

# CLINCH-POWELL RC&D

## RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

### WHAT WE DO!

**Our Vision:** Every person deserves to live in a healthy and vital community where families are valued, youth are celebrated, education is a priority, the environment is clean, jobs are plentiful and leadership is not only visionary, but shared.

**Our Mission:** To demonstrate regional leadership, secure resources and deliver programs and services that build strong, vibrant communities where conservation and development are in balance with the needs of the people.

The Clinch-Powell RC&D focuses on seven major issue areas:

- Basic Needs
- Conservation
- Education and Arts
- Infrastructure
- Quality Communities
- Sustainable Economic Development
- Tourism

## DO YOU KNOW?

### WHO WE ARE!

The Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation & Development Council has been "building strong communities, caring for people, and protecting natural resources" since 1989. We are regionally focused, serving the needs of **Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins and Union** counties here in Tennessee. Clinch-Powell RC&D grew out of a two-state effort to protect the Clinch and Powell rivers as a means to seek solutions to common problems. In our first fourteen years of operation, many significant milestones marked our progress including creation of the Clinch River Community Project in 1993, designation of one of twenty Enterprise Communities in 1999 and becoming a Community Development Housing Organization in 2001.

The Clinch-Powell RC&D serves as the fiscal and lead entity for the Enterprise Community and is the host agency for AmeriCorps.

### HOW WE SERVE!

The Clinch-Powell RC&D is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization. We implement projects and provide services that directly benefit and enhance the lives of the citizens in the communities that we serve. The work that we do would not be possible without our many partnerships with other community agencies and the hard work of our many volunteers. The RC&D believes that working together, we can make our communities stronger, healthier, better places to live and work.

The Clinch-Powell RC&D is governed by a volunteer board of directors comprised of 15 members, 3 from each of our counties. These board members serve as trustees representing the diversity of interests in the communities. Board members serve terms of six years. They govern the policy, direction and activities of the RC&D council.

The Clinch-Powell RC&D board members currently include Cherry Acuff, Nancy Barker, Kim Belcher, Pearl Coffey, Sandy Columer, Joyce Hobson, Jenny Lawson, Dave Lietzke, Sheldon Livesay, Bill Rhea, Dennis Shipley, Barbara Smith and Herman Smith.

FY 2003  
Annual Report

**What the RC&D has accomplished in 2003?**  
*See for yourself!*

FY 2003  
Annual Report

### Education and Arts

- 2950 Students engaged in hands-on learning that connects the classroom to the real world
- 167 Student-driven service projects completed
- 98 School-community partnerships
- 253 Volunteers served over 1200 hours
- 30 Educational awards earned for college (valued at over \$70,000)
- 282 Students involved in environmental education
- 2 Nonprofit management workshops conducted assisting 10 other nonprofit organizations

Hancock Middle School students in the Appalachia CARES program designed, wrote and published a school newsletter. Students rallied the enthusiasm and spirit at the school for reading and writing among students and staff. As a reward, the students traveled to Nashville where they toured the state capitol and met Governor Phil Bredesen. For more information about the Appalachia CARES service-learning program contact Trenna Brown at (423) 639-4803.



### Quality Communities

\$20,000 in grants awarded by the Enterprise Community to local nonprofits.

Clinch Powell Community Fund established with the East Tennessee Foundation. Initial donation by the Enterprise Community will lay the foundation for a permanent source of grant funding for our communities once Enterprise Community funds are gone.

### Tourism

Secured funding for phase II of "Not Barn Yesterday" project. Heritage quilt square murals will be painted on barns and buildings throughout the region.

### Infrastructure

A video-conferencing center was established at the Holston Business Development Center bringing our total to seven centers serving the region. The Centers were retooled to be internet based and very affordable to operate.

### Sustainable Economic Development

- 25 Small businesses counseled within the Enterprise Community
- 2 Small business loans awarded
- Sponsored grant writing workshops for 10 nonprofits

The RC&D awarded its first loan through its Revolving Loan Fund to the owners of Chapel Market in Union County. This small grocery store serves the Sharps Chapel community with convenient access to basic household items and groceries.

The Clinch-Powell Revolving Loan Fund has money to lend in amounts up to \$15,000 at low interest rates for qualified small businesses in the RC&D area. For more information contact Candy Barbee at (865) 828-5927.

### Basic Needs

USBank, Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, THDA, HUD and the RC&D have teamed up as strong community partners in providing affordable housing in the Persia Community in Hawkins County. Over 1.5 million dollars is being invested in this development of affordable housing which began construction this fall. Congressman Bill Jenkins and Nancy Barker, RC&D Board Member and Rogersville Chamber of Commerce Director attended groundbreaking ceremonies in September.



### Conservation

- 11 Landowner "best management practices" projects
- 11,370 Feet of fencing
- 9 Heavy use areas for livestock
- 4 Water systems and 8 water tanks
- 45 Acres protected by RC&D incentive program
- 50 Acres protected by the Nature Conservancy easement program

For more information about the Clinch River Community Project, contact Ronald Lambert at (423) 733-2100.

The Clinch River Community Project is entering into land protection incentive agreements with landowners in Hancock County. Landowners receive an incentive payment for the 20 year lease period. In some cases, these agreements ensure that sensitive lands stay protected and in some cases land and habitat will be restored adjacent to the river.



### Award Winners 2003

**Best Friend**  
**Douglas Cherokee Economic Authority**  
Housing Technical Assistance and Training Program

**Educator of the Year**  
**Darla Leonard**  
Rutledge Elementary School

**Volunteer of the Year**  
**Anita Hopkins**  
Hancock County Public Library

### Coming Attractions in 2004!

- Environmental Education Center to be established.
- Forgivable down-payment and closing cost assistance for families with modest to moderate incomes.
- 250+ no down-payment, no interest used car loans for eligible families.
- More homebuyer education and one-on-one counseling

*AND MUCH MORE!*

### FY 2003 Financial Report

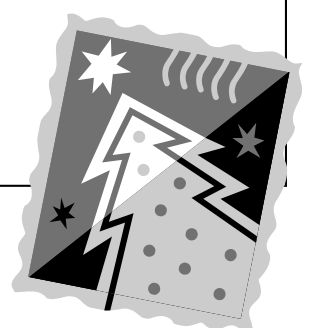
We work to keep our overhead expenses as low as possible. In FY 2003 our general and administrative expenses accounted for approximately 14% of total expenditures meaning that 86 cents of every dollar spent went directly to mission related programs here in your local community.

Programmatic and operational expenses are covered by income earned primarily through grants from federal, state and private sources (75% of income in FY 2003). Unrestricted revenues generated through public support, service income and other sources accounted for 25% of revenues in FY 2003.

### Give generously and give at home.

While the Clinch-Powell RC&D has made great strides in 2003, our future work depends on public support that we use to leverage outside resources into our region. In the last four years alone more than \$86 million in investments have come to this region through the efforts of the RC&D, the Enterprise Community and our partners. Please consider making a year-end gift to assist the RC&D in our valuable work here in YOUR local community.

**Remember, your gift is tax-deductible!**



Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year  
From the Board and Staff at the Clinch-Powell RC&D!



**Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation and Development Council**

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Visit us on the web! Log on to [www.clinchpowell.net](http://www.clinchpowell.net)