



Golden Triangle RC&D
Resource Conservation and Development Council

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Annual Report 2021

OUR VISION AT GOLDEN TRIANGLE RC&D

Our vision at Golden Triangle RC&D is a sustained natural resource base, increased social and economic opportunities, enriched communities, and an improved quality of life.

ENHANCING SOUTHWEST GEORGIA

Serving the citizens of Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Randolph, Seminole, Worth, Stewart, Terrell and Thomas Counties

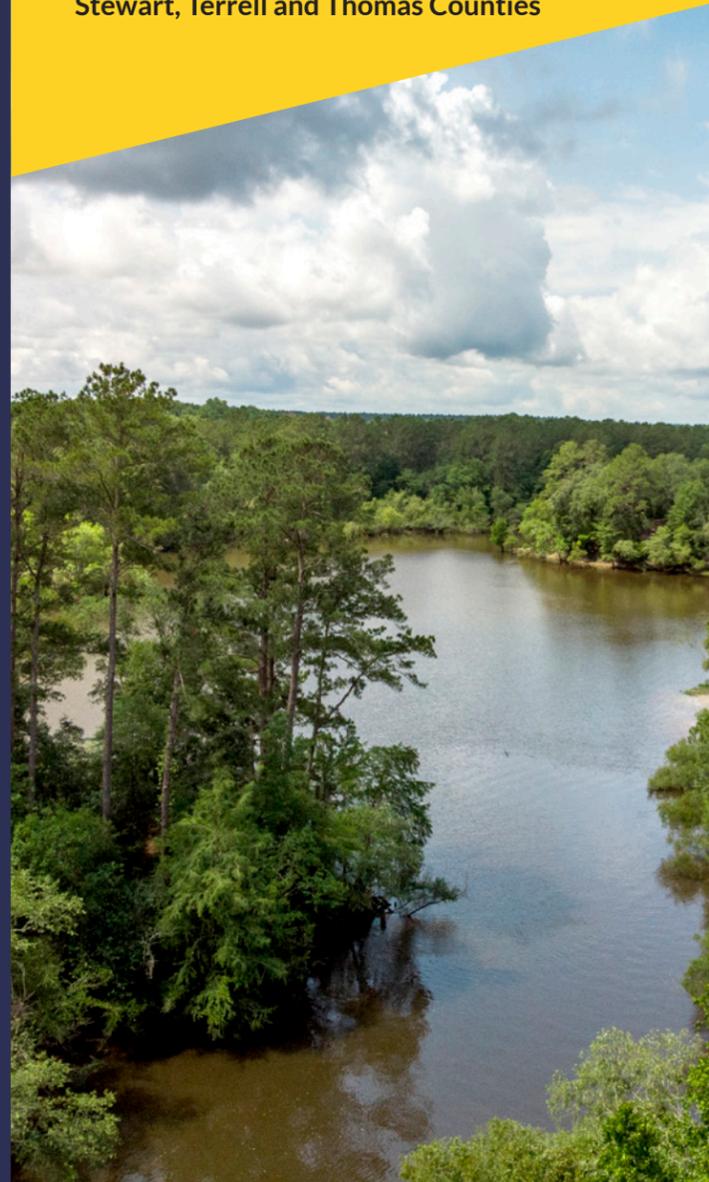


Table of Contents

Letter from the Director	04
Financial Reports	05
2020 Annual Meeting	06
Farm Filming	07
Road Mapping Survey and Assessments	08
Senator Freddie Powell-Sims and Representative Gerald Greene Visit Golden Triangle RC&D	09
Better Back Roads Workshop	10
Better Back Roads Filming	11
Georgia Land Owner Academy	12
Martin Streambank Restoration	13
Soil Moisture Monitor Installation in Blueberries & Satsumas	14
Success Story: Warrior Creek Farm	15
Household Water Well Water Testing	16
2021 Southwest Georgia Prosperity Summit	17
Bale Trail in Terrell County	17
Randolph Prescribed Burn	18
Burn Trailers	18
New Life Learning Center	19
Clay County Food Pantry Project	20
NRCS Luncheon	20
Thomasville Seed Grant	21
Project WET, WILD & Learning Tree Training	21
Quarter 3 Meeting	21
Grady County Cleanup	22
Thomas Adopt-A-Stream	22
Seminole Family Connections Event Literacy on the Lawn	23
Cover Crop Field Day	23
2021 Community & Fire Grant Recipients	24
A New Way of Doing Business	25
Southeastern Association of RC&D Councils Annual Conference	26
Board and Staff	27



Rhonda Gordon
Executive Director

Letter from the Director

This year marked twenty-nine years of service for the Golden Triangle RC&D. How do we plan to celebrate twenty-nine years? By forging ahead!

