

De-Go-La RC&D News



Building a Better World Through Partnerships

State Association Meeting

The annual meeting of The State Association of RC&D Areas was held in Wichita Falls, TX. on April 17 through 19, 2001.

Representing the De-Go-La RC&D area were: Directors Frank Montez, Richard Martinez & Marshall Holybee and Coordinator Jerry Pearce.

The theme for this years meeting was "Water" We Going To Do? Some of the topics covered were Drought Preparedness and Water Resource Planning in Texas.

Congressman Charles Stenholm, (D) Abilene, was the keynote speaker for the awards luncheon. He addressed the group with his concerns for the USDA programs and policies related to drought.

During the business meeting Marshall Holybee, at large director from Bayside, was elected Secretary/Treasurer of The State Association of RC&D's. He will serve a two year term as Sec/Treas. Also elected, from Stephenville, was Dr. Joe McFarland as 1st Vice President.

At the close of the business meeting Joe Cantu resigned his position as President of the State Association. He did this to allow himself to better fulfill his duties



Marshall Holybee, 2nd VP

as the President of the National Association of RC&D's.

UPDATE:

At the Executive Board Meeting in San Antonio on June 8th, Marshall Holybee was appointed to fill the position of 2nd Vice Pres. of the State Assoc. of RC&D's. James Hubbard, of Chisholm Trail RC&D, was appointed to replace Holybee as Sec/Treas.

June, 2001

Board of Directors

Chairman
Kenneth Finster
Calhoun County

Vice Chairman
Lawrence Friedrich
Fayette County

Secretary/Treasurer
Darrell Blaschke
Karnes County

Directors
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Larry Deyton
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Richard Lee
Larry Miles
Richard Martinez
Gordon Porter
Chris Rivera
Marshall Holybee
Linda Wolff

Coordinator
Jerry Pearce

Executive Secretary
Joyce May

Administrative Assistant
Mary L. Green

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DE-GO-LA RESOURCE
CONSERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT
MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE RC&D AREA
IS TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP AND
COORDINATION, TO PROVIDE A
QUALITY OF LIFE AND A QUALITY
ENVIRONMENT FOR PEOPLE LIVING
IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

PHILLIP MORRIS
U.S.A.

Deadline is August 31, 2001

Phillip Morris U.S.A. provides grants to help ensure that young people have access to resources that can help them face challenges and make good decisions. The company provides funding to expand or enhance after school or extended day programs that focus on youth from ages 10 through high school, with an emphasis on the 10-14 age group. The company is currently accepting applications for hunger relief/food related expenditures, with grants supporting direct food costs for nutritious meals or snacks for youth participation in after school or summer programs—e.g., refrigerators or microwave ovens that allow a program to expand. Grants of up to \$25,000 will be made through the program. All applicant organizations must be at least 3 years old and tax exempt section 501 c (3) of the IRS Code. If you would like more information about this program contact Phillip Morris at: CONTRIBUTIONS ADMINISTRATOR, Phillip Morris U.S.A., 2001 Walmsley Boulevard, Richmond, VA. 23234. Telephone: (804)274-2703 or you can check out their website which is www.phillipmorris.com.

Ten Most Common Reasons Grants Are
DECLINED

After submitting a proposal for a grant, your organization is declined. You ask yourself the question why. Here are ten reasons gleaned from a grant giving foundation.

1. The organization does not meet our priorities.
2. The organization is not located in our geographical area of funding.
3. The proposal does not follow our prescribed format.
4. The proposal is poorly written and difficult to understand.
5. The proposed budget/grant request is not within our funding range.
6. We don't know these people. Are they credible?
7. The proposal doesn't seem urgent. I'm not sure it'll have an impact.
8. The objectives and plan of action of the project greatly exceed the budget and timelines for implementation.
9. We've allocated all the money for this grant cycle.
10. There is not enough evidence that the program will become self-sufficient and sustain itself after the grant is completed.





FINDING FUND PROVIDERS

How do you find the resource providers who are most likely to help you develop a project? It's usually easier to start your search close to home with people who will lean favorably toward your program. Here are some tips.

- ◆ Spread the word broadly among friends and associates. Social networks can be very effective. You may not know all of those in your networks who have the ability and interest to help.
- ◆ Identify high-potential targets. Start with an advantage. Identify potential resource providers with whom you have a solid relationship or who have an interest or commitment to the values and ideas involved in the project.
- ◆ Develop a short pitch. This should describe your project and the ideas behind it, establish your credibility in the beginning this project and brush on the types of assistance you need to get the ball rolling. You should also collect backup material for those who want details about the project.
- ◆ Ask for what you need. Be strategic about how and when you ask. Don't be afraid to close the deal. Be willing to sell and close the deal, even with friends and associates. Unless you are insincere or unreasonable this shouldn't be misconstrued as social manipulation. Asking friends or associates gives them the opportunity to help out and be a part of something important and exciting.

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

<http://txforestservicetamu.edu>
<http://www.trdc.org>
<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs>
<http://www.fdncenter.org>



FIRE Act Grants

On March 20th in a meeting of the five major fire service organizations and the director of FEMA it was announced that FEMA's budget request for the FY 2002 will include \$100 million to carry on the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for a second year. Joe M. Allbaugh, director for FEMA, said, "as the Nations first responders to disasters, the fire service community deserves support, the continuation of this program acknowledges their importance." 19,000 applications for grants were submitted, a breakdown of some of the requests and totals are: Fire Prevention \$71.8 million, Equipment \$410 million, Vehicles \$1.9 million, Training \$109.3 million.

As of June 13 the third and final group of review panelists completed the task of selecting recipients for grants. Now the panel reviews will be sent to FEMA and the U.S. Fire Admin. for further processing, consideration and selection.

Even though the dates for this grant program were not advertised the response was huge. In the future we will try to get a lead time on this program so we may issue information about it.

The website for FEMA is:
www.usfa.fema.gov/grants



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

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



Projects, etc.

By: Jerry Pearce, Coordinator

We have received several requests from communities for a Community Resource Team Assessment. This is a program developed by the Texas Rural Development Council whereby a team of professionals in community development volunteers their time to assist a community in evaluating their challenges and opportunities for growth and development. The assessment includes a tour of the community and day-long listening sessions where citizens are asked to provide their input on what they feel is good and bad about the community and what they would like to see take place in the next 5-10 years. Team members develop detailed written reports based on what they heard and saw during the assessment. Included in the reports are specific recommendations on how to go about achieving goals and overcoming challenges. The reports are then compiled and made available to the community. This is an excellent way for a community to receive valuable information for a nominal amount of expense. At present, Calhoun and Bee Counties have formally requested a Resource Team visit.

The De-Go-La RC&D, in association with Eagle Consulting, sponsored another Grant Writing Seminar at the Cuero Public Library April 24-25. Twenty individuals from around the area attended the two-day seminar and received training in the basics of grant writing. If you are interested in attending the next seminar, call 361-570-7138.

Mary Green, our new office assistant, is able to do grant searches using the new FCsearch software purchased by De-Go-La. If you need information on private foundations that might be able to fund your project, call Mary at 361-570-7138.