

*The Cawaco RC&D Council is actively involved in the management of multi-county, cross-jurisdictional projects that address natural, financial, and/or human resource opportunities within Blount, Chilton, Jefferson, Shelby, and Walker Counties. Many of these projects involve partnerships between local businesses, governmental agencies and citizen volunteers.*

### **BASIC INFO**

- We serve Blount, Chilton, Jefferson, Shelby and Walker Counties of Alabama
- We award approximately \$200,000 in grants each year
- The grant application becomes available April 1 through July 1 of each year, with awards announced in September
- Final reports are due August 1 of each year
- Awards are \$3500 minimum and no more than \$10,000 unless the project affects more than one county and grantee has spoken with the Programs Manager
- New applicants should call or email, get a letter of support, or a recommendation from a Board Member prior to applying
- ALL GRANTS ARE REIMBURSABLE
- Grantees who do not use their grant award and fail to cancel their grant are ineligible to reapply for a minimum of 2 years

### **How Are Grants Chosen?**

**Each year, we receive far more applications than we can possibly fund.**

- A Board Member from each county serves on the Grant Committee
- The Grant Committee members review and score each grant
- The Grant Committee considers the following:
  - Projects must meet Cawaco Areas of Focus
  - Projects where a small amount will make a big impact
  - Community need, public support, and area/number of people affected
  - Partnerships, volunteers and donations
  - Grants must meet Cawaco Goals and Objectives
  - If the grant committee member knows you or your organization, it helps.

*\*\*If you would like to contact the grant committee member in your area to discuss your project with them, we encourage you to do so. Call Patti for more information.205-623-0457*

### **What types of projects have we funded?**

#### **Environmental Projects:**

- ❖ Drought tolerant landscaping
- ❖ Water catchment systems
- ❖ Environmental education
- ❖ Parks and trails

#### **First Responder Support:**

- ❖ Equipment upgrades
- ❖ Training
- ❖ Radios, turn out gear, specialized rescue equipment

#### **Education:**

- ❖ Scholarships
- ❖ Equipment
- ❖ Books/ Supplies
- ❖ Workforce Development

#### **Parks and Rec:**

- ❖ Walking tracks
- ❖ Facility Improvements
- ❖ Nature trails
- ❖ Native tree planting
- ❖ Invasive control

#### **Preservation of History and Natural Resources:**

- ❖ Restoration of historic buildings & artifacts
- ❖ Preservation and improvements of open spaces

### **What don't we fund?**

- ❖ Salaries
- ❖ Office Expenses
- ❖ Food
- ❖ T-shirts/Promotional Items
- ❖ Religious Organizations for Religious Purposes
- ❖ Land Purchases

REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT:

1. Spend funds in the timeframe set forth in your grant agreement.
2. Spend funds as outlined in your grant application budget
3. Submit Online reporting form
4. Acknowledge funding from Cawaco on print media, or social media (Logo Below)
5. Include all documentation:
  - a. Invoices or receipts
  - b. Check copies or bank statements
  - c. Photos



CAWACO  
RC&D  
COUNCIL

*Cawaco RC&D programs and activities are available without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status*

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