



Limestone Valley RC&D Council Update February, 2016

319 Grants Update for Catoosa SWCD

For the South Chickamauga Headwaters (Catoosa Co.) Project:

- A total of 52 repairs on failing septic systems have now been cost-shared upon with the current grant. Anywhere from three to ten more cost-shares will be completed with the current grant funds.
- Agricultural BMP projects have been planned on six farms with the help of NRCS. One has recently been completed, four are in process, and one is in the late planning stages. Each of these projects involves fencing livestock out of streams, and five of six include subdividing pastures for implementation of more efficient rotational grazing practices, providing alternative water sources, and protection of heavy use areas.
- On January 30th, more than 300 trees were planted along South Chickamauga Creek from the old railroad bridge to the Little General Park. Roughly 50 volunteers took part in planting trees and removing garbage and debris from the floodplain.
- The 3rd Annual H2O Camp with Catoosa County 4H Club is slated for early summer. The two day camp will again likely include both a canoe cleanup float trip down South Chick Creek and an Adopt-A-Stream chemical and macroinvertebrate monitoring workshop.
- De-listing efforts for the five stream segments in the watershed impaired for fecal coliform violations are underway and will be completed by the end of the year.
- Several articles have recently been published in local newspapers about the project.
- A proposal was submitted in October 2015 seeking to again fund this project.

Other Projects

NRCS Outreach Grant (Northwest GA):

- This project seeks to increase awareness of NRCS's conservation programs and enhance program delivery by highlighting successful conservation projects and developing new outreach tools.
- Numerous success stories will be written to document local USDA projects, and workshops will also be put together focused on the energy efficiency in the poultry industry.
- The project could begin at any time.

Proposed REAP Project (Northwest GA):

- This proposed project seeks to increase funding for energy efficiency audits and energy efficiency improvements on poultry farms.



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FY 16 No-Till Summary

Below you will find a summary of the acres planted that have been reported to Limestone Valley RC&D Council since October 1, 2015.

Catoosa County Soil and Water - FY2016 Summary				<u>Acres</u>
Catoosa County	Benton Coal and Supply			124.9*
Coosa River Soil and Water - FY2016 Summary				
Chattooga County	D&E Hardware			914.3
Gordon County	Mike Rice			614.3
Walker County	Young Farmers			<u>679.7</u>
			Subtotal	2,208.3
Limestone Valley Soil and Water - FY2016 Summary				
Whitfield County	Dycus			932
Murray County	Brad Ridley			<u>228.9</u>
			Subtotal	1,160.9
Total Acres FY 2016				<u>3,494.10</u>

*Rentals from Walker County also accounting for 59.6 acres were actually used on Catoosa County farms.

- In addition, we've created a new summary sheet to fill out with each submission of no-till worksheets and the associated checks to Limestone Valley. Please have your treasurers fill out one with each submission in order to show their work.