



# Alabama

**Mountains, Rivers, and Valleys**  
Resource Conservation and Development

# 2016

## Annual Report





## *Mission:*

*To improve the quality of life of residents by  
the reasonable and responsible protection of  
natural and human resources of the Tennessee  
Valley*





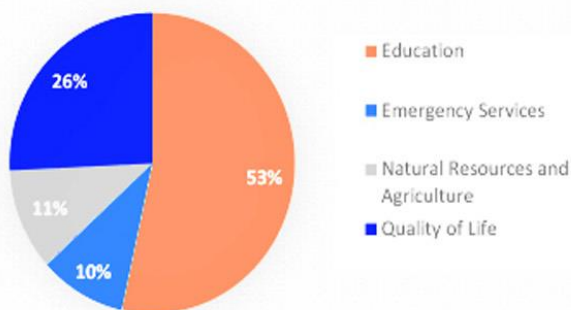


# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING IN 2016?

Above: We had guests from Kenya join us for the fall Farm Tour series.

This year the AMRV RC&D funded **69** projects in **eight** counties. We provided **\$305,905** to projects, with the recipients adding **\$150,000** for a total of **\$455,226** to the region.

## Where Did the Money Go?



With the help of our amazing partners and volunteers, we have accomplished incredible things. Over 660 volunteers donated their time to make these projects happen in their communities



Above: Our partners at the Soil and Water Conservation District had a great turn out for the Madison County Farm Ag Tour.

## Some projects included:

- Environmental Education for Youth
- Farm Trainings and Workshops
- Small Farm Rainwater Catchment Systems
- Wheelchair Ramps
- Installing Defibrillator Units
- Energy Efficient Upgrades
- Community Gardens
- Recreational Facilities
- Playground for Special Needs Children

Below: Our partners at the Delano Park Conservancy hang new signs for their stunning rose garden.





# Educational Impact

The AMRV RC&D supported 21 educational programs and reached over 5,800 students!

## Volunteers

By using our human resources and bringing people together for a shared goal, we can achieve anything. This year the AMRV RC&D contributed over \$70,000 directly to local schools and \$163,500 to education initiatives.



Above: Students learn about livestock and farm animals at the Madison Urban Youth Farm Day.

Top: Students at Sparkman School organize and package their produce from their new hoop house.

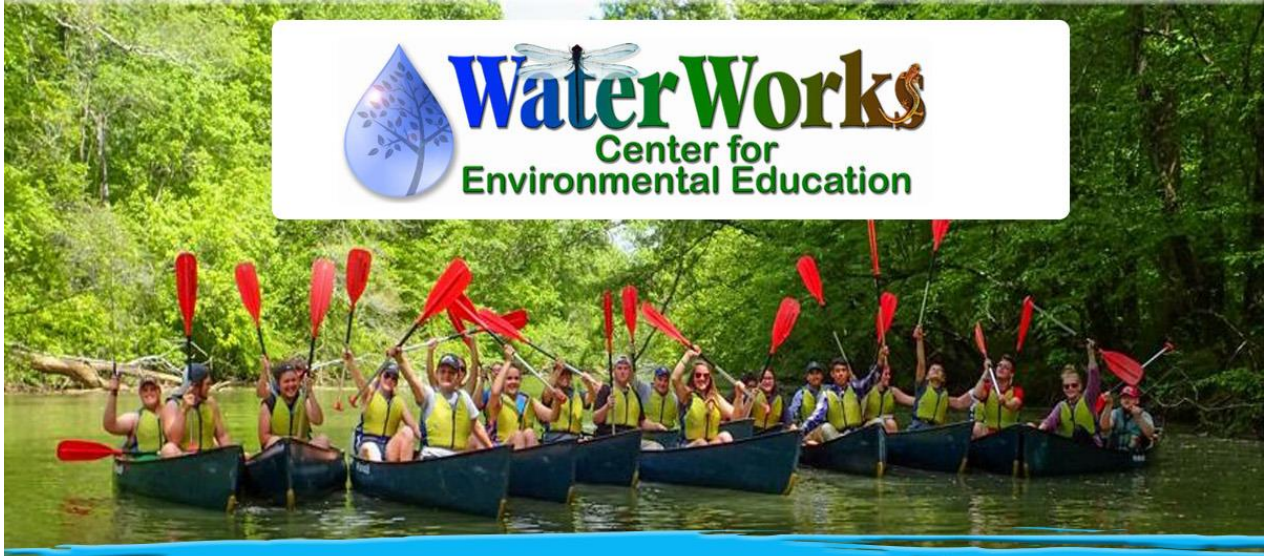


Above: Students pose in front of their new trail sculpture.