These challenging times are all the more reason for us to promote our mission and focus on the members in our service delivery area. We want to continue to engage as many of you as possible with programs, projects, and communications relevant and of interest to you.

We are pleased to see the ongoing growth of our organization while expanding and strengthening our programs and services. During the last year, we were able to increase the projects, programs, and services we deliver by 20% to over \$1 million.

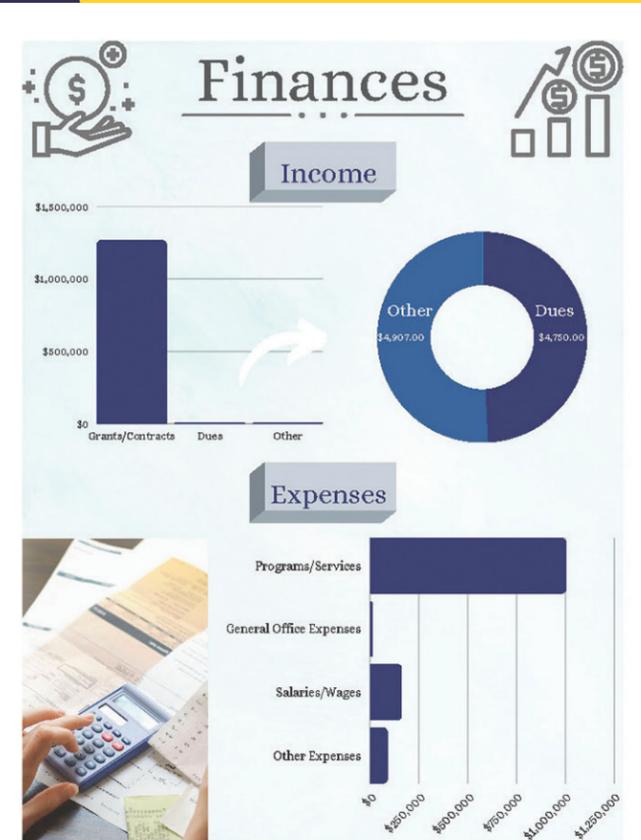
Words can't adequately thank our members, partners, board members, legislators, and countless others who have given so generously of their time and expertise to move this organization forward. We truly appreciate your encouragement and support as we work to build a regional center of integrated services for Southwest Georgia. Some of our new growth is anticipated to add new trajectories to our mission, which will be aligned with our members and partners.

I also want to thank our talented, hard-working staff, for without their dedicated commitment to our organization, we would not be where we are today.

Although it is hard to believe that 2021 is almost over, we look forward to 2022 as it promises to be a busy and productive year.

My deepest thanks for making our 29th year in business a success! I encourage you all to continue to reach out to us when you have specific needs in which we may assist. We are not limited by a narrow focus of work and will always do our best to accommodate the needs of the communities we serve.

Sincerely,
Rhonda Gordon





2020 Annual Meeting

From a proper social distance, Golden Triangle RC&D hosted its 2020 annual meeting at its new office in Dawson, Ga. As a safety precaution, two meetings were held on December 2nd and 3rd. For many of Golden Triangle's representatives and partners this meeting was their first opportunity to see the new office space in Dawson.

Golden Triangle staff updated members and agency partners on all the great things we have had the opportunity to work on over the last year and what we have planned for the future. We are always grateful for the opportunity to showcase our current projects and recognize our amazing partners.



Farm Filming

In 2020, Golden Triangle RC&D was awarded a grant from the National RC&D Council to test soil moisture in parts of Southwest Georgia. Soil moisture conditions are influenced by the weather, row density, crop patterns, and more. During this period, the plants are continuously changing and adapting to the environment. The plant's roots and shoots grow in soil most advantageous to growth. In the past, farmers collected soil moisture and water conditions from the field by scouting and collecting samples. Use of soil moisture monitors will help farmers adjust irrigation needs to these ever-changing conditions with real-time data monitoring. This project will place multiple soil moisture monitors on farms across Southwest Georgia. These monitors and the data they collect will be used to provide a base for technical training and assistance to additional farms in the area. Golden Triangle RC&D will be partnering with the University of Georgia Extension offices and Rad Yager of Certified Ag Resources to provide the technical resources needed for this project. Soil monitor installation began in June 2020, testing in crops of corn, peanuts, cotton and soy.



