

**ALAMO
Resource Conservation and
Development (RC&D)
Area, Inc.**



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2007 ANNUAL REPORT

MEMBERS

ORGANIZATIONS

Greater Randolph Area Youth Soccer Association (GRAYSA)
 Bexar-Bulverde VFD
 Roy Maas Youth Alternatives
 Friends of Ameriquet
 Triple H Equitherapy Center
 Castlelake Ranch VFD
 Children’s New Beginnings
 Guadalupe Valley Electric Coop
 Cibolo Arts Council
 Friends of Cibolo Wilderness
 Hill Country Daily Bread Ministries
 Christian Women’s Job Corp of Kendall County
 Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center
 Grace House, Inc.
 Comfort Area Youth Commission
 Kendall County Fair Association
 Boerne Boys & Girls Club
 Hill Country Family Services
 Friends of the Boerne Public Library
 Boerne Area Community Foundation

Majestic Ranch Arts Foundation
 Kendall Co. 4-H Club
 Congregation of Benedictine Sisters
 Equessence

GOVERNMENT

Atascosa County
 Kendall County
 Kerr County
 Guadalupe County
 Wilson County
 Alamo Area Council of Governments

STATE

San Antonio River Authority
 Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District
 Kendall SWCD

INDIVIDUALS

John Kight
 Pamela Duke

PARTNERS

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
 Texas Coop. Extension Service
 San Antonio Water System
 San Antonio River Authority
 Texas Mexico Border Coalition
 Capital Farm Credit
 Kendall SWCD
 Medina Valley SWCD
 Wilson County SWCD
 Bexar County SWCD

Comal-Guadalupe SWCD
 Kerr County SWCD
 Atascosa County SWCD
 Bandera SWCD
 Frio County SWCD
 Kendall County
 Wilson County
 Guadalupe County
 Atascosa County
 USDA-Rural Development
 Lower Colorado River Authority

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Russell Abraham
 Celie Holekamp
 H. A. Katzer
 SJ Derby
 Jamie W. Lively

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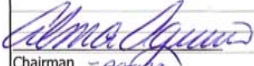
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2007 BUDGET

Alamo R C& D Area, Inc.		
2007 Budget		
January through December		
INCOME		
Useable Funds Balance	17,000	
Membership Dues	3000	
NRCS Grant	14,000	
Projects		
Proposal Writing Courses	6,000	
Kendall Co SEP	6,800	
Atascosa Co SEP	5,000	
Kerr Co Household Hazardous Waste	25,000	
Wilson Co SEP - Household	9,696	
Bexar Co. SEP - Household	2,700	
RC &D Building	218,464	
Semi-Annual Meetings	1,500	
Basic Computer E-Gov Training	0	
Noncash Contributions-NRCS	95,000	
Alamo Grant Fees	1,000	
Fundraising	5,000	
TOTAL INCOME	\$410,160	
EXPENSES		
Dues/Subscriptions	900	
Insurance	600	
Professional Fees	800	
Postage	1,500	
Travel/Training	5,000	
Miscellaneous	500	
Administrative Assistant/Secretary		
Salary	17,888	4% raise
Payroll Taxes	1,800	
Projects		
Kendall SEP	6,800	
Atascosa SEP	5,000	
Kerr Co Household Hazardous Waste	25,000	
Wilson Co SEP - Household	9,696	
Bexar Co. SEP - Household	2,700	
RC &D Building	218,464	
Proposal Writing Courses	3,000	
Semi-Annual Meetings	1,200	
Board Development Training	350	
Basic Computer E-Gov Training	0	
Noncash Contributions - NRCS	95,000	
Office Supplies	300	
Office Equipment	500	
Software	500	
Website	1,200	
Internet	1,500	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$400,198	
NET INCOME	\$9,962	
Budget Approved at the regulary scheduled Alamo RC &D Board of Directors Meeting		
 Chairman - <i>ACG</i>		10/25/06 Date

COUNCIL IMPACT

ANNUAL MEETING/FUNDRAISER EVENT

The Annual Meeting of the membership was held on December 12, 2007 at Alamo Café in San Antonio. The business meeting began at 10:30 a.m. The program followed with presentations from Tomas Dominguez, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Bertha T. Venegas, RC&D Coordinator for NRCS. Information was exchanged about the NRCS perspective on the RC&D program and an overview of the years' successes for the Alamo RC&D Area. Marva Beck, President of the Texas Association of RC&D Councils was the guest speaker and provided information about the Texas RC&D Program and their priorities.