Above: Students at Brindlee Mountain get their hands dirty in their new raised bed gardens.





The WaterWorks Center for Environmental Education was started by the AMRV RC&D in 2010. Today it serves as a premier environmental education site where children can learn about the natural world and sustainable green technologies.

At WaterWorks, we believe in reconnecting children with the natural world and teaching them to be responsible and caring stewards of our environment. We offer field trips for students of all ages!

Students can learn about wetlands, native plants and animals, green roofs, solar technology and engage in team building activities like canoeing!

For more information on field trips and tours, contact:

Jay Grantland  
[jay.grantland@amrvrcd.com](mailto:jay.grantland@amrvrcd.com)  
 (256) 773-8495



Above: Students get up close and personal with some marine invertebrates! Below, Left: Children experiencing the interactive water treatment wetlands exhibit.

Below, Middle: Students pose in front of the WaterWorks facility.

Below, Right: Children enjoy our tree canopy, where they can learn about native plants and engage in team building activities such as the rope wall!







*Thank you to everyone who made  
2016 a great year for the AMRV  
and WaterWorks!*







# Board Members

## Members at Large

Scottie Bolden: Small Town Board Member at Large. Hillsboro City Council & Community Leader

Email: [ocyouthmin@bellsouth.net](mailto:ocyouthmin@bellsouth.net)

Brian Brown, Small Business Board Member at Large in Morgan County

Email: [bbrownrcd@aol.com](mailto:bbrownrcd@aol.com)

Rahonda Everett, Educator

Email: [ever.rhythms@gmail.com](mailto:ever.rhythms@gmail.com)

Bill Latimer, RC&D Chairman: Limestone County small business owner, Community Leader.

Email: [billlatimer2@gmail.com](mailto:billlatimer2@gmail.com)

Janetta Thompson: Individual Board Member at Large, Community Leader in Lawrence Co.

Email: [janettathompson0@gmail.com](mailto:janettathompson0@gmail.com)

Marvin Warren, American Indian representative for the ECHOTA Cherokee Tribe

Email: [echotacherokeetribe4@yahoo.com](mailto:echotacherokeetribe4@yahoo.com)

## Cullman County

Robert Harbison, SE & National RC&D Association Board Member, Chairman Cullman County SWCD, small business man, farmer.

Email: [riharbison@gmail.com](mailto:riharbison@gmail.com)

## DeKalb County

John Eason, DeKalb County SWCD, Chairman (volunteer organization), Farmer and Community leader.

Email: [gkse@farmerstel.com](mailto:gkse@farmerstel.com)

## Jackson County

Billy Stephenson, Board: Jackson County SWCD Volunteer Member, Farmer, and Community Leader

Email: [bstephenson@farmerstel.com](mailto:bstephenson@farmerstel.com)

## Lawrence County

Allen Pickens: Soil and Water Conservation District Volunteer Board, rural community leader.

Email: [allenpick@gmail.com](mailto:allenpick@gmail.com)

## Limestone County

Ben Harrison, Limestone County Commission and community leader.

Email: [ben.harrison@limestonecounty-al.gov](mailto:ben.harrison@limestonecounty-al.gov)

## Madison County

Kathy Walker, Board: Madison County SWCD & community leader

Email: [kathy.walker@al.nacdn.net](mailto:kathy.walker@al.nacdn.net)

## Marshall County

Stanley Sumner, Board: Chairman Marshall County SWCD Volunteer, farmer, businessman & community leader

Email: [momma\\_helen@hotmail.com](mailto:momma_helen@hotmail.com)

## Morgan County

Jeff Clark, RC&D Vice Chairman: Morgan County Commissioner, Chairman Morgan County SWCD, Flint Creek Watershed Conservancy District Board.

Email: [jclark@co.morgan.al.us](mailto:jclark@co.morgan.al.us)



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## *AMRV RC&D Officers and Staff:*

*Chairman: Bill Latimer*

*Vice-Chair: Jeff Clark*

*Secretary/Treasurer: John Eason*

*Executive Director: Mike Roden*

*RC&D Program Manager: Renona Seibert*

*RC&D Project Manager: Jay Grantland*

*AmeriCorps VISTA: Justine Goetzman*

*Senior Aid: Cecil Ratliff*



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