



# South Carolina's Current Developments



Home of the first soil conservation district plan...February 4, 1938

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

June 2003

From the Office of the  
State Conservationist

Walter W. Douglas



Dear NRCSErs:

It's hard to believe that the All Employees Conference is next month! It seems like just yesterday when we began planning for this event which is sure to be a rewarding experience for our employees and their families. I look forward to spending time with all of you in Greenville. They say altitude affects attitude, so I hope that we can relax and enjoy our time together in the Upstate.

Our technical assistance (TA) budget has an 80-100K deficit, but we believe it is manageable. I would still ask that everyone be prudent when making purchases or requests for purchases. Our financial assistance (FA) budget will not allow us to meet all our requests—particularly for EQIP, WHIP, and FRPP. We are in the process of sending requests to each of the Farm Bill program managers in National Headquarters asking for additional funds to meet the demand in South Carolina.

Our hope is that funding levels approved by the Farm Bill will be authorized by Congress throughout the life of the bill, so that the needs of our customers in South Carolina can be met in a timely manner.

Keep up the great work and don't hesitate to contact me if you have suggestions, comments, or questions.

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photo: Grady Adkins, NRCS, 2003

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# Notes from the Field

## Lancaster Livestock Farmer Enhances Grazing Lands

By Amy O. Maxwell, USDA-NRCS, state public affairs specialist

Looking out behind the home of Lancaster farmer Danny Flynn, rolling green pastures and healthy cattle dot the landscape. Gaze closer among the hills and you may spot a quick moving vehicle with Flynn at the wheel. At first sight, it appears to be a four-wheeler. But, Flynn prefers an old golf cart to maneuver quickly and easily around his acreage. With the recent rains, the golf cart has been a lifesaver, as the vehicle makes its way easily through waterlogged fields. Flynn owns and operates a beef cattle operation on the same site where his father and grandfather also farmed. He has worked with the Lancaster Conservation Partnership to improve 66 acres of grazing lands for his 26 cows.

Under a US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 319 grant, Flynn received financial and technical cost-share assistance to improve his cattle operation. Administered through the Lancaster Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Flynn received technical assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) District Conservationist Ann Christie.

"This project is a perfect example of the benefits of partnership when it comes to locally-led conservation," explained Christie. "NRCS and the conservation district have worked hand in hand to make sure that the customer receives prompt and accurate technical and financial assistance." The district chose to design the 319-grant cost-share process much like existing USDA programs. "This allowed for a streamlined process with which landowners were already familiar, and also made it administratively smoother for the conserva-

tion partners as well," said Christie. Flynn receives a maximum cost-share rate of 54 percent, and the overall grant requires a 40 percent local match (support).

The work being done through the 319-grant directly impacts the Catawba Watershed (as Flynn's farm is in the upper reaches). The practices installed will help control non-point source (NPS) pollution. NPS pollution doesn't come from a single source or point such as a sewage treatment plant or an industrial discharge pipe. Rather, it occurs mainly through stormwater runoff. When it rains, runoff from farmland, city streets, construction sites, suburban lawns, roofs and driveways enters waterways. This runoff often contains harmful substances such as toxins, excess nutrients and sediments. Because Flynn's operation is located near the top of the watershed, his conservation efforts are particularly beneficial in protecting the entire area.

Some of the practices installed include critical area plantings to control erosion, installation of cross-fencing to facilitate rotational grazing, as well as installation of four watering troughs. Most innovative is the design Flynn chose for his pasture. He cut the acreage into six sections, moving his cattle from plot to plot about every 30 days. Centrally located in the middle of



*Danny Flynn's Lancaster cattle operation has benefitted from an EPA 319 grant which provided technical and financial assistance for improvement of his operation.*

the fields is a working area that allows Flynn to access all the fields. By moving his livestock to fresh paddocks periodically, Flynn provides time for pasture regrowth. His cross-fencing and innovative water delivery devices are important tools. Feed costs decline and animal health improves when animals harvest their own feed in a well-managed rotational grazing system. "Rotational grazing works," emphasized Flynn.