A Silent Auction was also part of the program and has become an annual fundraising event for the Council. Karen Opiela, Chairperson of the Alamo RC&D presented an award to Harold Gavitt who will be retiring from volunteer service to Alamo RC&D. She presented awards to both Juan Estrada who served as Chairman and Alma Aguirre who served as Vice Chairperson. The program ended with the closing of the silent auction and the awarding of a digital camera to one lucky participant!



ANNUAL MEETING DONORS

BUSINESSES

Spurs Foundation
Sea World Adventure
Parks
Imax Theatre
Kiobassa Provision
Sportsmans Warehouse

Cavender Buick

Brama Branding Irons

ORGANIZATIONS

Atascosa SWCD
Alamo Area Council of
Governments

INDIVIDUALS

Karen Opiela
Tanveer Esmail
Joe Ramos

PURPOSE

The Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Program is a nation-wide United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) program administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The purpose of the RC&D program is to accelerate the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources, improve the general level of economic activity, and to enhance the environment and standard of living in designated RC&D areas.

MISSION

The mission of the Alamo RC&D Area is to provide a focal point for local leadership to develop and implement strategies for the wise use, development and conservation of the natural resources within the area.

VISION

The vision of Alamo RC&D Area is to provide a long range program to increase job opportunities, stimulate the local economy, provide and improve existing community facilities and services and improve the quality of life for the people within the area.

GOALS

- A. Establish an RC&D Project Management System
- B. Improve Water Resources Management
- C. Improve the Environment
- D. Assist in Community Development
- E. Improve Human Resources
- F. Assist Communities during Disasters

HISTORY

What is RC&D?

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) is a unique program, led by local volunteer councils, that helps people care for and protect natural resources in a way that improves the local economy, environment, and living standards. RC&D is a way for people to work together to plan and carry out activities that will make their areas better places to live.

Empowering Local Citizens

RC&D is based on the assumption that local citizens, with assistance, can develop and carry out action-oriented plans for the social, economic, and environmental enrichment of rural communities.

The Purpose

The purpose of RC&D is to promote conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources; to improve the general level of economic activity; and to enhance the environment and standard of living in rural communities. The aim is to provide a system of development, encourage the wise use of natural resources, and improve the quality of life in rural America.

The Process

To carry out the RC&D concept, diverse groups of local volunteers are brought together in a unique partnership to find solutions to their problems. The structure for this process involves:

- Identifying problems
- Establishing Goals and Objectives
- Developing Alternative Plans
- Implementing Plans

Facts About RC&D Councils

The RC&D Councils direct the program at the local level. They provide a focal point of local leadership, bring together private citizens, local, state and federal agencies to improve economic, social, and environmental well being. Each council is governed by a board of directors.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) supports the local RC&D Council by providing an employee to serve as a Coordinator. The Coordinator assists the Council in carrying out the Area Plan by providing guidance, advice, and helping direct program assistance from federal agencies, state agencies, and nonprofit organizations to RC&D Councils.

COUNCIL IMPACT

COMFORT HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

Comfort, TX- Comfort residents discarded approximately 5,600 pounds of materials for recycling or safe disposal at a collection event held in Comfort on October 13, 2007.

Residents representing 66 households hauled in four boxes of oil based paints (3200 lbs. total), 800 lbs. of pesticide liquid, 400 lbs. of pesticide solids, 125 lbs. of aerosols, 40 lbs. of acidic material, 40 lbs. of alkaline material, 30 lbs. of oxidizing material, 30 lbs. of ammonia based alkaline material and 1000 lbs. of latex paint. Approximately 50 batteries were collected, 98 gallons of oil, 70 gallons of oil filters and 10 gallons of antifreeze.

The event was sponsored by the County of Kendall, the Kendall Soil and Water Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

The event was made possible in part by local volunteers from the Kendall County Road and Bridge Department, the Boerne Volunteer Fire Department, the Comfort Volunteer Fire Department and the Kendall County Sheriff's Department.



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

A Wildlife Management Workshop was conducted on September 18-19, 2007 at the Helotes 4-H Activity Center. The program consisted of speakers on NRCS Wildlife Management Programs, Hunting Laws and Regulations, Wildlife Food and Feeding and the Impact of Men on Habitat.

COUNCIL IMPACT

KERRVILLE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE CLEANUP EVENT

Kerrville, TX– Kerr County residents discarded approximately 37,050 pounds of materials for recycling or safe disposal at a collection event held in Kerrville on September 15, 2007.