Road Mapping Survey and Assessments



Golden Triangle RC&D, in partnership with the Lower Chattahoochee River Soil and Water Conservation District, conducted mapping and surveying of the stream crossings within Southwest Georgia to create comprehensive plans for maintaining, controlling, and preventing erosion and sedimentation from entering into the waterways.

Over the following months, staff members from Golden Triangle RC&D met with legislators, committee members and Georgia Department of Transportation officials to discuss funding and opportunities to repair the dirt roads of Southwest Georgia.



Julie Shutters, Golden Triangle Implementation Manager; Mark Masters, Vice-Chair Lower Chattahoochee Soil and Water District; Gerald Greene, State Representative; Rhonda Gordon, Golden Triangle Executive Director; and Freddie Powell-Sims, State Senator

Senator Freddie Powell-Sims and Representative Gerald Greene visit Golden Triangle RC&D

Staff members from Golden Triangle RC&D recently met with Georgia State Senator Freddie Powell-Sims, Georgia State Representative Gerald Greene, and Vice-Chair of the Lower Chattahoochee River Soil and Water Conservation District, Mark Masters to discuss cost effective techniques and hands-on instructions for the design and maintenance of non-paved backroads in southwest Georgia. Properly constructed and maintained stream crossings and roadways lead to long-term savings by decreasing the amount of repairs that will be required down the road. At the same time, properly constructed stream crossings and roadways will control erosion and reduce sediment and road contaminant pollution entering into our waters.



Golden Triangle RC&D, in partnership through a grant from The Lower Chattahoochee River Soil and Water Conservation District, is working to create a more comprehensive and systematic approach to preventing erosion and sedimentation from stream crossings in Southwest Georgia. Increased sedimentation of Georgia's waterways comes from many sources including agricultural operations, forestry practices, construction projects and other activities that convert land from one use to another. A significant source of sedimentation are dirt roads near streams and creeks. When the silt, sand, and gravel of an unpaved road leave the road surface, the effects of the erosion are not limited to human safety and convenience. The sediment-laden road run-off adds excess nutrients and phosphorous to receiving streams and rivers, often altering the physical progression of their channels.

Better Back Roads Workshop



As part of educational outreach efforts in connection with our 319(H) watershed contracts, Golden Triangle continues to offer *Better Backroads* workshops. These are based on an ongoing need to train and educate county road crews, as well as the public, about informed unpaved road stewardship techniques. On July 8, Golden Triangle hosted a workshop for the superintendents and road crews across our service area. The workshop was presented by Chris Metcalf, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Golden Triangle Implementation Manager, Julie Shutters. The program helped road crews, superintendents, and county administrators understand important ways to minimize erosion into streams, resulting in significant maintenance cost savings over time. The challenge of how to navigate often uninformed local perceptions about aesthetic road appearance and shoulder vegetation was also discussed, along with how going along with common misguided citizen preferences can be costly and destructive to roads. Metcalf and Shutters helped illuminate management techniques that minimize the need for excessive grading, lower ongoing maintenance costs, preserve road integrity, and avoid unnecessary road sediment flowing into streams.



Better Back Roads Filming

Matt Hanner, Motion House Media came out to film best management practices implemented on an unpaved road in Miller County.

In 2020, Golden Triangle was awarded a grant from GAEPD to update the Georgia Better Back Road Field Manual (Red Book) to include new technologies and updates for existing best management practices. Once finalized, this updated manual will be distributed to GAEPD (Georgia Environmental Protection Division), GDOT (Georgia Department of Transportation), other RC&D councils, and local city/county road departments. The purpose of the Better Back Roads program is to improve the water quality in Southwest Georgia by providing cost effective techniques and hands-on instructions for the design and maintenance of non-paved backroads. Properly constructed and maintained stream crossings and roadways will lead to long-term savings by decreasing the number of repairs that will be required down the road. At the same time, properly constructed stream crossings and roadways will control erosion and reduce sediment and road contaminant pollution entering into our waters.

