



CAWACO ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY 2016

Grant Project Synopsis

The 2016 Cawaco Resource, Conservation & Development Council's Grant Program, and other projects administered for the counties of Blount, Chilton, Jefferson, Shelby and Walker Counties in North Central Alabama.

PROJECT TITLE	Project Description
2016 USDA/NRCS OUTREACH	Host a series of ten outreach meetings within the Cawaco five county area, in order to educate the public about NRCS/USDA programs and services.
2016 AARC&DC STATE CONFERENCE	To educate board members and staff about tax issues, policies and procedures, strategic planning, fund raising, grant writing and council sustainability.
Black Warrior CWP Facilitation	Facilitation service of the Black Warrior Clean Water Partnership.
Fire Tower Palisades	To restore and preserve a historic fire tower located at Palisades Park in Oneonta.
Hope for Women Van Project	Hope for Women take women off the street or directly from jail and provide them shelter, food, and life essentials. These women will then complete job readiness training, attend parenting classes, learn about personal management, take GED classes, etc.
Skulls and Skins	The Urban Forestry and Conservation Fair is an Annual event that hosts 24 classes of 5th grade students from the metro-Birmingham area. This grant will cover the purchase of pelts and skulls of animals found in Alabama's urban environment for use in educational classes.
Volunteer Fire & Rescue Enhancement	To obtain emergency, fire & rescue training and classroom equipment; replace outdated radios so that we may better serve the needs in our community and surrounding area.
Personal Protective Equipment for Glennwood VFD	To provide our firefighters with turn out gear that is N.F.P.A. safety compliant to ensure their safety on every call they attend.
Equipping our Firefighters	To purchase personal protective gear for three firefighters at Murphee Valley VFD.
Presidents Outdoor Scholars Program	With the help a professional consultant, students will evaluate the University of Montevallo lake, to determine overall health of the fish and habitat. Funds from this grant will help pay for the pond management project of the Outdoor Scholar Program.
Polaris Ranger Bed Insert- Rocky Ridge FD	Purchase a MedLite Transport Deluxe bed insert for the Polaris 4X4 Ranger 900. The districts covers 9 miles of terrain along the Cahaba River that is only accessible by the Polaris vehicle.
Equipment Upgrade	To purchase equipment to bring both fire engines up to NFPA equipment standards.
Revive East Lake	To purchase mature, low-maintenance trees, shrubs and plantings, decorative trash cans and benches for the 7600 block of 1st Avenue North.
Ebenezer Swamp Ecological Interpretative Center	This project will allow the University of Montevallo to upgrade the house that is to become the Interpretative Center to the existing city water and sewer.

Summer BASIC 2016	This funding will allow ABF to conduct one BASIC program for 70-75 children to target summer learning loss in under-served children in the Birmingham Metro area.
Turkey Creek Nature Center	Add heat/air, fix wood rot and gutters, and do other needed repairs and upgrades to the existing Nature Center at Turkey Creek Nature Preserve.
Training Tower Construction- Allgood	To build a training tower to train firefighters and first responders in our department and surrounding departments on search and rescue evolutions as well as high angle rescue situations.
Habitat Restoration- Ruffner Mt.	Removal of non-native, invasive plants and other non-desirables and replanting with appropriate native grasses and herbaceous plants.
Blackwater Blueway	Improve access to the river from shore at 2 access points: AL 257 (put in) and at N Walston Bridge Rd (take out) Additional funds will help support campsite improvements, such as construction of a fire ring.
Palmerdale Fire Hose	To purchase 10 sections of 4 inch fire hose and four sections of 1.75" fire hose, or what can be funded with allocated funds.
Fire Communications	To provide communications equipment to our firefighters so they may have outside communications with other agencies.
Try Trail- Walker County Lake	To create a suite of trails, with the longest being over 3.5 miles long, including the supplies for building the trails, marking paint, gasoline, etc; foot bridge construction, educational kiosk, trail head markers. And birding signage.
Expanding Horizons 2016	Acquire supplies and materials for the Expanding Horizons summer program in Blount County.
One-On-One Technology	To help provide technology devices to 9-12th grade students as well as learning management software and instruction/technology integration through professional development of teachers.
BW/Cahaba CWP Support	Provide facilitation services to the Black Warrior and Cahaba River Clean Water Partnership groups. The goal is to improve water quality by utilizing cooperative local partnerships.
Chilton County Expo	Tours of fruit production, fish management, research projects, cooking demonstrations, goat herd management, portable sawmill demo, etc. This grant will help fund materials for the event as well as cover some of the rental fees.
Westend Leadership Program	Teach job readiness skills; provide life skills instruction and equip each participant with leadership skills to assist and guide them to a positive future. This grant will be used to purchase office equipment and supplies.
In School Art Education	To facilitate a four part educational program by collaborating with the Walker County School Board. Subjects include native American pottery, music and visual arts, and creative storytelling. This grant will help fund the instructors and purchase materials.
Forest in the Classroom	Members of the Blount County Resource Planning Committee will visit multiple classrooms to present actual, specific, detailed lesson plans developed for fifth graders, to discuss and explore Alabama's world-class natural resource

