

De-Go-La RC&D News



Building a Better World Through Partnerships

April, 2008

Board of Directors

President -
Gary Burns
Vice Chairman -
Larry Deyton
Secretary/Treasurer -
Darrell Blaschke

Directors

Bee County -
Frank Montez
Calhoun County -
Neil Fritsch
DeWitt County -
Curtis Afflerbach
Fayette County -
Albert Nunn
Goliad County -
Bill Janecek
Gonzales County -
Bud Wuest
Jackson County -
Larry Deyton
Karnes County -
Darrell Blaschke
Lavaca County -
Dennis Kocian
Live Oak County -
Richard Lee
McMullen County -
Linda Henry
Nueces County -
Edward Jungmann
Refugio County -
Lenny Anzoldua
San Patricio County -
Fred Nardini
Victoria County -
Gary Burns
At Large -
Rhonda Stastny
Coordinator -
Jerry Pearce
Executive Assistant -
Joyce May
Administrative Assistant -
Kim Santos

OFFICE LOCATION:

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Website www.degolarcd.org

“All De-Go-La RC&D programs and services are offered on a nondiscrimination basis without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status, political beliefs, parental status or protected genetic information”

New Officers Elected for De-Go-La:

At the De-Go-La RC&D Annual Meeting in Beeville, the following were elected to serve as officers for the Board of Directors for 2008:



President
Gary Burns
(Victoria Co.)



Vice-President
Larry Deyton
(Jackson Co.)



Secretary/Treasurer
Darrel Blaschke
(Karnes Co.)

We are looking forward to some great leadership for 2008!

New Directors Appointed:

With the retirement from the board of Charles Netardus and Lawrence Friedrich, the Board of Directors welcomes two new members, Dennis Kocian (Lavaca Co.) and Albert Nunn (Fayette Co.). We want to thank Charles and Lawrence for their dedication and service and look forward to Dennis and Albert joining the Board.

**The next Quarterly meeting of the De-Go-La RC&D Directors will be held on
May 29, 2008 in Refugio, Texas.**

Summer Destinations -

Summer is just around the corner and sure to be a hot one, here are a few places in the De-Go-La area where the entire family can enjoy some quality time together.

Lavaca County

Splashway Water Park located in Sheridan of Highway 90-A provides a cool opportunity for everyone in the family to relax and have fun. The park covers 4.5 acres of land and boasts a 3.5 foot deep 900 foot river for your floating enjoyment. For more information visit their website: www.splashway.org

Nueces County

Goose Island, located on Aransas Bay north of Rockport offers camping, birding, fishing, picnicking, boating and wildlife study and observation. Less than 45 minuets from Corpus Christi or Rockport, it proves an excellent stop on any family outing itinerary. Website: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/goose/

Also in Nueces County are over 100 miles of coast. Beginning at Corpus Christi and stretching outward to the Padre island National Seashore. Padre Island has garnered federal seashore status. Beach goers will delight in the natural , untouched state of the beach. For visitor information check out the website: www.nps.gov/pais
Located in Corpus, is the lovely Corpus Christi Botanical Garden. Boasting more than 2500 orchids, 70 different hibiscus and over 300 rose varieties this will be an interesting stop during the summer road trip.
www.ccbotanicalgardens.org

Goliad County

A visit into history will lead the family to a trek of the Presidio Labahia, the Goliad State Park and the Mission Espiritu Santo State Historic Park. At these sites, battles took place which were precursors to the war that took place at the Alamo. Visit the web site for more information on camping and attractions.

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/goliad/

DeWitt County

Cuero offers the DeWitt County Historical Museum located inside the Bates Sheppard House. Enjoy the old fashioned styled garden and take a walk back through time. Cuero also has several antique shops and sports a wonderful coffee shop on Main Street. Visit the Cuero Chamber of Commerce website at www.cuero.org/thingstodo.shtml for more information.

