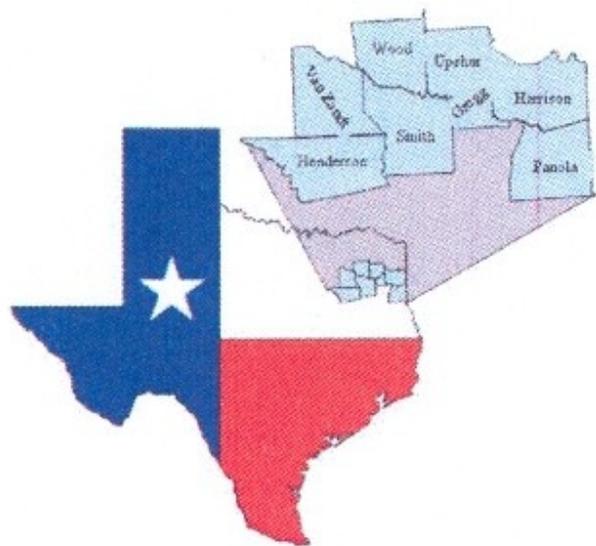


Sabine-Neches Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.

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Office: 936-568-0414
Fax: 936-552-8917



Serving Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Panola, Smith, Van Zandt,
Upshur and Wood Counties

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Sabine-Neches

Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.



2009 Annual Report

RC&D Council

Officers:

Mr. Cary Hilliard.....President
 Mr. Jim Allison.....Vice-President
 Mr. Alan Haynes.....Treasurer
 Ms. Kristi Boyett.....Secretary
 Mr. John WadeMember
 Mr. Al HarrisMember
 Mr. Jeff ThompsonMember

RC&D Staff:

Ken Awtrey.....Acting Coordinator

Vision Statement

Our most important resource is our people, who have a desire to better themselves and in the spirit of working together, strive to make our area a better place to live.

Mission Statement

Our council will utilize the diversity of our volunteers to tap the resources of Federal, State, and Local Governments and the private sector

Financial Statement - 2009

1/1/09	Beginning Balance: \$3,407.54		
	<u>Debits</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Sponsorships		\$ 550	
Corporate Sponsorships		\$1,000	
Insurance	\$ 665		
Tax Prep	\$ 220		
TX Association of RC&D	\$ 200		
State Meeting Expense	\$ 863		
Office Supplies	\$ 58		
Annual Meeting	\$ 400		
TOTALS	\$2,406	\$1,550	\$ 2,551.54

SEP Project Accounts

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>BEGINNING BAL.</u>	<u>ENDING BAL.</u>
Harrison - 012	\$40,850.00	\$ 4,050.63
Harrison - 013	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,015.57
Harrison - 015	\$ 5,220.00	\$ 5,241.56
Henderson - 008	\$ 2,250.53	\$ 2,251.93
Harrison - 018	\$ 976.00	\$ 979.06
Upshur - 020	\$ 3,755.09	\$ 3,757.40
Smith - 022	\$13,226.99	\$13,235.14
Van Zandt - 024	\$ 2,160.00	\$ 2,160.50
Harrison - 025	\$42,160.00	\$ 2,160.50
Gregg - 026	\$37,919.00	\$37,922.90



The Hometown Garden was dedicated in Carthage on March 8, 2010. The goal of the garden is to educate young people about where our food comes from. Also, the produce from this garden will be given to Mission Carthage. They have almost 2,000 clients.



Sponsors

Harrison SWCD
KVZR SWCD
Panola SWCD
Smith SWCD
Trinity-Neches SWCD
Upshur-Gregg SWCD
Wood SWCD
Gregg County
Harrison County
Henderson County
Panola County
Smith County
Upshur County
Van Zandt County
Wood County

Corporate Sponsors

Suddenlink Communications
Ozarka
Tyler Roses
Tyler Wal Mart
Canton Wal Mart

Thank you very much for your support!

Letter from the President

I am pleased to report that in 2009 your Sabine-Neches Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council completed another successful year, despite the fact that we are the only unfunded RC&D Council in Texas. Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) are still our bread and butter and in the last 5 years Sabine-Neches has completed almost 25% of the SEPs in the entire state. We cleaned up waste dumps in Van Zandt, Harrison and Wood counties and conducted a very successful Household Hazardous Waste Collection in conjunction with the City of Carthage in Panola County. Several modern septic systems were installed for low income families in Van Zandt and Harrison counties.