A total of 875 cars dropped off 37,050 lbs. of pesticide/flammable liquids, 800 lbs of pesticide/toxic solids, 600 lbs. of corrosive inorganic liquids, 800 lbs. of aerosol cans, 24,400 lbs. of paint in cans, 6000 lbs. of latex paint, 500 lbs. of non-regulated materials and 1600 lbs. of flammable liquids. The event also collected 600 tires.

The City of Kerrville maintains a Community Recycling Center and hosts two events a year for Kerrville residents to safely dispose of hazardous materials. This event sponsored by Alamo RC&D was open to all residents of Kerr County and was in addition to the two events already held.

The event was sponsored by the City of Kerrville in partnership with Alamo RC&D.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen L. Opiela	Chairperson	Wilson County
Albert Gamez	Vice Chairman	At-Large
Gerard Martelly	Secretary/Treasurer	At-Large
George Holekamp	Director	Kerr County
Roger Baenziger	Director	Guadalupe County
Michael Korus	Director	Atascosa County
Harold Gavitt	Director	Bexar County
Briana Bachus	Director	Medina County
Alicia Machado	Director	Frio County
Armand Martinez	Director	At-Large
Gene Camargo	Director	At-Large
Joe Ramos	Director	Alamo Area Council of Governments

COUNCIL

Atascosa County	Comal County	Lynn Heckler
Judge Diana Bautista	Carroll Lindeman	Darrel Lux
Michael Korus		
Sherry Orsak	Frio County	Kerr County
Armand Martinez	Alicia Machado	George Holekamp
	Jesus Salinas	Mary Ellen Summerlin
		John R. Mosty
Bandera County		Brenda Chapman
Paul Garrison Jr.	Guadalupe County	
Richard Keith	Carroll Lindeman	Medina County
Dave Demers	Roger Baenziger	Thomas Boehme
	Gerard Martelly	
Bexar County	Wendy Swan	Wilson County
Harold Gavitt		Albert Gamez
Gary Schott	Kendall County	Karen Opiela
Kara Hill	Alma Aguirre	Pat Moczygomba
Gene A. Camargo	Dusty Bruns	

STAFF

Bertha T. Venegas	RC&D Coordinator
Rosie Flores	Secretary/ Administrative Assistant



AREA OF OPERATION

Established in 1991, Alamo RC&D Area, Inc. is a 501 (C) (3) not for profit organization that addresses natural resource conservation and community development in ten counties including Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Guadalupe, Kendall, Kerr, Medina and Wilson. The area is considered a mixture of both rural and urban with Bexar County and San Antonio serving as the major urban center and the rural counties and communities form a rough circle around it. There are over 50 cities, towns and communities served by the RC&D Area. The total population for the area is approximately 1.5 million.

ASSISTANCE THROUGH RC&D

- Provide rural communities the necessary tools to be able to apply for and receive grants.
- Locate and help obtain funding and technology to provide adequate water resource management.
- Implement projects to help clean up the environment.
- Increase the capacity of the council and its ability to address the needs of the Area and seek appropriate funding.
- Sponsor workshops for landowners to teach the basic of computers and EGov.
- Assist communities after flooding disasters.
- Support and sponsor environment and natural resource concern workshops for the public.
- Provide funding information and sources to community projects.

COUNCIL IMPACT

FARMERS AND RANCHERS WORKSHOP

The Alamo RC&D working in partnership with the Texas Mexico Border Coalition and the Texas Cooperative Extension Service sponsored a workshop for farmers and ranchers on June 2, 2007 in San Antonio, Texas.

Well over 75 participants received information regarding government programs, premise and animal identification, wildlife, organics and meats.

Thirteen different agencies came together to sponsor this workshop. Participants were treated to lunch and door prizes were awarded throughout the day.



PROPOSAL WRITING WORKSHOP

The Alamo RC&D sponsored a two day “From grant Seeking to Grant Winning” Proposal Writing Workshop on June 28-29, 2007 in Boerne, Texas.

The workshop was taught by Alma Aguirre, a nonprofit development specialist.

Participants in attendance represented nonprofit organizations from around the area.

The two day workshop covered a variety of topics including putting the proposal together, the writing of all the elements involved in a proposal and grant resources and research.

COUNCIL IMPACT



WILSON COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Floresville, TX- Wilson County residents discarded approximately 9,500 pounds of materials for recycling or safe disposal at a collection event held in Floresville on May 19, 2007. Residents representing 76 households hauled in 200 pounds of aerosols, 600 pounds of pesticide/flammable liquids, 200 pounds of pesticide solids, 30 pounds of corrosive liquids, and 6500 pounds of paint. Approximately 50 batteries were collected and over 450 gallons of oil and 200 pounds of oil filters. This is the first time we held a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event in Wilson County and we did not know what to expect,” said Commissioner Albert Gamez. “We are glad to have been able to assist the residents of Wilson County.”