Live Oak County

Located in the South Texas Brush Country, George West is known for its native habitat and hunting. Situated between Choke Canyon Reservoir and State Park and Lake Corpus Christi State Park, if hunting, fishing, boating and swimming are your pleasure you will find it here. www.georgewest.org/ for more information on this town rich in the culture of Texas.

Bee County

Beeville also offers the antique lover a variety of shops. The Skidmore Museum is sure to be a treat. Beeville is also known for its hunting and salt or fresh water fishing. With plenty of parks and historical things to see, this is a good place to stop and stretch the legs. www.txcoastalbend.org/beeville.html for more information.

Calhoun County

Matagorda Island State Park, located in Port O'Connor and accessible only by boat, is a worthwhile visit for the wildlife enthusiast. 38 miles of undeveloped island is ideal for beachcombers and nature lovers to watch wildlife in its' natural habitat. Many threatened/endangered species such as, the whooping crane, peregrine falcon, brown pelican and Kemps Ridley sea turtle call the island home. Camping and day trips are available. For more information go to www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/matagisl/

Jackson County

Lake Texana State Park in Edna is 575 acres of family fun. Camping, boating, fishing, birding, skiing, sailing, hiking, picnicking, is there anything you can't do here? www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/laketexa/ for more information.

HAVE FUN !!!!!!!

Southwest States Association of RC&Ds Meeting:

President Gary Burns (Victoria County), Director Lenny Anzaldua (Refugio County), and Coordinator Jerry Pearce attended the Southwest States Association of RC&Ds conference held in St. Louis, Missouri on March 2-5. Along with representatives from Texas, Louisiana, Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma; they attended sessions on topics such as water quality, rural fire protection, and economic development. During the business session, Marva Beck, President of the Texas Association of RC&Ds was elected President of the Southwest States Association. Gary Burns has been appointed to serve as Legislative Liaison for the Texas Association of RC&Ds. Congratulations to both Gary and Marva. Pictured below from left to right are: Gary Burns, Lenny Anzaldua and Marva Beck.



Revolving Loan Fund:

The De-Go La Resource Conservation and Development Council has established a revolving loan fund to promote the establishment and expansion of small businesses in rural areas of their sixteen county service area. The purpose of the fund is to provide financing for those individuals who are seeking a commercial loan, but lack adequate capital or collateral resources to fully qualify with a commercial lender. Loans may be available to first time business owners or those who are wishing to expand their business existing business venture. To qualify, borrowers must have good credit and ability to re-pay the loan over its lifetime. Funds may be used for most business expenses including operating expenses, real estate purchases and equipment. For information on loan applications please contact the De-Go-La office at (361) 570-7138.

This Years Matching Grant Recipients:

Helping Hands & Hearts for Yoakum— Dewitt County
Ellinger Volunteer Fire Department— Fayette County
Copano Bay SWCD—Refugio County
Beeville Volunteer Fire Department— Bee County
Sacred heart Catholic School—Lavaca County

De-Go-La Resource Conservation and Development Project, Inc.

Mission Statement

*The mission of the RC&D area is to provide leadership and coordination,
to provide a quality life and a quality environment for people living in rural communities.*



De-Go-La RC&D
312 S. Main Rm. 310
Victoria, TX. 77901

Name

Address

City State Zip

Refugio Resource Team Report:

Refugio County was the recipient of a community assessment requested by the local Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by numerous organizations in the community. An eight member team spent two days in the communities within Refugio hearing about the strengths, challenges, and needs in the community. At the end of the two days, team members met with citizens in a Town Hall meeting to tell what they had heard and give some tips for a few “quick victories”.

During the following month each team member prepared a report with detailed recommendations on how to achieve success for the community. The reports were compiled and presented to the community for review. A follow-up meeting to set goals and plan actions is set to take place in May.

Communities interested in taking part in a community resource assessment may request one by contacting the De-Go-La RC&D office at 361-570-7138.

De-Go-La Adopts New Area Plan:

The De-Go-La RC&D has adopted a new area plan which has been approved for use by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The new document will guide operations through the next five years. You may download a copy of the updated area plan at http://www.degolarcd.org/about_us.htm