

RC&D CONNECT

First State Resource Conservation
and Development Council, Inc.



2015 Annual Report

Council President Rick Mickowski represents First State RC&D on the Delaware Urban Farm and Food Coalition.



MINI-GRANT PROJECTS

The Council has approved mini-grant funding for five projects. The first project was the removal of invasive species in the Pilottown Village community open space. Pilottown Village is located in Lewes, DE.

The second project was the Planting Hope Garden Fair held in September 2013. The Planting Hope Garden is located on the grounds of the Delaware Health and Social Services Herman Holloway complex on Route 13 in New Castle.

The third project was to remove invasive species at the Lenape Indian Fork Branch Cemetery north of Dover.

The fourth project was a grant to the Elsmere Community garden for the Garden at Linden. The funds enabled the group to build a number of raised beds.

The fifth project was a raised bed vegetable garden for the Educational Enrichment Center, Inc. (EEC) located off Route 202 in north Wilmington.

A fifth project provided funds for a garden shed at the Southbridge Children's Garden in Wilmington.



Planting Hope Garden Fair



Pilottown Village showing invasive plants



Pilottown Village after invasive plant removal



Garden shed



Future location of the Harlan E. S. garden



The EEC children's garden



Open house at the Elsmere Community Garden



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- The Council is a sponsor of the Delaware Envirothon. The Charter School of Wilmington Team A are the 2015 champions.



- The Council approved funding for a school/ community garden in Wilmington. It will now be located at Harlan E.S. in 2016.
- The Council sponsored an urban garden tour of NCC in August 2015.



First State Resource
 Conservation and Development
 Council, Inc. The Council is a
 501 C 3 non-profit organization
 – donations welcomed!

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302-741-2600 ext. 3 or contact Rick
 Mickowski at 302-832-3100 ext. 113.

Council Members

Rick Mickowski	President/Sec.
Rob Davis	Vice President
Tim Riley	Treasurer
Mark L. Davis	Member
Richard Kirschner	Member
Darl Kolar	Member
Kyle Hoyd	Member
Robert Palmer	Member

The Council needs new volunteers to help us implement our mission and vision for Delaware communities. If you would be interested in serving on the Council, please contact Rick Mickowski at 302-832-3100 ext. 113.

REPAIRING DRY FIRE HYDRANTS

The Council is embarking on a quest to seek approval and funding to replace and repair dry fire hydrants in Sussex County. More than 20 years ago, the Council received funding to have over 100 dry fire hydrants installed across the state of



Delaware. A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe system permanently installed in existing lakes, ponds or streams that provides a supply of water to a fire department tanker truck. In rural areas, a lack of water mains and pressurized fire hydrants can sometimes impair a fire departments ability to do its job quickly and efficiently. The Council is hoping to partner with Sussex County fire companies to get an assessment on each dry hydrant including the exact location, the current condition, the repair or replacement needs and costs, and potential new locations to install additional dry hydrants. Once we have this information, the Council will seek grants and other sources of funding to implement the repairs.

RC&D: MAKING THINGS HAPPEN!

PRIME HOOK PRIMED FOR TREES



Map showing planting locations

With the assistance of Rick McCorkle of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Council received a \$20,000 grant from the agency to plant **34,500 native hardwood trees in two locations within the Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge.** The Wildlife Service contracted with Conservation Services, Inc. of Waynesboro, Virginia to plant the trees. The trees were planted on March 26-27, 2014.

implemented at Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge calls for the conversion of former agriculture fields back into forest lands using native trees.

The native trees were purchased from ArborGen and the John S. Ayton Nursery in Maryland.

Thanks to Rick McCorkle for managing the project with the contractor.



Planting seedlings through the snow

The management plan being

