

RC&D CONNECT

First State Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. 2021 Annual Report

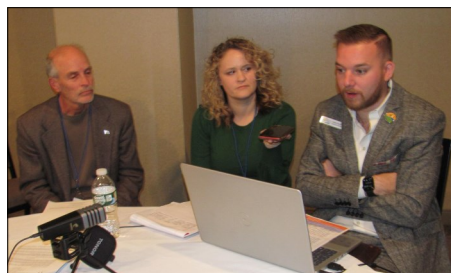
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

- Child Inc. received a grant in 2020, however the pandemic delayed completion of the project until summer 2021. The therapy garden was completed in April 2020. By August 2021, they added three raised garden beds and a greenhouse. Grant funds enabled the purchase of garden soil, potting soil, tools, and seeds for use by the 46 youth that were served by Child, Inc.
- The Council partnered with the Delaware Forest Service to promote the mini-grant program with the creation of a new flyer and information posted on the Delaware Trees website at www.delawaretrees.com under the Partners tab. Thanks to John Peterson for creating the flyer.
- The Council approved a \$250 donation to the Delaware Invasive Species Council towards their grant program. A total of three projects were awarded funding, an invasive species removal and native plant installation by Delaware Nature Society at the Ashland Nature Center property; invasive species removal at the James Farm Preserve in Sussex County by the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, and invasive species removal at the Potter's Field site at the Herman Holloway campus in New Castle.
- The Council made a \$250 donation to the 2021 Delaware Envirothon competition.
- Council President Rick Mickowski attended the 2021 Annual Meeting



Supplies and materials provided for the Child, Inc. youth garden. The pandemic delayed completion of the project until spring 2021.

of the Mid-Atlantic Association of RC&D Councils which was held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire as part of the NACD Northeast Region conference. National RC&D Executive Director Colton Buckley and Support Administrator Anna Cornelius joined in person and many joined in virtually.



- Long-time council member Mark Davis resigned from Council effective December 31st. Mark served on the Council for 50 years, since the creation of the Council in 1971. We wish Mark and his wife Marge all the best and will miss his enthusiasm for RC&D!

RC&D - Making Things Happen!



The Council is a member of the Delaware Urban Food and Farm Coalition (DEUFFC) and a sponsor of the yearly urban agriculture tour.

The Council is a dues paying member of the Mid-Atlantic Association of RC&D Councils and the National Association of RC&D Councils.

The Council is a sponsor of the Delaware Envirothon. The 2021 event was held virtually in April.

The Council currently does not have a website. To see news from Delaware check out the Mid-Atlantic Association of RC&D Councils website at <https://midatlanticrcd.org>. Look under the individual council tab for postings from this Council.

For national updates, go to the National Association of RC&D Councils website at <https://narcdc.org>.



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

1679 S. Dupont Highway
Dover, DE 19901

302-608-5370 or contact Rick Mickowski at 302-365-8979.

Council Members (2021)

Rick Mickowski	President/Sec.
Rob Davis	Vice President
Tim Riley	Treasurer
Mark L. Davis	Member
Darl Kolar	Member
Kesha Braunskill	Member
Marcia Fox	Member
Michele Warren	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 302-365-8979 or by email at rick.mickowski@delaware.gov

RC&D: MAKING THINGS HAPPEN!



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RC&D COUNCILS

Boost Membership

- Collaborate with Councils on providing increased membership benefits
- Facilitate avenues to better serve our Member Councils
- Increase Membership Nationwide

Autumn 2021 Updates

National: On-the-Road to better serve our Member Councils

- New website to bring NARCDC fully operational in 21st Century
- New Executive Director, Support Administrator, Grants Administrator, and Outreach Coordinator to represent NARCDC
- National Listening Tour to create functional map of RC&Ds from coast to coast and build capacity

Legislative Initiative

- Supporting funds used to promote NARCDC's Legislative Task Force to engage lawmakers, USDA, and White House officials
- Promote RC&D programs and projects throughout the country
- RC&D Councils are a great partner to fulfill USDA's mission critical programs

Intern Pilot Program

- Dollar-for-dollar match to incentivize collegiate interns for local councils and state/regional associations
- Recruits fresh faces into RC&Ds and aids RC&Ds on messaging
- Current Pilot States: Alabama and Texas

Since 2015, NCPP has worked to "Reinvigorate Conservation Planning" by implementing goals and actions that support proven approaches, offer new tools, and expand training to enhance the ability of our workforce to deliver sound conservation planning assistance.



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Anna Cornelius | Support Administrator
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334.774.2334

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS
MAIL@NARCDC.ORG
211 NORTH UNION AVENUE OZARK, AL 36360



Get funding for a community project!
Applications accepted on a continuous basis all year.

Mini-Grant Program

GENERAL AREAS OF INTEREST

- Water Management
- Community Development
- Land Management and Conservation

Milford Community Garden



Springer Woods Pollinator Meadow

Target Areas for Mini-Grants

- Urban farm and community or school garden initiatives
- Invasive species management
- Establishing or improving community recreational areas
- Establishing pollinator habitat
- Installation of rain gardens

First State RC&D Council, Inc. operates the mini-grant program to further its mission to "Provide leadership, initiative, technical support, and direction in developing and carrying out a plan to assist individuals and communities in the conservation and enhancement of their human and natural resources" and to work towards our vision of "prosperous diverse communities effectively developing and conserving the human and natural resources of the First State RC&D Area".

Contact Information

Rick Mickowski
(302) 365-8979



Work Plan Updated for 2021– 2024

The Council updated its Long Range Plan, a guiding document for present and future priorities. The Council will support projects that focus on the following areas of concern:

- ◆ Invasive species management
- ◆ Urban farms and community gardens
- ◆ Rain gardens
- ◆ Pollinator habitat
- ◆ The Delaware Envirothon and Make A Splash Water Festival
- ◆ A continuation of the mini-grant program
- ◆ Restoration of public open space and wildlife areas to native plant communities
- ◆ Support urban forestry programs