Flynn also improved the nutrition of his cattle by providing them with a vegetative mix of fescue, summer grass, and clover. "Clover provides excellent nutritional value and produces nitrogen which is important to livestock health," explained Christie. "The mix also gives them a nice variety and can dilute the effects of fescue poisoning."

Flynn has also fenced in his ponds and installed

filter strips around them. He aerates his soil as well, through a device rented through the LSWCD. In addition, Flynn constructed access ramps to his fenced-in watering ponds, which help control the cow's access to water. The ramps are constructed with geotextile materials and gravel to cut down on mud and erosion.

Most impressive is the 2,400 feet of straight fence that divides his acreage. Made of woven-wire, the fencing is sturdy enough to contain the livestock, but also keep out deer. Flynn and his cousin spent many weekends installing the fence with an interesting tool design borrowed from another farmer, but enhanced with a few features by Flynn. The large metal device rolled out the fencing evenly and neatly, and saved Flynn time. "As a small, part-time farmer, I have to be innovative with what I do and find ways to save time and frustration, and this wire stretcher is a good example."

Flynn is presently employed as a mechanic for the local school district but plans to farm full-time when he retires. "I am preparing my land now so that by the time I retire and focus on farming, it will be in top shape," said Flynn. "Getting this farm revitalized has been my dream, and I'm making progress with the help of the local conservation partnership."

For more information, contact the Lancaster NRCS office at 803-286-4455, ext. 3, or the Lancaster Conservation District at 803-286-8135.



Flynn (right) discusses a fenced-in watering access for his cattle with NRCS District Conservationist Ann Christie.



## All Employees Conference in Greenville!

July is approaching fast, and the NRCS All Employees Conference is right around the corner. If you have not done so, please make your reservation at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Greenville by calling

**1-800-233-1234.**

Refer to our group as USDA-NRCS to get the government rate. **The deadline for making your reservations at the government rate of \$65 is June 29, 2003.**

## Conference Activities



**MONDAY--**

**Barbecue and Talent Show at Paris Mountain State Park**

Cost: \$11.00 for adults  
\$8.00 for children



**Sign up for the Talent Show today!!!**

**TUESDAY--**

**Banquet, Keynote Speaker, and Dancing in Hyatt Regency Ballroom**

All employees should return the meal preference sheet for themselves and/or guest(s) that will be attending.

Registration **deadline** for all activities is **June 23, 2003**. Return registration form and checks (if applicable) to Angela Yarborough, NRCS State Office.



## Conservation Partnership Joins Forces to Revitalize Downtown Park

By Amy O. Maxwell, USDA-NRCS, state public affairs specialist

Residents of Fairfax, SC, in rural Allendale County, will soon have a new center of attention — a park! Triangle Park is a small green space in the center of the downtown area that desperately needed some TLC. Its central location makes it a pivotal area in town, and it is highly visible to residents and visitors alike because the railroad and Highways 321 and 278 border it, both heavily traveled. With the help of local, state and federal agencies, businesses and private citizens, the area is now a site of green trees and shrubs, fragrant flowers, a sprinkling fountain, and a place of relaxation.

Spearheaded by the Fairfax Garden and Study Club, a \$20,000 grant from the SC Parks, Recreation and Tourism (PRT) Park and Recreation Development Fund helped the project get off the ground. The town of Fairfax contributed \$20,000 to the project over the past two years as well.

Also instrumental in getting the project going was Stan Jones, Clemson Extension horticulturist, and Deanna Ruth, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) program coordinator. The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provided surveying and consultation work for the park.

"This project has been a perfect example of the power of partnership and the amount of work that can get done in a short time when everyone pulls together," said Allendale NRCS District Conservationist Walter Earley.

