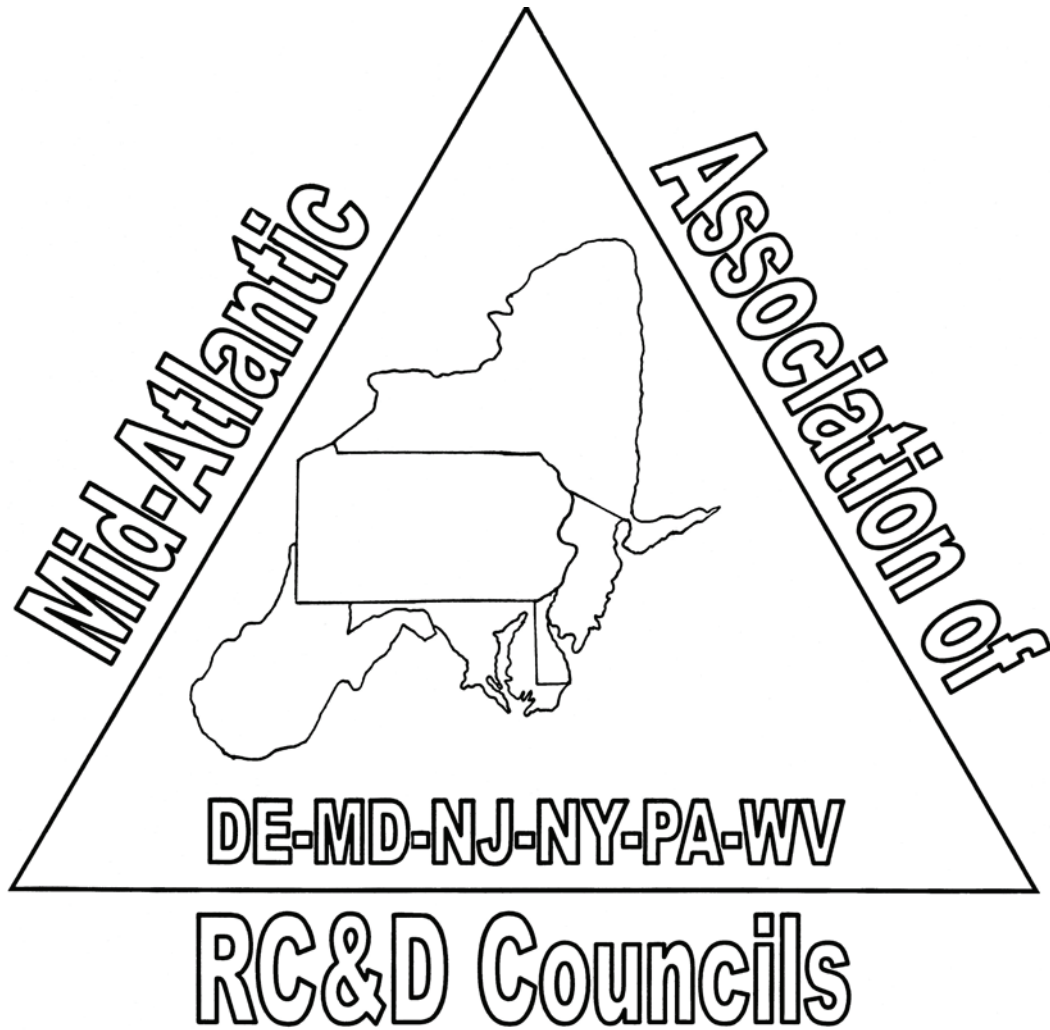


# Member Council Reports



2010

# Southern Maryland Resource Conservation and Development, Inc.



## 2009 Annual Report

### RC&D Welcomes New Program Officer and Coordinator

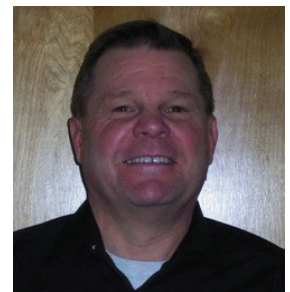


Franklin Holley is Southern Maryland RC&D's new Program Officer. She serves as a program facilitator and liaison between our projects, our communities, and our Board of Directors. Franklin has a Master's Degree from the University of California, Davis in International Agricultural Development, and her focus has always been on community and rural development.