	diversity.
Demonstration Garden	To redesign a demonstration garden in an effort to increase and improve the quality of horticulture education.
Raise the Roof	To help repair the roof on an historic structure. Much of the funds have already been donated. These funds will help cover labor expense.
ACCESS for ALL	To provide public restrooms that meet AFDA standards and ICC A 117 accessible usage building and restroom facilities at Blountsville Historical Park.
Smile Chilton County	To provide dental prevention in low income eligible clients. To be provided every 6 months by a local dentist professional.
Upgrade/Retest Equipment	To upgrade/replace broken flashlights, thermal imaging camera batteries, purchase GPS units for the trucks, and to re-certify SCBA bottles.
Walking Track for Townley	To create a walking track for the community
Tool Trailer for Trails	Cawaco maintains and keeps available a utility trailer that is stocked with tools for trail building purposes. The trailer is made available to volunteer groups. This grant helps keep the trailer maintained and covers misc. expenses and management.
Kayaks for Kids	Kayaks for Kids is an ongoing initiative that makes kayaks available to various groups (boy scouts, YMCA's, etc.) for educational and recreational purposes. The goal is to make the kayaks available to underprivileged children.
Greenhouse Thompson HS	Thompson HS is a recipient of a Cawaco greenhouse.
Greenhouse Southeastern HS	Southeastern HS is a recipient of a Cawaco greenhouse.
Chainsaws for Walker VFD's	Purchase chainsaws for all 26 VFD's in the county
PAW Park- Jasper	To establish a fenced in, off-leash dog park where well-behaved canine citizens can exercise in clean, safe environment without endangering or annoying people, property or pets.
EMT Academy	To purchase supplies to develop and maintain a yearly Basic EMT course. The course will be located in Oneonta and benefit the entire county by preparing first responders with greater knowledge and skills to provide emergency care to citizens.
Community Shelter and Fire Equipment	Provide safe shelter for citizens of Pineywoods during inclement weather and provide safety equipment to protect the volunteer fire department.
Cahaba CWP Facilitation	To facilitate the Cahaba Clean Water Partnership.
Seeds for Gardens	To distribute, free of charge, hundreds of pounds of vegetable seeds to community and school gardens throughout the state of Alabama.
Security System for Agribusiness Center	To provide maximum security for the events held at the Agribusiness Center and to provide protection for the facility. Installed 17 fixed cameras, 3 30x PTZ

	cameras, a video recording system, 2 televisions for monitoring purposes, and associated network
Housing Redevelopment Technical Assistance	Provide technical assistance with revitalization efforts in the western areas of Birmingham.
Cottonwood Creek	Development of a Watershed management Plan for Cottonwood creek. Cottonwood creek is a tributary to the Black Warrior River and is located in the counties of Hale, Morengo and Perry Counties of Alabama.
TNC Urban Forestry Plan	To develop an Urban Forest working group and action plan for the City of Birmingham. The objective is to create actionable items to improve tree canopy and to consolidate area resources and programs.
2016-2017 Strategic Habitat Internship	Support for two summer interns who will collect stream and road crossing data as part of the Alabama Strategic Habitat Unit (SHU) Project. This project supports the efforts of the US Fish & Wildlife Service's critical habitat initiative and collects data
Raising the Red Flag	Part of the Downtown revitalization in Jasper
Regional Library and Arts Center in Warrior	Funds will be used to upgrade, retrofit and repurpose a historic 13,600 square foot armory, with energy efficient HVAC, windows, lighting, etc., and provide educational signage.
Water Quality Monitoring Kits	Conduct water monitoring classes at for Pinson Valley High School students.
Agriculture from a New Perspective	Purchase a Phantom 4 Quadcopter Drone and iPad mini to assist landowners with conservation practices on their land as well as conducting educational programs with local schools. The Phantom 4 Quadcopter Drone provides high quality video as well as still
Hybrid Challenge	Walker county student built hybrid car. This car will use a Greenpower USA electric car kit as a base and an internal Combustion engine to compete it the Shell Challenge, which is nationally sponsored race.



L-R: State Senator Clyde Chambliss Jr., volunteers Denise Scarborough, Pam Pearsons, Ola Taylor, Cawaco programs Manager Patti Pennington and Representative Mark Tuggle. (Photo by Anthony Richards)



Cawaco Executive Director distributing free soil to community and school gardens as part of the Cawaco RC&D and Scotts Company 2016 Gro Our Community Soil Donation Program.



Cawaco Announces Grants for the Blountsville Historical Park.

L-R: District 2 Commissioner Carthal Self, District 11 Rep. Randall Shedd, council member Dennis Beavers, community leader Dicey Childers, District 9 Sen. Clay Scofield who, along with Shedd, figured prominently in securing funding, Mayor Michael Glass, volunteer Marlon Beasley, CAWACO coordinator Patti Pennington, volunteer Betty Alexander, and volunteers Allen and Frankie Neel and Brice Posey.



Blount County Agribusiness Center received a grant to install a security system. From left, District 11 Rep. Randall Shedd, Danna Standridge wife of and assistant to District 34 Rep. David Standridge (standing to her left), District 17 Sen. Shay Shelnett, Blount County Probate Judge Chris Green, CAWACO coordinator Patti Pennington, Agri-Business Center secretary Tara Murphree, CAWACO board member Doug Smith, District 3 Commissioner Dean Calvert, and Moore. CAWACO is a private non-profit organization that has assisted Blount County organizations with funding for a wide variety of projects over the years.



Rocky Ridge Fire District: A Cawaco grant funded the purchase of a specialized patient transport bed for the Polaris 4x4 Ranger 900. With the purchase of the Polaris and the transport bed, rescuers will now be able to access patients injured in steep, forested areas, and transport them in a less laborious and more time-efficient manner.



Town of Sipsey Volunteer Fire & Rescue was awarded a Cawaco grant to upgrade their communications system. Here firefighters work with Dilworth Church of God with their preschool during fire awareness day. These guys also helped Community Steps Project, Inc. with fire prevention for the children at multiple site locations, and was able to utilize the radios at the fire department's annual "Sipsey Fest".