

Fiscal Year 2008-2009

(JULY 1, 2008 - JUNE 30, 2009)

Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc.

Resource Conservation and Development

847 Curry Drive Suite 103 • Asheboro, North Carolina 27205
Telephone: (336) 629-4449 x5

Annual Report

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Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc.

PCC was established in 1967, authorized by Congress in October of 1968, incorporated in 1986, and received 501(c)(3) status in March of 1987. PCC is a not for profit organization that addresses natural resource conservation and development issues. Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc. serves Rockingham, Caswell, Guilford, Alamance, Orange, Durham, Randolph, and Chatham Counties of North Carolina. Piedmont Conservation Council Inc. seeks to promote equity, access, and inclusiveness to all persons for all programs and services; without regard to race, gender, age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, marital status, or disability.

—MISSION—

The purpose of Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc. is to promote environmental quality and conservation while working to ensure sustained economic development. This will be achieved by “*Leveraging people and resources for innovative community and conservation projects throughout the Piedmont Region*”.

Mission: “We will protect and preserve our natural environment while enriching the quality of community life

— BOARD OF DIRECTORS —

Rudy Langley Chairman
Hazel Puckett..... Vice-Chairman
Frank Green Secretary
Vacant Treasurer
Bill Alston Director
Talmage Layton Director

— COUNCIL MEMBERS —

<u>Rockingham County</u>	<u>Guilford County</u>	<u>Durham County</u>	<u>Randolph County</u>
Hazel Puckett	Alex Ashton	Talmage Layton	Bill Alston
Frank Green	Anne Hershey	Wendy Jacobs	<i>vacant</i>
Larry Baker	Herb Hendrickson	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
<u>Caswell County</u>	<u>Alamance County</u>	<u>Orange County</u>	<u>Chatham County</u>
Forrest Altman	Dr. Janet McFall	<i>vacant</i>	Brenda Williams
<i>vacant</i>	Rudy Langley	<i>vacant</i>	Eddie Culberson
<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>	Norton Webster

Julie Elmore..... RC&D Coordinator

- **Area Plan Goals**

LAND CONSERVATION ELEMENT

Sub-element: Farmland Preservation

- GOAL 1:** Engage Soil and Water District Staff and County Planning Staff in the development of Farmland Preservation Plans
- GOAL 2:** Assist in the preservation of at least two farms in PCC’s Area by 2012

WATER MANAGEMENT ELEMENT

Sub-Element: Urban Water Quality

- GOAL 3:** Improve water quality in the Jordan Lake Watershed by reducing non-point sources of water pollution

Sub-Element: Rural Water Quality

- GOAL 4:** Improve water quality in 5 Sub-Watersheds (Drainage Areas less than 200 square miles) by identifying non-point sources of water pollution by 2012.
- GOAL 5:** Improve Cooperation amongst Water Resource Groups in the Dan River Basin by 2012

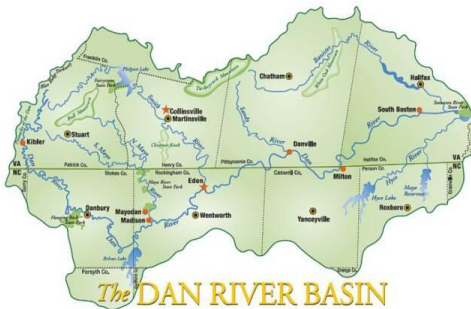
LAND MANAGEMENT ELEMENT

Sub-Element: Energy Conservation and Alternative Energy Production

- GOAL 6:** Facilitate Advanced Energy Opportunities to reduce dependence on foreign oil and help North Carolina become a leader in providing renewable energy to consumers

- **Projects Completed**

Dan River Coalition



Project # 575 Formation of Dan River Coalition The Dan River Coalition was started to accelerate conservation by improving communication among local leaders, state and federal agencies, non-profits, and businesses that have direct daily interaction with water quality in the Dan River Basin. The Coalition consists of over 40 individuals whose job descriptions mandate water quality, conservation, or recreation in some way. By coming together the Coalition has established common goals for conservation, water quality, and recreation in the Dan River Basin. Coalition Goals were voted on in November 2008 for conservation, water quality, and recreation in the Dan River Basin.





Project # 576 Guilford County Farmland Protection Plan Acquisition of Funding Phase: PCC recently acquired a \$31,200 grant award from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Development and Farmland Protection Trust Fund to assist Guilford County Soil and Water, Cooperative Extension, and Voluntary Ag District with their Farmland Protection Planning. NC Farm Bureau also contributed \$2,500 and Greater Greensboro Community Foundation awarded a grant last year for \$7,500. Planning will include GIS analysis, farmer opinion surveys, economic trend analysis, agricultural innovation, transportation analysis, best soils, largest land tracts, etc. The plan will be complete by July 2010.