Other contributors to the project include Happy Acres Farm, Allendale County Bank, the Carolina Commercial Bank, Brunson Building Supply, Fairfax Feed and Seed, Fairfax Pharmacy, Collum's Lumber Mill, Clariant Corporation, the Fairfax Family and Community Leaders Club, and private citizens.

One of the more unique elements of the project has been the use of labor provided by students at the nearby Salkehatchie Youth Challenge Academy. Teens from the program worked

every Wednesday for two months building an arbor and planting shrubs, trees, and flowers at the park. The Academy's curriculum and structured environment are designed for kids who have not been able to adapt to a traditional school setting.

"This is a great opportunity for them to get involved in community work, and they can always be proud of this project knowing they had a large part in its revitalization," explained Ruth.

Clemson's Stan Jones trained the young people in techniques they needed by carefully explaining the process for every step of the work from properly digging a hole for a tree to the need for sufficient mulching. Each time the teens listened intently, truly interested in what Jones was

saying and clinging to his every word. It's evident from the work done at the park that they have planted everything with pride. One student admitted, "It's been really hard work, but it's also been fun!"

The Fairfax Garden and Study Club has always been interested in community improvement and has worked on many local projects. Members decided to "adopt" the park because it was a neglected, litter-strewn area with overgrown or dead shrubbery, in spite of its prominent location in the town.

"Triangle Park is becoming an oasis of beauty," said Cordelia Shramek, Civic Beautification chair of the Fairfax Garden and Study Club and administrative assistant of the Allendale SWCD. "This project will increase town pride and help make residents aware of the beauty which can be created by appropriate plantings," she said. "We know people will enjoy visiting the park now, and others will voice their appreciation because of the impact the project will make on the appearance of this part of town."

"We are grateful for the support and partnership of the many agencies, businesses and citizens who have made all this possible. Travelers will now have one more reason to make a stop in this quaint South Carolina town," Shramek concluded.

For more information, contact the Allendale SWCD at (803) 584-4233, extension 101.



A student from the Salkehatchie Youth Challenge Academy plants a tree in the newly restored Triangle Park under the direction of project coordinators Deanna Ruth (left), SCDNR program coordinator, and Cordelia Shramek, Civic Beautification chair of the Fairfax Garden and Study Club and administrative assistant of the Allendale SWCD.

## Meetze Farms: Growing Boys, Cows, and Trees in Newberry

by Sabrenna Bennett, Public Affairs student intern

After graduating from school, many families are disconnected as the adult children move to take jobs in other cities. For many farming families, this may break decades of farming tradition. However, in the face of adversity, some farms seem to withstand the test of time, such as Meetze Farms in the small community of St. Philips in Newberry County. The Meetze family is holding fast to a tradition that has been in their family for over three generations. Howard Earl Meetze and his son Mike Meetze (who has four sons of his own) take great pride in their farming legacy and continue to prosper by converting much of their cropland into forests through USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), with technical assistance from NRCS District Conservationist Craig O'Dell. A concern and appreciation for wildlife led them to enroll acreage into the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP), which ensures that conservation practices benefit the land, as well as the wildlife. Through these conservation programs, Meetze Farms is able to better manage forests as well as provide a productive and natural habitat for wildlife.

One of the main objectives at the farm is overall forestland management. In an effort to accelerate growth of the trees, Meetze Farms practices tree pruning and thinning, prescribed burning, bushhogging and spraying herbicides to destroy thick unwanted vegetation and to remove disease and undesirable pines. These intensive management practices allow the trees to reach a higher class of timber faster. "The quicker you can get a quality tree into the next harvest class the more profit you make," said Mike. All of the timber stands are constantly monitored to decide what management practice is needed, and there is easy access to the tree stand through well-designed roads. Meetze Farms mark and harvest much of the timber they grow until the entire stand reaches saw timber size.

Reforestation has been a large part of the operation, and they take pride in planting many of the stands.