Franklin has experience in Cooperative Extension programming in nutrition and consumer education with low-income families and schools in East Tennessee, has served as a volunteer with Heifer International to provide education about worldwide hunger and poverty and sustainable development, and has extensive experience working with and researching sustainable development and agricultural production in Latin America, namely in Ecuador and Costa Rica. Originally from East Tennessee, Franklin is excited to be back on the East Coast and part of the Southern Maryland RC&D team since June 2008.

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Southern Maryland RC&D welcomes Gilbert "Buddy" Bowling, Jr. as our new Coordinator. Buddy's previous assignments included serving as Special Assistant to the Maryland Secretary of Agriculture, Executive Director of the Maryland Agricultural Commission, as well as the Department's Public Outreach Coordinator. Buddy also served as the Agricultural Administrator/Environmental Planner with the Charles County Government/County Planning and Growth Management Department, working on agricultural preservation initiatives and other environmental programs.



Buddy holds a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture/Agronomy from the University of Maryland and is a third generation farmer. He has developed a passion for emergency management/homeland security after performing agricultural field assessments following the La Plata tornado and serving as the Co-Coordinator of the Center for Agrosecurity and Emergency Management.

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**SOUTHERN RC&D MARYLAND**  
**RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, INC.**

June 2010

Dear Friend of RC&D:

It is that time of the year when we have an opportunity to reflect on the past year and all the projects that we have been working on and completing. Time has a way of moving right along, and so does the work load at the RC&D office. Our new Coordinator, Buddy Bowling, is a welcome addition to the staff as he brings a lot of knowledge to the job. We are looking forward to a long working relationship with Buddy and the programs and projects that he will bring to the Board in the near future. Our Program Officer has more than met our expectations. Franklin Holley came on board last year and has been running every moment. The Board is very fortunate to have her creative ability and challenging mind.

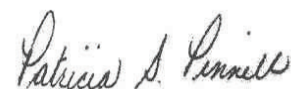
To peek into 2010, Southern Maryland RC&D had a major decision to make this Spring. This was a difficult decision to make, but I feel we have made the correct choice. It is always hard to move away from a location that is comfortable and secure. The Southern Maryland RC&D Board took a huge step and voted to move the office from its Charles County location in Waldorf to Leonardtown in St. Mary's County. The Agricultural Services Center will give the RC&D Staff and Board Members access to many farm agencies thus giving us an opportunity to partner with these organizations.

Southern Maryland RC&D partnering with the Western Maryland and Eastern Shore RC&Ds to sponsor the Mid-Atlantic RC&D conference in September. The group has been meeting on a regular basis to plan and implement the program. I would like to encourage as many of the Southern Maryland RC&D Board Members to attend this meeting as possible. You will receive information very soon concerning the registration.

Being a member of the Southern Maryland RC&D Board is an honor. I would like to thank all of our Board Members for their hard work and volunteer time to the development and success of the RC&D program. RC&D members are such valuable individuals with many talents. Pat yourself on the back for a job well done. It is very difficult to put into words how valuable you are.



Sincerely,



Pat Pinnell, Chair  
Southern Maryland RC&D

# AWARDS

## SOUTHERN MARYLAND RC&D RECOGNIZED

### Mission Statement

*Working in partnership with community groups and organizations, Southern Maryland Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. is dedicated to improving quality of life in the region by enabling the people and promoting the wise use of our natural and economic resources.*

### Former RC&D Coordinator Promoted



Jeremy West began a new era in his professional career on September 14, 2009 with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as the Manager of the Norman A. Berg National Plant Materials Center

in Beltsville, Maryland. Jeremy stated that working with the Southern Maryland RC&D Board of Directors the last four years was an absolutely wonderful experience.

“It was,” according to Jeremy, “a joy to work with such talented and dedicated people, volunteering their time and giving of themselves to make Southern Maryland a better place to live, work and play.” Jeremy learned a lot from everyone, and he hopes they learned at least a little from him.

He looks forward to continuing to support RC&D’s important work from his new position and feels there are many projects that we can continue to collaborate on in the future. In addition, Jeremy stated that there is more work to be done. He wishes the best of luck to the new RC&D Coordinator and is certain he will find the experience of working with this Board as rewarding and as meaningful as Jeremy did.