Project # 577 Alamance Community College Stormwater Project Acquisition of Funding Phase: PCC received a \$494,500 grant award in February 2009 from the North Carolina Clean Water Trust Fund to provide a pilot project to treat stormwater with an innovative, multi-phase BMP capture approach. Unfortunately the project implementation phase is on hold until North Carolina balances its state budget and restores funding to NC CWMTF. The project will include design of flush toilets from a cistern collecting roof top rain water in a new building currently under design, retrofits to an existing parking lot, rain gardens, and numerous drop structures. Students will participate in early monitoring of existing conditions and follow up with water quality monitoring after the stormwater BMPs have been installed.



Project # 578 Golden Graham Milk Processing Plant Acquisition of Funding Phase: PCC is assisting Carolina Dairy Co-op with business start-up technical assistance, grant writing, and acquisition of funding for a necessary piece of machinery to treat the wastewater from their plant. Locally produced milk will be processed and distributed from Graham, NC and will go from cow to table in 24 hours. PCC received a \$500,000 grant award in January 2009 from Golden LEAF to provide financing solutions to be used to purchase equipment to treat the wastewater effluent from the plant for the Town of Graham. The equipment purchase will come in the form of a low interest loan. PCC income from the project will be used for business incubator programs for farmers, value added processing training, organic market training, crop transition assistance, farmland preservation assistance, and regionally grown marketing strategies of farm products.



Project # 578 Trees Asheboro to Trees NC Expansion Plan: “Trees NC” is a registered 501c3 that sought out financial planning, grant writing, strategic planning, and organizational development assistance from PCC. Since partnering with PCC, the local grassroots organization has begun to stretch its branches by expanding from the City of Asheboro to the Piedmont Region and with a three year expansion plan throughout the state of North Carolina. PCC completed an Expansion Plan for Trees Asheboro to Trees NC. Trees NC works with at-risk urban youth, impoverished communities, and city planners to plant trees in urban areas as a way to take root and plant an environmental ethic in communities. In addition to tree planting, they offer environmental leadership initiatives, stream clean-ups, urban community gardening programs, greenhouse and nursery programs, and community improvement projects such as murals. www.treesnc.org Since partnering with PCC, Trees NC has sought \$112,450 in grant funding and received \$26,800 for projects such as YES! Eastside (Youth Environmental Service Program in the Eastside community of Asheboro) and Trees NC program expansion/sustainability. This partnership will continue in FY 2009-2010.

Project # 579 Chatham County Comprehensive Conservation Plan Funding Phase: PCC is assisting Chatham County Conservation Partnership with their mission to “*develop and implement strategies for a community conservation vision that builds awareness, protection and stewardship of Chatham County's natural resources.*” Together with a diverse group of active members, including significant government involvement, PCC was awarded a grant from the NC Forest Service. These funds will pay for the development of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (the first of its kind in North Carolina) that will include sufficient data and planning tools to Chatham County decision makers about how their communities may best grow and develop in the future. The NC Urban Forestry Grant of \$28,000 is meant to supplement a \$70,000 Z. Smith Reynolds Grant by providing financial resources to develop the forest resource analysis component of the Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Forestry Project Objectives:

1. Develop a community vision for Chatham County forest resources;
2. Describe and identify the ecological and economic importance of local forest resources;
3. Address impacts and threats to Chatham County forest resources;
4. Outline preferred management strategies and protection of Chatham Co. forest resources



Note: In terms of projects in the ground, Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc. started anew in November 2007. Some projects can take as long as three or four years to complete. PCC has received grant awards of \$1.2 million since August 2008 (\$994,500 of which is awaiting matching funds or release from the state of NC). PCC is still working on Board development, fundraising, outreach, and council capacity.