Howard Earl Meetze (left) and his son Mike manage a farm in Newberry County. They converted cropland to forestland through USDA's Conservation Reserve Program.

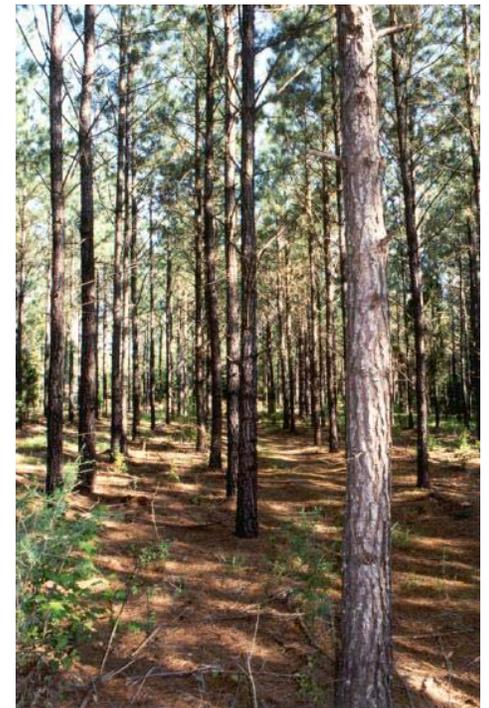
Over the past 15 years, the Meetze family has planted over 250,000 trees and most by hand. "There's not that much out-of-the-pocket costs when we provide our own labor and also receive a cost-sharing incentive," stated Mike.

Although forestland management is essential for Meetze Farms, developing wildlife is a top priority. Through WHIP, they have planted wildlife food plots, which include lespedezas, clovers and native vegetation through light disking. The food plots have attracted several wildlife species. Meetze Farms also raises beef cattle, and through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), they installed cross-fencing and watering systems, for water quality and management benefits.

In the future, Meetze Farms will continue to fine-tune their conservation plan to ensure all acres are protected. "Meetze Farms has

shown how profitable timber can be for any landowner," stated O'Dell. "Their management practices have proven that maximum production can be attained on forestland, while protecting and developing wildlife habitat."

For more information, please contact the Newberry NRCS office at (803) 276-1978.



Forestland management at Meetze Farms produces strong and healthy trees.



## Conservation Partnership News



### Agriculture Featured at Beaufort's Kidsfest

Farm animals of all sorts were part of the Kids Fest event in Beaufort April 5, 2003. The event promoted *AG in the Classroom* efforts by Beaufort County Farm Bureau, Clemson Extension, Clemson 4-H and the Beaufort SWCD. Bringing these farm animals to the city helps teach adults and children about the importance of farming to our community and to food production.



Firefighters join Sara Morgan, Farm Bureau Queen, for a photo op. in full pony gear!

Educational coloring books, crayons and materials were also provided by Farm Bureau. Clemson Extension's Bob Gwinn educated the public on food safety and allowed the kids to grind corn and millet.

The Beaufort SWCD and 4-H provided pony costumes for children (and even some adults!) to participate in galloping around the exhibition area. Promoting physical activity was also an important message of the event.

### Spartanburg Team Takes Top SC Envirothon Honors

A team of students from Spartanburg High School captured the title at the 2003 South Carolina Envirothon held May 2, 2003, at the Clemson University Sandhills Center near Columbia. Loris High School placed second, and James Island Christian School placed third. The SC Envirothon is a statewide competition for action-oriented high school students. Spartanburg High School was one of 22 teams representing a school, organization or association. The local conservation district sponsors each team.

The Spartanburg Team will represent South Carolina at the international Canon Envirothon, which will be

held in Maryland in July. The Envirothon is North America's largest environmental competition for high school students.

