in Carroll, Douglas and Polk County. Each client was a single mother with from 1-3 children had no means of transportation, having to rely on family, friends and co-workers to carry them to work, the grocery store, doctor, etc. Each expressed the frustrations of continually asking friends, neighbors and family members to carry them to work and other places. Upon receiving their vehicle each exclaimed: “I now have freedom!”

Congratulations to Carolyn Watkins! Carolyn recently paid her vehicle off a full year in advance. Carolyn is a dependable and responsible person, always making her payments on time. Also, congratulations go to Amanda Manzanares. Amanda, a mother of 8 children, paid her vehicle off earlier this year.

Also, thanks to **Carroll EMC** for their continued support. Rolling Hills RC&D received a \$2500 grant from the Carroll EMC Round-Up program to support Wheels to Work!



PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN PROTECTING AND IMPROVING THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF RESIDENTS IN THE RC&D AREA.

ROLLING HILLS MEMBERSHIP

Bartow County

Clarence Brown
Davis Nelson

Carroll County

Bill Chappell
Wendy Crager, Treasurer*

Coweta County

Sandra Parker
Jim McGuffey

Coosa River SWCD

Jewell Tuck, Secretary

At Large Member

Johnny Groover, President*

Douglas County

David Lathem
Carolyn Westbrook

Floyd County

Irwin Bagwell
Thad Rush

Haralson County

Allen Poole
Keith Golden

West GA SWCD

Claude Abercrombie, Vice Pres.*

Three Rivers RC

Kimberly Dutton

Heard County

Denney Rogers, At-Large*
Doug Craven

Paulding County

Bruce Coyle
Charles Rutland, Past Pres.*

Polk County

Larry Reynolds
David Jackson

Northwest GA RC

David Howerin



*Executive Committee Members

ATTENTION!

If you would like to receive your copy of the Rolling Hills RC&D newsletter Highlights from the Hills electronically, please let us know at admin@rollinghillsrcd.org or call the Council office at 770-749-0444 and leave us your e-mail address.

Also, if you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please let us know . You may also e-mail us at admin@rollinghillsrcd.org.



Welcome to our newest addition!

We want to welcome Lilyanna Kate to the RC&D family. This beautiful baby girl was born to our Watershed Project Manager, Susan Pullen, on June 25th! Congratulations, Susan!

COUNCIL STAFF

Cindy Haygood, NRCS RC&D Coordinator
cindy.haygood@ga.usda.gov

Kevin Patterson, Project Administrator
Wheels to Work Program Manager
ksp512@rollinghillsrcd.org

John Hendrickson, Community Forester
jhendrickson@rollinghillsrcd.org

Susan Pullen, Watershed Project Manager
spullen@rollinghillsrcd.org

Shanna Borden, Assistant Watershed Project Manager
slborden@rollinghillsrcd.org

UPCOMING EVENTS!

SOUTHERN QUILT TRAIL MEETING
October 12, 2010/10:00 a.m.
Bremen City Hall

ROLLING HILLS ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON
October 28, 2010
Hightower Falls/Polk County

SEPTIC MAINTENANCE TRAINING- DOUGLAS COUNTY
October 30, 2010
Douglas County Courthouse

GA RC&D MEETING AND COUNCIL MEMBER TRAINING
November 1-2, 2010
Location: Cohutta Springs

GA AGRITOURISM CONFERENCE
November 3-5
Location: Dillard House

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital of family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice or TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA and Rolling Hills RC&D are equal opportunity providers and employers.