The event was made possible through a grant from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to the Alamo Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area, Inc.

The Wilson County Emergency Management Division personnel were set up to handle any emergency spills or fires that might arise from the event.

Community service volunteers and the Stockdale Volunteer Fire Department assisted with the event.

The event was held in cooperation with the County of Wilson, the City of Floresville and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

National Leadership Forum—Karen Opiela, representing Alamo RC&D, attended the Annual Leadership Forum on February 25-28, 2007 in Washington, D.C.

Southwest States RC&D Conference—Karen Opiela, representing Alamo RC&D, attended the Southwest States RC&D Conference, February 18-22, 2007 in Lafayette, LA.

Texas Association of RC&D Councils Meeting—Karen Opiela, Albert Gamez, and Rosie Flores, representing Alamo RC&D, attended the Annual State RC&D Meeting, April 10-13, 2007 in Eagle Pass.

Alamo RC&D Board of Directors Meetings—the council conducted board of directors meetings on February 14, April 25, June 27, August 22, October 24 and December 12.

Board Development Training—a training was completed March 27, 2007 in San Antonio, Texas for board of directors, council and members.

Annual Meeting—the council conducted the Annual Membership Meeting, December 12, 2007 in San Antonio, Texas. Approximately 30 community leaders attended.

Annual Auction Fundraiser—an auction to raise funds for the council was conducted during the Annual Meeting, December 12, 2007 in San Antonio, Texas.

Kendall County RC&D Committee—met on January 18, May 17, and July 19.

Alamo Website—the council launched a website and can be found at www.alamorcd.org.

RC&D Concepts Training—Karen Opiela and Joe Ramos attended the training on September 12-13, 2007 in Austin, Texas.

COUNCIL IMPACT

LAKEHILLS CIVIC CENTER

The Alamo RC&D Area, Inc. working in partnership with the Medina Lake Betterment Association (MLBA) received a \$53,200 grant from the Kronkosky Charitable Foundation for the renovation of the Lakehills Civic Center.

The MLBA has been in existence since 1969 and is dedicated to the enhancement and the well-being and quality of the Medina Lake Area citizens.

The Lakehills Civic Center was built in 1971 and now includes 4,700 sq. ft. building, a 3,900 sq. ft. pavilion, a large gazebo, and food and beverage booths.

Programs available at the Lakehills Civic Center includes a senior lunch program where meals-on-wheels lunches are served to seniors daily. Other activities include exercise classes, wellness program, and health and nutrition classes.

The Youth Program has been expanded to include dance classes, festive events and a summer program that includes outings such as swimming and all meals are paid by MLBA.

The grant will pay for the construction of an addition to the front of the current building, which will house ADA compliant restrooms, a storage room, a covered entryway to better accommodate the handicapped, a half-bath for the kitchen and the beginnings of future office space.

The primary fund-raiser for the MLBA is the annual Medina Lake Cajun Festival. Monies raised by the festival maintain the facilities and provide for the many cost-free programs they offer.



COUNCIL IMPACT

LAND RESOURCES SEMINAR

Boerne, Texas—A Land Stewardship in the Texas Hill Country Program was conducted March 23, 2007 at the Cibolo Nature Center in Boerne.

Participants were able to select from a variety of topics including Water Resources and Conservation, Identifying Hill Country Plants, Conservation Easements, Rainwater Catchment, Land Trusts, Texas Water Law, Oak Wilt Prevention, Livestock on Small Acreage, Riparian corridors and Wildlife, Deer Management and Smart Landscape Watering.

The speakers were from a variety of groups including the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Texas Parks and Wildlife, Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust and other agencies.

Approximately 60 landowners attended the conference.

The program was presented through a collaboration between the Alamo RC&D Area, Kendall Soil and Water Conservation District, Cibolo Nature Center, NRCS, and the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust.



HILL COUNTRY RANCH ECO-TOUR

A Hill Country Ranch Eco-Tour was conducted on October 19, 2007 in Boerne, Texas. The tour began at the Cibolo Nature Center with an overview of the days' activities. Participants were taken to Herff Ranch where four stations were set up focusing on Riparian Management, Water Impoundment/Wetland, Geology and Management Under High Fence. The tour concluded with lunch at the Cibolo Nature Center.