Since we do not have Department of Agriculture funding we began searching for corporate sponsors and to date Wal-Mart, Ozarka, SuddenLink and Tyler Roses have given generously to Sabine-Neches. We are contacting more corporations and these additional funds will enable us to expand our projects and send more members to training conferences.

The Jackson Oaks community sewer system project is moving forward although not as quickly as we had hoped. Eventually the families in Jackson Oaks, several nearby subdivisions and a school will have a safe and sanitary sewer system, something that most people in Texas take for granted.

The US Department of Agriculture has developed a Community Garden program and Sabine-Neches is involved in one of the first in the country. A family in Carthage donated land to build a garden and Sabine-Neches will maintain the grant funds and pay bills for the project. The Carthage garden will provide fresh vegetables to hundreds of needy families in the area and will also serve as a training platform to teach young people how to grow and preserve fresh food. The District Conservationist Matt Feno and a local master gardener are overseeing the project and dozens of volunteers are involved. The Peoples Garden in Carthage will serve as a model for similar gardens across the country.

I want to thank all the volunteer members who make up your RC&D council. Without them none of these important projects would be completed as quickly or efficiently. Finally, I want to thank Steve Smith for all his assistance for the last 2 years. Because of his increased workload he had to relinquish the coordinator position to Ken Awtrey, the coordinator of the Pineywoods RC&D. Ken has a wealth of coordinator experience and now will be guiding us toward our new and ambitious goals. We look forward to a bright future.

Let's keep up the good work in 2010.

Cary Hilliard, President

SEP Projects



The SEP projects in Sabine-Neches RC&D area include: illegal trash dump cleanup, replacing failing sewer systems for low-income home owners, household hazardous waste collection days, and abandoned tire cleanup.



SEP Projects



The Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEP) program allows organizations fined by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to direct the money to a local project with direct environmental benefits. This program is now funding about \$2 million a year through RC&Ds across the state. This past year Sabine-Neches RC&D administered SEP projects in seven out of our eight counties totaling almost \$205,000.00.



What is Sabine-Neches Resource Conservation and Development?

The RC&D Council is a voluntary, local, membership-based, nonprofit entity that represents the eight counties in our area: Smith, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Panola, Upshur, Wood and Van Zandt. The purpose of the council is to advise, plan, implement and develop programs: to ensure the wise use of funds that are intended to protect the environment, improve community infrastructure, enhance rural economies and to improve local communities' environmental planning and projects.

Unlike the other 23 RC&D Councils in Texas, the Sabine-Neches Council is the only one not funded in Texas by the US Department of Agriculture. This fact limits only federal financial assistance. Sources of funds for our Council's projects come from: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), environmental enforcement fines, the participation of county and city governments, and sponsors. Every cent of TCEQ grant funds must be spent on projects. None of the money can be used for Sabine-Neches Council's operational expenses. Our council has no paid staff, and all initiatives are managed by competent volunteers from the membership body. Our Council does have unfunded basic operational expenses, which must be funded for proper management of the Council as an incorporated 501c3. These expenses include: legal, accounting, communication, travel, reporting and audit requirements.

Sponsorship and financial assistance is vital to fund these operational expenses and will enable the Sabine-Neches Council to continue our important work throughout our area.

Cary Hilliard,
President



NRCS District Conservationists

Robbie Clemens.....Gilmer/Longview

Ross Brown.....Marshall

Julie Moore.....Athens/Canton

Matthew Feno.....Carthage

Darin Smith.....Tyler

John Stone.....Quitman

2009 SEP Projects Completed & Ongoing

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>PROJECT COST</u>
Gregg	Trash Cleanup	\$37,922.90
Harrison	Trash Cleanup	\$ 2,160.50
Van Zandt	Trash Cleanup	\$ 2,160.50
Smith	Septic Systems	\$13,235.14
Upshur	Trash Cleanup	\$ 3,757.40
Henderson	Trash Cleanup	\$ 2,250.53
Henderson	Septic Systems	\$ 4,296.00
Harrison	Trash Cleanup	\$ 8,800.84
Harrison	Septic Systems	\$40,850.00
Harrison	Septic Systems	\$ 4,000.00
Harrison	Septic Systems	\$ 5,222.92
Van Zandt	Septic Systems	\$14,880.00
Panola	Household Hazardous	\$48,160.00
Van Zandt	Trash Cleanup	\$16,321.00