The public comment period was open through the end of June 2021.



Georgia Land Owner Academy



In 2017, a partnership of seven non-profit and government agencies, including Golden Triangle RC&D collaborated to launch an exceptional educational program called the Georgia Landowner Academy. This program empowers Georgia landowners to steward their land more effectively and is offered for landowners wanting to learn how to manage the business, agricultural, and natural resource responsibilities of land ownership.

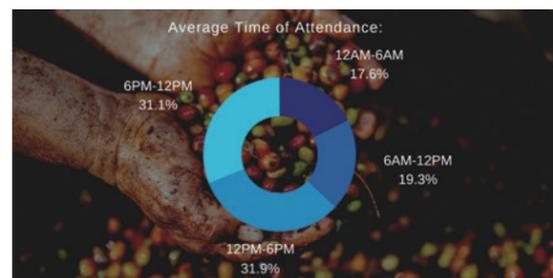
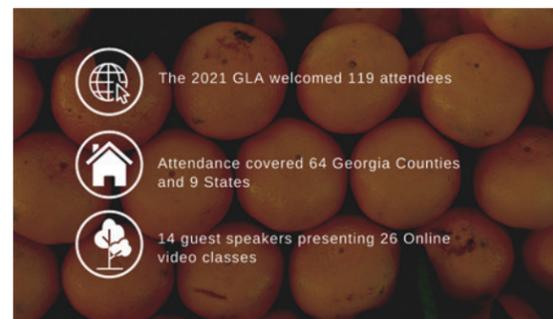
Initially, the program was geared toward new or inexperienced landowners with 10 or more acres of land, however, over the years we've discovered that it has been very beneficial for all landowners.

The Georgia Landowner Academy is a collaborative project between the Golden Triangle Resource Conservation and Development Council, NRCS, Georgia Heirs Property Law Center, University of Georgia's Southern Regional Extension Forestry, Farm Service Agency, Georgia Forestry Commission, and Fort Valley State University.

In 2020, Golden Triangle was awarded a grant through the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, to offer pre-recorded mini sessions of the Georgia Land Owner Academy to landowners at no charge.

The program is divided into five sessions that include: Programs and Resources available through state and federal agencies; Heirs Property and estate planning; Forestry Practices; Forestry and Land Taxation; Conservation Planning; and Alternative crops. Through these avenues of support, the program aims to empower landowners to make their land more profitable and sustainable.

The sessions are available on our website at www.goldentrianglercd.org/gla



Martin Streambank Restoration

Golden Triangle RC&D, in partnership with U.S. Fish & Wildlife, is preparing for the continuation of the Best Management Practices outlined in the Spring Creek Management Plan. Through a grant from the Bonneville Environmental Foundation and the Georgia Power Foundation, Golden Triangle and our partners began the restoration of one mile of the Spring Creek streambank. The goal of this restoration is to protect the critical habitat of the Shiny-Rayed Pocketbook and the Oval Pigtoe, two endangered mussel species that reside in the creek. Habitat loss, sedimentation, and other factors have put these species - and many others - in peril. Streambank stabilization, riparian, and turbid barrier installations will each be a key focus to help mitigate negative factors.



Soil Moisture Monitor Installation in Blueberries and Satsumas

As part of the ongoing soil health campaign funded through NRCS, Golden Triangle has partnered with Rad Yager with Certified Ag Resources, UGA extension specialist Renee Holland and UGA Professor Dr. Wes Porter to install soil moisture sensors in blueberry and satsuma crops in Alma for the 2020/2021 growing season.

The data from the sensors are reported to Dr. Porter on a monthly basis. This data assists the producers in real time to be able to use their water resources wisely and ensure plant productivity and health.



Success Story: Warrior Creek Farm



Golden Triangle RC&D staff recently visited Poulan, Ga to film a *Success Story* on NRCS conservation planning and all it has to offer the agricultural community in our area.

NRCS District Conservationist Garrett Morris joined Ricky Dollison, Sr. at Dollison Farms to discuss the benefits of conservation planning.