During the SC Envirothon, the teams were tested in their knowledge and skills in five areas of natural resources study: soils, aquatics, forestry, wildlife and agricultural land protection. The outdoors setting of the competition allowed hands-on activities. The teams also developed and presented an oral presentation to a panel of judges. This year's winning team was composed of five students from Spartanburg High: Sara Powell, Katie Williams, Nate Krueger, Kyle Knight, and Patrick Sansbury. The team received a trophy, medals, and college scholarships donated by sponsoring organizations. "We are very proud of the dedication and leadership shown by these remarkable students," said Janice Conner, Envirothon Coordinator with SCDNR. "This is a rigorous competition endorsed by the superintendent of education, Inez Tenenbaum, and just preparing for the competition and completing the six exams is a commendable accomplishment."

The Spartanburg team's coach, Robert Wilder, praised the team for its hard work. "Competitions such as Envirothon give the students the opportunity to shine without the pressure of it being tied to academics," Wilder said. "They take what they learn and apply it to many areas outside the classroom." Wilder said his role in preparing the team for the competition was simply to offer support and guidance. "I gave them the study materials and objectives and told them I would be there to help with any questions or to help find the answer. They really did all the work and they have real promise for the nationals."

Hugh Caldwell, chairman of the SC Envirothon Steering Committee, said the Envirothon competition challenges students to achieve the "highest level of knowledge - application." This is an outstanding opportunity for the students to apply what they've learned. If they can apply it, then they've really learned it."

SC Envirothon is an outdoor educational program of SCDNR and the Conservation Districts of South Carolina. Other supporters include the S.C. Conservation Districts Foundation; S. C. Forestry Commission; Clemson

University; S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control; and the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Other contributors to the event include the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund, Carolina Eastman, BP-Amoco, Bayer, and Santee Cooper.



The team from Spartanburg High School won the 2003 SC Envirothon competition. The team was coached by Robert Wilder (far right).

### Newberry SWCD to Host Camp Conservation

Once again, the Newberry SWCD will host its popular four-day Conservation Camp for students in grades 4-8. The event will be conducted in Lynch's Woods Park, a 260+ acre recreational forest located within the City of Newberry on Highway # 76, directly behind Piedmont Technical College. The camp will take place Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Day Camp hours will be 8:30 AM until 4:00 PM. The registration fee is only \$40.00.



The goal of Camp Conservation is to educate students to be responsible stewards of the land by promoting natural resource conservation. Natural resource conservation promotes the wise use of our land, water, air, wildlife and habitat. The camp agenda will concentrate on wildlife and habitat, forestry, soil and water conservation, and farming and agriculture.

All camp activities encourage a hands-on approach to conservation and natural resource education. The team of elite professionals instructing at Camp Conservation represents a wide variety of professions, businesses and government agencies. "It is a distinct honor for us to have these professionals share their knowledge and concerns with our campers," said Annette Davis, camp director and district education coordinator for the Newberry SWCD.

"The hands on learning activities and programs offered during camp are what most of us remember as children playing in the creeks and forests, but at the Conservation Camp, they have the professionals giving them the guidance and answers to their questions as well as proposing many new questions for them. We take for granted that the children of Newberry are familiar with nature. Unfortunately, most are not," claimed Davis.

"Up Close and Personal with Nature," is the theme of the camp and it will be a week to remember for all of those who attend.

To register or for more information about Camp Conservation, contact Annette Davis at the USDA Service Center, 719 Kendall Road, Newberry, SC 29108; call 803-276-1978, ext. 3; email [newberry.swcd@sc.usda.gov](mailto:newberry.swcd@sc.usda.gov); or visit the web site at: [campconservation.com](http://campconservation.com). Enrollment is limited!

### A Little Office Humor.....



## Eastern Hemlocks Under Attack

by Dave Demarest, Foothills RC&D coordinator

In the last decade, the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA), which is a tiny beetle, has devastated Eastern Hemlock populations in much of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the Shenandoah Valley. The infestation is now widespread in the Great Smokey Mountains National Park, and has recently been found in Oconee County, SC. This exotic pest has the potential to completely eliminate the Eastern Hemlock from our ecosystem in much the same way as the Chestnut blight eliminated the American Chestnut in the 1930's.