We thank Jeremy for his years of service and dedication to the mission of the Southern Maryland RC&D and wish him luck in his new position.

### Board Members Recognized for their Outstanding Service

In April 2009, RC&D celebrated another year of successful partnerships in Southern Maryland at their Annual Awards Dinner on April 30<sup>th</sup> at King’s Landing Park in Huntingtown, MD. Over 60 people attended, including Dick Myers - Assistant to Senator Barbara Mikulski, and Anne Arundel County Delegate Don Dwyer and his guest Tom Redmond, Calvert County Commissioner Barbara Stinnett, and Mark Rose - USDA-NRCS Assistant State Conservationist for Programs. Board Member Bill Clark gave a presentation on the RC&D projects in Calvert County.

Member of the year went to Chairwoman Patricia Pinnell. Luis Dieguez, District Manager for Charles County Soil Conservation District was given the W. Mitchell Digges Project Leadership Award for his five years of service to the Southern Maryland RC&D Board. Tom Tudor received the Walter Bender Award for his fourteen years on the Board.

Scott Hardaway from Coastline Design, P.C. was given a plaque for recognition and appreciation for his design work at Naval Support Facility Indian Head and Patuxent River Naval Air Station. Certificates of Appreciation were given to Jim Gunn, Coastal Design and Construction, for his work at NSF Indian Head and to Denitra Brawner, RC&D Office Associate, for all her work for the Board. Winners also received citations from Senator Barbara Mikulski and Senator Benjamin Cardin.

Thanks to everyone for all other their support and hard work towards the efforts of RC&D!



# SOUTHERN MARYLAND RC&D ACTIVITIES

## 2009 National RC&D Leadership Forum

In February 2009, Southern Maryland RC&D sent Chair Patricia Pinnell, Secretary/Treasurer Olga Walter, Board Member Luis Dieguez and Office Associate Denitra Brawner to the Annual RC&D Leadership Forum in Washington, DC.

RC&D council members from across the nation participated in the three-day event which focused on legislative priorities for the Farm Bill and for Fiscal Year 2010.

On the last day of the Leadership Forum, council members met with various legislative members to ask for support for the RC&D program. Southern Maryland RC&D members met with assistants from the offices of Congressman Steny Hoyer, Senator Benjamin Cardin and Senator Barbra Mikulski.

National Scenic Trail offers a dynamic, interpretive experience to trail users, while bringing unique and sustainable economic development opportunities to trail adjacent communities as Southern Marylanders embrace cyclists, hikers, and paddlers from Washington, DC and beyond.

At the Awards banquet, Southern Maryland RC&D was among the many winners of the Circle of Diamonds Award. The Circle of Diamonds is a certification process created by the NARC&DC that recognizes exemplary RC&D Councils throughout the country. Circle membership recognizes the Board's honesty, integrity and strong commitment to the RC&D mission. Member Boards and Councils have helped to produce quality programs within their local communities and demonstrate management excellence. We are proud to receive this award from the National Association and be a part of a growing group of outstanding RC&D Boards and Councils.

## 2009 National RC&D Conference

The National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils (NARC&DC) recently held their National Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The following Board Members attended the conference: Olga Walter, Pat Pinnell, and Mike Pellegrino. Southern Maryland RC&D Program Officer Franklin Holley, RC&D Office Associate Denitra Brawner and RC&D Coordinator Jeremy West also attended.

Over 850 people attended the conference from 375 RC&D Councils. There were numerous training sessions ranging from financial management, area planning, renewable energy and water management.

The Southern Maryland RC&D Board had the opportunity to showcase a poster presenting the Southern Maryland Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail at the National Conference. The Trail was granted National Scenic Trail designation by the National Park Service in August 2008. This new addition to the more than 830-mile Potomac Heritage



*Board Members Mike Pellegrino, Olga Walter, Patricia Pinnell, Office Associate Denitra Brawner, and Program Officer Franklin Holley accept the Circle of Diamonds award at the National RC&D Conference.*

**To learn more about the National Association of RC&D Councils, Circle of Diamonds Standards of Excellence, and National RC&D events and trainings, please visit their website at [www.rcdnet.org](http://www.rcdnet.org).**