A conservation plan is a tool designed to help an owner better manage the natural resources of their property. Since 2017, through a cooperative agreement with NRCS, Golden Triangle has visited with landowners identified by NRCS to help evaluate their property and their resource concerns. The alternatives the landowner decides to use are recorded in a conservation plan which includes a schedule for installation. Implementing the conservation plan helps the landowner protect the environment on and off their farm.

This short film will be used by Golden Triangle and NRCS as a tool to spread information about NRCS and the opportunities they provide.

Household Water Well Water Testing



The Rural Decentralized Water Systems Grant program is a financial grant program directed toward nonprofit organizations for lending programs to extend access to clean, reliable water and septic systems to existing households in eligible rural areas.

As an addition to the Household Water Well program, Golden Triangle RC&D started a program for Household Water Well Testing across Southwest Georgia. This testing program offers a detailed report of a resident's water quality at no cost to the landowner. To date the Golden Triangle Household Water Well Testing Program has provided over 250 Southwest Georgia households with a free water test.

As part of Golden Triangle RC&D's commitment to education, the organization partnered with Malik Monds, a 10th grade student, to do water testing in his home county. After receiving the 2021 Youth Ocean Conservation Summit mini-grant, Malik assisted Golden Triangle staff with 15 water well tests.



The Household Water Well Loan Program is designed to help low-income rural homeowners construct or upgrade household water well systems. The funding is provided through USDA Rural Development Household Water Well System grant program. The Household Water Well Grant program compliments environmental initiatives and provides support for rural residents. Many rural residents do not live in areas where a centralized water system is available, therefore it is essential that rural residents have access to wells that are safe and working. USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Individuals may be eligible for loans if their annual household income does not exceed 100 percent of their state or territory's median non-metropolitan income. This loan may not be used for home sewer or septic system projects.

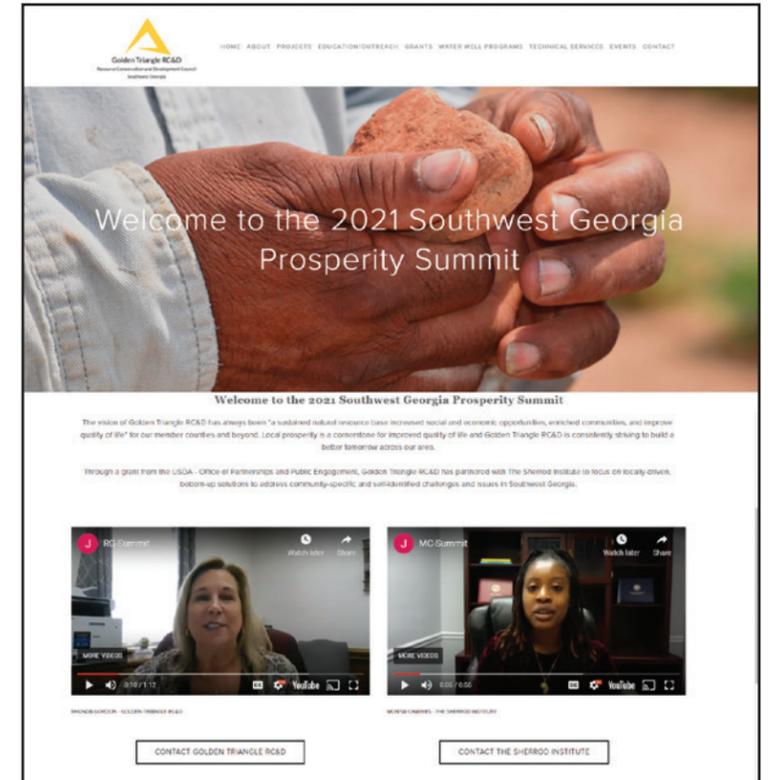
Golden Triangle has been awarded this grant every year since 2010. USDA officials from Washington D.C., recently visited Golden Triangle to see firsthand how the program is being implemented and how important it is to area residents. To date, 133 wells have been installed or repaired for low-income citizens. Golden Triangle continues to see ongoing need for this program among area rural residents who often have very few, if any, other options to recover lost drinking water access.

2021 Southwest Georgia Prosperity Summit

The vision of Golden Triangle RC&D has always been "a sustained natural resource base, increased social and economic opportunities, enriched communities, and improved quality of life for our member counties and beyond." Local prosperity is a cornerstone for improved quality of life and Golden Triangle RC&D is consistently striving to build a better tomorrow across our area.