The Foothills RC&D Council recently held a one-day training session for upstate landowners, land managers, foresters and other natural resource professionals. Foothills RC&D Chairman Wes Cooler said, "The training was conducted by the US Forest Service on the HWA and the status of the infestation in the Southern Appalachians."

The loss of the Eastern Hemlock in the Upstate will have a profound effect on our scenic beauty, our recreation facilities, wildlife population, trout fishery, and perhaps most importantly, watersheds. "The US Forest Service and a host of cooperating agencies are working diligently to find a solution to this pest, but the outlook so far is not good," said Cooler. "Public awareness is not widespread and thus research and preservation efforts are not well funded."

The training session furnished resource professionals with the latest and most up-to-date information available on the HWA. "Hopefully these resource professional will now be able to recognize the signs of infestations and take action to protect special stands of Eastern Hemlocks. "The training also increased public awareness and informed policy makers of the threat to our area," concluded Cooler.



*Rusty Rhea, forest entomologist with the USFS out of Asheville, NC (center), discusses the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid attack on Eastern Hemlocks with Horace Craig, Upstate manager of the South Carolina Park Service and Wes Cooler, chairman of the Foothills RC&D Council (right).*

## Volunteer Statistics

### In America



As President Bush calls for a "New Spirit of Civic Engagement," the value of volunteer time continues to climb. And as Americans heed the call for community service, the value of the time they will give to organizations has climbed to \$16.05 per hour, up from \$15.39 in 2000.

Americans who volunteer four or more hours per week will reach the president's goal of 4,000 lifetime volunteering hours in less than 20 years. According to Independent Sector's Giving and Volunteering in the United States national survey:

- In 2000, nearly half of adults (44%) or 83.9 million people volunteered their time.
- Their work represents the equivalent of over 9 million full-time employees at a value of \$239 billion.
- The average volunteer gave 3.6 hours of time per week.
- 63 % volunteered because they were asked.
- 53% of volunteers who participate with family members learned about their current volunteer activities by participating with an organization or group or from their place of employment.
- 68% of teens volunteer because it "makes me feel good"; 42% of teens volunteer because it "looks good on my college application"; 27% of teens volunteer because they "feel strongly about the issue."
- People aged 14-17 often look for online volunteer opportunities, but were not allowed to volunteer because they were too young or lacked transportation.
- Over 51% of retired seniors volunteer more than 4 hours of their time each week.
- The peak age for volunteering among seniors was for those aged 55-64.
- Three ways they learned about volunteer activities: They were asked, through participation in an organization and through a family member or relative.

**Keep these statistics in mind when recruiting volunteers for the Earth Team!**

## Sandy Island Community Celebrates Improvements with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Over fifty residents and guests were in attendance May 16, 2003, at the dedication of the recently completed shoreline improvement project on Sandy Island in Georgetown County. *The Sandy Island Community Initiative RC&D Project* included the completion of a boat dock and shoreline stabilization measures. The project was part of a comprehensive plan to improve the quality of life and address the human and natural resource concerns for the 150 residents living on Sandy Island.

The project was a cooperative partnership created by the Santee-Wateree RC&D Council, comprised of USDA-NRCS, USDA-Rural Development, Georgetown SWCD, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR), South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), Georgetown County, Georgetown County Water and Sewer, Georgetown Steel, International Paper Company, Santee-Cooper Electric Cooperative, Brookgreen Gardens and the South Carolina Nature Conservancy.