● **New Projects Adopted in FY08-09**

Alamance Community College Stormwater Project (grant award \$495,000)	Alamance County
“Deep River Greenway” Walk Softly LLC Easement Acquisition Funding (<i>grant pending</i>)	Randolph County
CW Middle School/Orange High School Stormwater Demonstration/Outdoor Classroom Funding Phase (<i>grant pending</i>)	Orange County
Stream Restoration “Reedy Fork” a water supply watershed Funding Phase (<i>grant pending</i>)	Guilford County
Carolina Dairy Co-op Milk Processing Plant Funding Phase (grant award \$500,000)	Alamance County/ Piedmont Region
Guilford County Farmland Protection Plan Funding Phase (grant award \$31,200 + \$2,500)	Guilford County
Trees NC Financial/Strategic Planning and Organizational Development Assistance	Randolph County/ Piedmont Region
Pilot Project to Generate Electricity on (3) NC Swine Farms Funding Phase (<i>3 grants written; 1 pending</i>)	Randolph County/ SE North Carolina
Chatham County Comprehensive Conservation Plan Funding Phase (Forest Analysis) (grant award \$28,000)	Chatham County
Dan River Coalition Comprehensive Planning Phase	Rockingham/Caswell Counties South Central Virginia
Dry Creek Watershed Plan (EPA 319) Funding Phase – PROJECT TERMINATED (<i>lack of access to funds</i>)	Chatham County
Durham EMS Water Re-use Project Funding Phase – PROJECT TERMINATED (<i>lack of access to funds</i>)	Durham County

● **FY 08-09 Summary**

Projects Adopted_____	12
Projects completed_____	6
Grants Prepared_____	15 (Requested: \$5,012,450.00) (Awarded: \$1,191,000.00)
Active Projects_____	6
Potential Projects analyzed _____	35
Other Project/Program Technical Assistance ____	16 (To other non-profits, local governments, groups, start-ups, individuals)
Anticipated New Projects for FY09-10_____	12

- **Meetings**

PCC held four full Council Meetings in FY 08-09 on July 17, 2008; October 16, 2008; January 15, 2009; and April 16, 2009. Elections were held at the April 16, 2009 Meeting and new officers were selected for FY 2009-2010. Bill Alston was elected President, Talmage Layton – Vice President, Hazel Puckett – Secretary, and Rudy Langley – Treasurer.

In addition to quarterly council meetings, PCC Board of Directors meetings were held on August 28, 2008, December 18, 2008, January, 06, 2009, March 03, 2009, May 05, 2009, and June 02, 2009.

PCC participated in the following meetings of partner organizations: Guilford Planning Board Aug 13, 2008, Guilford Farm Bureau Sept 03, 2008, Rockingham SWCD Farmland Preservation Sept 08, 2008, Chatham SWCD Sept 11, 2008, Guilford County Farmland Preservation Meeting Jan 03, 2009, Caswell County Farm Bureau May 19, 2009

The Dan River Coalition met three times in the FY 2008-2009. July 31, 2008 in Wentworth NC, November 19, 2008 (Strategic Planning Goal Setting Meeting) in Danville, VA, and May 07, 2009 in Danville, VA.

- **Outreach**

Technical assistance was offered to the following entities: Piedmont Triad COG, Orange County SWCD, US Fish and Wildlife Service, NC DENR Forest Service, Guilford County SWCD, Guilford County Open Space Committee, Alamance County SWCD, Alamance Chamber of Commerce, Asheboro Chamber of Commerce/Asheboro Trails, Farmer's Transition Network, Chatham County SWCD, Town of Franklinville, County of Rockingham, Rockingham SWCD, Rockingham Solid Waste/Landfill Gas Task Force Team, Dan River Basin Association, NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program, Durham SWCD, Kings Mill Dairy Farms LLC, Duke University, Caswell SWCD, NC Division of Soil and Water, NC Soil and Water Society, Town of Graham, Carolina Dairyman's Cooperative, Randolph SWCD, Town of Ramseur, Alamance Community College, Asheboro Trees, Trees NC, Orange High School/CW Stanfield Middle School, Elon University, Haw River Assembly, Guilford County Agricultural Cooperative Extension, Chatham County Community Partnership, Sustainable Greensboro, Triangle J Council of Governments, Forest Hills State Forest, JRuth, Inc, Black Brown Green Alliance (BBGA) of the Triangle, Guilford College, Chatham County Conservation Partnership, Resourceful Communities, and Wake County SWCD.

- **Budget '08-'09 (Still waiting on Treasurer's Report)**

INCOME:

Project Income	\$110,000.00
County Appropriations	\$ 3,700.00

TOTAL: \$113,700.00

EXPENSES:

Project Expenses	\$ 71,700.00
Unrestricted Capital Fund	\$ 16,000.00
Insurance	\$ 3,400.00
Salaries	\$ 9,800.00
Travel Expenses	\$ 3,000.00
Professional Fees	\$ 3,600.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 1,100.00
Equipment	\$ 3,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 520.00
Internet Service	\$ 1,080.00
Office Supplies	\$ 300.00
Postage	\$ 200.00

TOTAL: \$113,700.00