Starting on April 27, Golden Triangle hosted a virtual summit to address many of the special needs in our area. The summit provided information on broadband internet, job resources, community health and much more. The summit reached 117 attendees throughout its duration.

Through a grant from the USDA - Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, Golden Triangle RC&D has partnered with the Sherrod Institute to focus on locally-driven, bottom-up solutions to address community-specific and self-identified challenges and issues in Southwest Georgia.



Bale Trail in Terrell County

Individuals and family members enjoyed spending time searching through Terrell County for Dewy, the clean water mascot. The search took them to some of Terrell County's historic treasures, each with specific information on the landmark, clues to document, and GPS coordinates (or addresses) that led the participants to the next display. Once they found them all, the clues collected along the way lead them to the drop-off point for their entry form. The displays were set up from April 9 - April 26. Alaina McClung was the winning entry that was drawn on April 30. The winner was awarded a \$200 MasterCard gift card from Golden Triangle RC&D.



Randolph Prescribed Burn



Restoring balance through prescribed burning.

As part of our ongoing prescribed burn workshops, Golden Triangle RC&D participated in the controlled burning of 14 acres of planted timber in Randolph County.

Motion House Media captured all of the action as Golden Triangle and NRCS staff conducted the prescribed burn. The footage and interviews from the two days of burning was used to create our second series of virtual workshops due to COVID 19 restrictions.

This event also presented Golden Triangle with the opportunity to test out the equipment for our upcoming burn trailers. The burn trailers will be made available to landowners in NRCS Region 3 for a small rental fee. These pull-behind trailers will contain specified fire hand tools and equipment recommended by the Georgia Forestry Commission.

Burn Trailers

Using fire to protect and preserve Georgia forestland, Golden Triangle RC&D, Seven Rivers RC&D, Pine Country RC&D, Central Savannah RC&D, and Coastal RC&D – through funds provided by NRCS and the American Forest Foundation – are equipping five Prescribed Burn trailers to be made available to landowners in NRCS Regions 2, 3 and 4 for a small rental fee.

These pull-behind burn trailers will contain specified fire hand tools and equipment recommended by the Georgia Forestry Commission to complete Prescribed burning.

Through this agreement four “Forest Landowners Associations” will be created within NRCS regions 2, 3 and 4 to provide a platform for landowners to gather, share, educate and implement best practices of forest and land management.



New Life Learning Center



Working through our mission and vision, Golden Triangle RC&D created a self-funded community grant program which works to assist the residents in our service delivery area to achieve a sustainable natural resource base, increase social and economic opportunities, and improve quality of life.

Through a 2020 Golden Triangle Community Grant, New Life Learning Center created a Pre-School Garden Program. The goal of the program is to increase the student’s knowledge and willingness to eat healthier in and out of school. The children had taste tests of fruits and vegetables grown in the Pre-School gardens, donated by growers, or purchased and locally grown produce. The kids used a “Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down” system to grade each item. Each taste test included a lesson, art project, and activities that related to each item tasted. Children learned about how each item is grown and where it is grown and harvested. Twenty large tires were repurposed as planters for gourds, sunflowers, and a pollinator garden. Six raised beds were built to grow herbs and seasonal vegetables. A worm farm and compost bin were built to teach the importance of soil nutrition.

The pre-school students participated in the planting, daily observations, watering, harvesting, and seasonal turnover of the gardens. The New Life Pre-School Garden Program was able to benefit the children’s development on physical, emotional, social, and cognitive levels. Launched during the COVID pandemic, the gardening program also helped teach the importance of self-sufficiency and adaptability in difficult times.





Clay County Food Pantry Project

Clay County Family Connections, Inc. set up a food pantry in their county using a grant provided from Golden Triangle RC&D and local donations at the end of 2020. The \$1,000 grant was used toward the purchase of food and supplies to help get the operation off the ground. Boxes of can goods, dry staple foods, juices, frozen meats, vegetables, cheese, and milk are prepared and handed out to residents twice a month as supplies are available. The residents they serve are those in emergency situations and those considered low income in the community. Since the beginning of the project, the Clay County Food Pantry has served, on average, 81 families or 182 individuals every month.



NRCS Luncheon



On June 30, Golden Triangle RC&D hosted a partners luncheon for our regional partners with the National Resource Conservation Services branch of the United States Department of Agriculture.