The ribbon cutting ceremony gave project participants and community residents an opportunity to gather in celebration of the progress made at Sandy Island. Guests attending the ribbon cutting ceremony included South Carolina Legislators John J. "Bubber" Snow and Vita Miller; Tommy Edwards, Georgetown County administrator; Johnny Morant, Georgetown County Council vice chairman; Katherine Jenerette, representing Congressman Henry Brown; Bethel DuRant, NRCS soil conservationist; and John Sands, with Brookgreen Gardens. Project coordinators Debbie Mann, Georgetown NRCS district conservationist, and Roy Todd, Santee-Wateree RC&D Coordinator, were applauded for their outstanding efforts in getting the project completed.

Todd said that there are plans to initiate additional projects on the island including a museum to highlight the history of the island.



Residents and project leaders and supporters gathered on May 16, 2003, to commemorate the completion of the Sandy Island Community Initiative RC&D Project.

## USDA Agencies in SC Reach Out to Customers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture sponsored a *Briefing on the 2002 Farm Bill & USDA Programs and Services*, Saturday, May 17, 2003, at the South Carolina State Museum in Columbia, SC. The briefing was designed to connect USDA customers to agency programs and services while highlighting changes in the 2002 Farm Bill. The meeting was the last in a series of national outreach meetings organized by the USDA Office of Outreach in Washington, D.C.

Nearly 150 attendees benefited from various breakout sessions led by representatives from 13 USDA agencies. The briefing presented information that was valuable to all USDA customers, including small farmers, growers, municipalities, community-based organizations, and traditionally underserved customers.

NRCS State Conservationist Walter W. Douglas said, "The sessions provided great information for both farmers and agency staff and offered the opportunity for participants to ask questions and engage presenters in discussion." Larry Clark, NRCS deputy chief for Science & Technology from Washington, D.C., also attended the meeting.



Former NRCS Assistant State Conservationist for Programs Ron Hilliard led a discussion on the 2002 Farm Bill.



Gary Sick (left), USDA Forest Service, and Al McNeil, NRCS, greeted participants at the outreach meeting.

## PERSONNEL NEWS

### PROMOTIONS

Anderson, Steve, 0457-09, Soil Conservationist - Dillon, effective April 6, 2003

Crum, Adline, 0560-11, Budget Officer – Columbia, effective May 4, 2003

Derrick, Robert, 0457-09, Soil Conservationist – Conway, effective June 1, 2003

Good, Lisa, 0457-11, District Conservationist – Laurens, effective April 20, 2003

Hardee, Brian, 0457-07, Soil Conservationist – Charleston, effective May 20, 2003

Savereno, Lynette, 0457-011, District Conservationist – Florence, effective June 1, 2003

Sherman, Joshua, 0457-09, Soil Conservationist – Newberry, effective May 18, 2003

### TRANSFER TO ANOTHER AGENCY

Bimbi, Melissa , 0401-07, Fish & Wildlife Biologist, Department of Interior, effective April 20, 2003

### TRANSFERS WITHIN NRCS

Hilliard, Ron – 0457-14, Operations Management Coordinator-NRCS/East Region, Strategic Planning Staff, effective June 1, 2003

### STUDENT

Hawkins, Scott, 0499-02, Student - Bamberg, effective June 1, 2003

Jacobs, Kristen, 0499-03, Student – Conway, effective May 18, 2003



*Summer afternoon — summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language.*

*-Henry James*



Visual Information Specialist Ervin Ricks coordinated the Southeast regional video taping which included a trip to the Eastatoee Valley in Pickens, SC. Pictured is Ricks filming Twin Falls.

### Regional RC&D Video Features Foothills Project

The Southeast Regional Office visited Pickens County last month to film a segment for a regional RC&D video. The Upstate project *Partners for Trout* will be highlighted in the video. The *Partners for Trout* project is comprised of Eastatoee Valley landowners, the Foothills RC&D, SCDNR, Trout Unlimited, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Oconee, Pickens, and Greenville SWCD's, U.S. Forest Service, and USDA-NRCS.

Featured in the video were Foothills RC&D Coordinator Dave Demarest, Foothills RC&D Chairman Wes Cooler, and SCDNR fisheries biologist Dan Rankin.