This was an amazing opportunity to reconnect with our local NRCS offices and meet many of the new faces that have joined in the last year.

Golden Triangle staff members gave updates on many of our current projects. Staff also explained the goals of Golden Triangle and the multiple ways we are able to assist NRCS staff.



Thomasville Seed Grant

Golden Triangle RC&D has a strong commitment to the protection of water quality within the Ochlocknee River watershed along with its streams and tributaries. Urban and storm water runoff can have detrimental impacts to the environment, as well as flooding issues within the city centers. The city of Thomasville received a FY21 Regional Water Plan Seed Grant from Georgia EPD to perform a storm water feasibility study that will map the streams and tributaries flowing into and out of the city center, and to perform outreach and educational activities to the local schools in regards to non-point source pollution and storm water runoff. Golden Triangle RC&D, in partnership with the City of Thomasville and Keep Thomas County Beautiful will provide 12 school events on urban storm water run-off, watersheds, and non-point source pollution education as well as four storm drain marking events.



Project WET, WILD, & Learning Tree Training



In preparation for the new school year and support of the Thomasville Seed Grant Project, Golden Triangle RC&D staff attended the annual Georgia Teacher Conservation Workshop at the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center June 14 through 17. This conservation workshop was provided by DNR and teachers from across the state attended. Project Wet, Wild and Learning Tree curriculum along with new books were received.



Quarter 3 Meeting

On July 29, Golden Triangle held its quarterly meeting at Moby Dick restaurant in Colquitt, GA. Special guest Whitney Brannen from the UGA Archway Partnership spoke to the group about the Archway program and its accomplishments in Grady County. Attendees were also updated on all the exciting current and upcoming projects for Golden Triangle RC&D.



Grady County Cleanup

On November 7, 2020, Golden Triangle RC&D participated in a *Rivers Alive* cleanup event, gathering garbage at boat landings along the Ochlockonee River in an effort to keep Grady County clean. A group of 15 volunteers recovered 21 bags of trash, as well as a mattress, a chair and a tire at the Hadley Ferry Road boat landing. Much of it originated from a nearby garbage dumpsite.



“Part of the issue with *Adopt a Road* programs is that a change in leadership in the adopting organization can lead to a drop in interest,” Blakley said. As Main Street director, she says it would be her job to keep volunteers committed.

“Cleanups would not take long,” Blakely said. She noted that the recent *Rivers Alive* effort took just about an hour and a half with 15 volunteers.

Thomas Adopt-A-Stream

Georgia Adopt-A-Stream encourages individuals and communities to monitor and/or improve sections of streams, wetlands, lakes or estuaries through hands on involvement and training. Golden Triangle partnered with Thomas University to offer chemical and bacterial training for students on November 11, 2020. The training took place at Cherokee Lake in Thomasville.



Seminole Family Connections Event Literacy on the Lawn

On March 23, Golden Triangle was spreading the word about the Household Water Well Program at the Seminole County *Literacy on the Lawn* event. Hundreds of Seminole County Elementary students and their family members attended the event which was held on the school’s football field.



Cover Crop Field Day



On March 31, Golden Triangle partnered with the Terrell County UGA Extension office, Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission and NRCS to host a *Cover Crop Field Day*. The goal of the event was to show area farmers different options for cover crops and updates on any new advancements in soil moisture and plant management.



2021 Community & Fire Grant Recipients

For several years now, Golden Triangle has provided the opportunity for area communities and agencies in our 15-county service delivery area to apply for one of our community development grants for up to \$1,000 to improve the lives of area citizens. Here is a look at grants that were awarded in 2021.

Worth County Board of Commissioners: Signage for new recreational complex.

Stewart County Board of Commissioners: Freezers and supplies for a food pantry and clothes closet.

Seminole County Family Connection: Purchase backpacks and school supplies for pre-k through 5th graders returning to school.

Keep Thomas County Beautiful: To create and film a 15-minute watershed education video.

Clay County Family Connection: Purchase food for existing food pantry.

Sylvester Main Street Program: Flags and lighting for train depot evening events.

Flint Riverkeeper: To help produce educational videos about the Flint River.

Isabella Station Community Development: Install one Little Free Library to provide free reading material to the residents of Warwick, Georgia.

Miller County Recreational Department: Little League Scoreboard

Blakely-Early County Chamber of Commerce: Education materials and litter pick-up supplies to address the community wide litter problem.

Family Visions Outreach: Freezers and supplies to further their Hunger and Healthy Choices project in Sylvester, Georgia.

In recognition of the hard work and necessity of Southwest Georgia's rural fire departments and first responders, Golden Triangle continued our reimbursement grant program that began in 2018. One volunteer fire department from each of our service counties had the opportunity to apply for a \$2,000 reimbursement grant to cover supplies and/or training events in support of their mission.

Grants awarded for 2021 included:
Spring Creek: Heart Start AED

Calhoun County Fire/Rescue EMA: Four outlet fire hose tester

Mitchell County: Turn Out gear and replacement hoses

Decatur County Fire & Rescue: Rescue Mannequin and cones

Grady County Volunteer Fire Department: "Rescue Randy" and rescue rope

Terrell County Fire Rescue: Two Motorola radios

Worth County Fire/Rescue: Survivor LED Lights

Early County Fire: LED Lighting System



There is no easy way to deal with the changes that the last 18 months have brought not only to our organization, but to the world. Because of the pandemic, Golden Triangle has had to adapt and overcome the difficulties that have been presented. In order to be the successful organization we strive to be, we have had to continue to execute our deliverables, and with that, we have found new ways and developed new skills to be a more resilient and adaptive organization.

The main obstacle we faced was being unable to meet in person with the communities we serve. With in-person workshops and meetings being a staple of what we do, we have had to move to a different medium to implement our deliverables. That medium - which I'm sure we are all very familiar with by now - is the virtual platform.

Through a virtual platform, we have been able to reach larger numbers than we have in the past, target individuals who've been difficult to reach in the past, and ultimately, grow as an organization. Although there are some drawbacks to a virtual platform, we now see the potential for a hybrid (online and

A New Way of Doing Business



in-person) platform moving forward. This hybrid platform will give us the capability to engage with the community we serve in several different ways, allowing us to reach a larger audience as well as continue with more-engaging in-person platforms, which have been a staple of the organization. We look forward to the future with our newly developed skills and capabilities and are excited to build from the changes that have been made over the past year.



Southeastern Association of RC&D Councils Annual Conference



Golden Triangle, alongside the Georgia Association of RC&D Councils, had the opportunity to host the 2021 Southeastern Association of RC&D Councils Annual Conference which took place over three days at the King and Prince Resort on St. Simons Island.

The conference saw a total of 145 attendees with 34 councils from five states being represented. The conference was an opportunity for the different councils within the Southeastern region to get together, share resources, hear from a number of presenters, and talk about their experiences throughout the last year.



With the theme of the conference being "RC&D Rising", there was an emphasis on how and what RC&D councils can do to emerge through and overcome the unique difficulties we have faced throughout the last year and a half. Through group presentations and break-out sessions, the attendees were able to hear from and engage with a range of presenters that covered a variety of topics pertaining to the roles RC&D's play in their community. Some of the main topics included were opportunities for partnerships with community and government organizations, prescribed fire, watershed management, wildlife conservation, and information on how to effectively run an RC&D. Along with the presentations given, the attendees heard from guest speaker, Dr. Howard Wasdin, who was a Navy SEAL Team Six member. Dr. Wasdin gave an inspirational presentation about his story and incorporated the theme of rising through adversity.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Billy Roland
President



Doug Wilson
Vice President



Wallace O'Neal
Treasurer



Jack Hufstetler



CD Culverson

STAFF



Rhonda Gordon
Executive Director



Julie Shutters
Implementation Manager



James Andrews
Program and IT Specialist



Kelsie Gartz
Program Specialist



Riley Egan
Program Specialist



Karen Reese
Conservation Planning Manager



Calvin Willis
Field Technician



Arthur Carr
Engineering Tech



Judith Rulison-Northcutt
Program Support Specialist

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



Lower Chattahoochee
Soil & Water
Conservation District

Ochlockonee
RiverWater Trail, Inc.



Natural Resource
Conservation
Service, Rural
Development
Farm Service
Agency



Golden Triangle RC&D
Resource Conservation and Development Council

VISIT US ONLINE AT
GOLDENTRIANGLERC.D.ORG

CONTACT US

229-995-2027

ADDRESS

4344 Albany Hwy.
Dawson, GA 39842