Summer 2020



Educational Programming



Third grade students at the Center for Inquiry in Blythewood participated in the early trials of a new pollinator conservation lesson. The photo depicts the "Pollinator Relay," in which students learn about pollination by carrying "pollen" from one flower's stamen to another flower's pistil.

The 2019-2020 school year was very busy RSWCD for the Richland and Soil Conservation District (RSWCD)! classroom presentations reached nearly fall 2,650 students in 28 schools. programming covered topics including soil available as a free download health, vermicomposting, watersheds, and www.richlandcountysc.gov/rswcd. pollinator conservation.

RSWCD developed and launched original pollinator conservation classroom programming in coordination with the 2020 National Stewardship theme, "Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators?" The activities, designed for use with students in grades 1-6, highlight the importance of pollinators to agriculture and to the ecosystem; emphasize the diversity of pollinators and the adaptations that help them survive and reproduce; and explore the challenges pollinators face and the ways we can help protect pollinators.

will make the pollinator Water conservation activity guide available to Our teachers, parents, and other educators in 2020 to encourage pollinator The conservation education. The guide will be at

Conservation Education Mini-Grants

Eight conservation education mini-grants were awarded to support local schools' conservation projects during the 2019-2020 school year. Including the spring 2020 awards, a total of 75 mini-grants have been presented to local schools since the minigrant program began in 2012.

One of the 2019 grants was awarded to the Bee Club at Longleaf Middle School. The Bee Club maintains two bee hives on campus and is responsible for harvesting honey from the hives and producing beeswax candles and lip balms. The minigrant was used to purchase beekeeping equipment for the club, and to plant a crimson clover field as a pollinator habitat behind the school. "Students will come to understand the global importance of pollinators and will research and plant vegetation to make the environment [around Longleaf Middle School] better suited for pollinators," says science teacher and project leader Ray Greiner.



More than 30 students participate in the Bee Club at Longleaf Middle School, which received an RSWCD mini-grant to purchase beekeeping equipment for the students. To join the club, students have to apply and be accepted due to high interest. Parent volunteers also assist with the Bee Club.

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Seed Sanctuary

RSWCD launched a new Seed Sanctuary program in April of 2020. The Seed Sanctuary is a seed share through which RSWCD sends free vegetable, herb, and wildflower seeds into the community to encourage home gardening, sustainable gardening practices, and pollinator conservation.

Originally, a physical seed bank was slated to open in the RSWCD office, but when offices closed to the public in mid-March due to COVID-19, RSWCD staff reimagined the program and began delivering seed to the community via US Mail.

The Seed Sanctuary program received several hundred requests for seed within hours of its launch, and now nearly 2,000 Richland County residents are on a waiting list to receive seed through the program. RSWCD mailed out thousands of seed packets in late spring and will begin mailing fall vegetable seeds in early autumn.

The Seed Sanctuary is supported, in part, by a Friends of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Award. It was one of four projects selected for this award from a national pool of applicants.



Cucumber was one of the spring vegetables provided through the Seed Sanctuary program. Other varieties included summer squash, watermelon, tomato, basil, parsley, cilantro, okra, eggplant, scarlet sage, zinnia, blanketflower, and sunflowers.



The Toogood family received seeds from our Seed Sanctuary, and Tanner (pictured above) enjoyed getting outdoors to start the seedlings. The Toogoods "upcycled" egg and milk cartons as seed starters for their cucumber, tomato, and zinnia plants.



Each seed packet was customized with the Seed Sanctuary logo and a seed description. RSWCD opted to use stamps instead of plastic labels to ensure the packets would be recyclable, biodegradable, and compostable.

Want to request seeds?

Visit <u>www.richlandcountysc.gov/rswcd</u> and click on the "Seed Sanctuary-Request Seeds by Mail" Quick Link. You'll be asked to provide your contact information (including a mailing address) and will be added to a waiting list to receive seed.

Support RSWCD

Interact

Interact with our content on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram! Your interaction increases the visibility of our content and helps promote conservation.

Subscribe

Subscribe to our monthly enewsletter, and share the newsletter content with anyone who might be interested in our programs.

Engage

Engage with our programs and attend a workshop, request seed from our Seed Sanctuary, invite us to your classroom, borrow an educational kit, or apply for a mini-grant.

Attend

Attend one of our board meetings, which are always open to the public and provide opportunities for you to meet our commissioners and staff.

Tell

Let your County Council representative and SC Legislative Delegation members know you value our programs and services.



Education Program Assistant Mary Hannah Lindsay shared a story about the life of an earthworm with first grade students at St. John Neumann Catholic School.



Members of the South Carolina Conservation District Employees Association participated in a Project Learning Tree training while attending the annual employee workshop in September 2019.



Brockman Elementary received a conservation education minigrant to fund their edible garden project. The students learned to make pesto from fresh basil.

For more information on getting involved with RSWCD, visit rcgov.us/rswcd/join-us or scan the QR code below:



Volunteer

Volunteer your time and talents to RSWCD by helping pack seeds for the Seed Sanctuary or sharing your photographs with us for social media content.

Give

Our Affiliate Membership Program allows constituents to provide financial support for our programs. Gift levels start at just \$25 a year!

Sponsor

Sponsoring a specific workshop or event is a great way to invest in RSWCD's mission, and sponsors are recognized in workshop/event materials.

Apply

Apply to serve as an Associate Commissioner. Associate Commissioners are appointed by the SWCD board as non-voting advisors and representatives.

Seek

Seek election or appointment as a Commissioner. Each SC SWCD is governed by a board of five Commissioners. Three are elected, and two are appointed by the board of the SC DNR.

Volunteer Opportunities



Photography

You can support RSWCD's conservation awareness campaigns by sharing your photos of Richland County's natural resources and citizen conservation efforts. Tag us in your social media posts on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram; or submit your photos (with permission for us to share your photo on our social media pages, websites, or other publicity and outreach materials) to our photo database.

Precipitation Monitor

The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network,

known as CoCoRaHS, is a grassroots volunteer network of backyard weather observers of all ages and backgrounds. The program started in Colorado in 1998 and was introduced in South Carolina in 2008. Since then, the network has grown across the state and observers report daily totals of rainfall, and the occasional snowfall. Despite the hundreds of active volunteers, there are still areas of the state with no observers and every county is in need of additional observers. To become an observer,

visit www.cocorahs.org.

Adopt -a-Stream

South Carolina Adopt-a-Stream (SC AAS) creates a network of watershed stewardship, engagement, and education through involvement. SC AAS volunteers can play an important role in monitoring and tracking water quality while sharing information about local

water resources with their communities. You do not need to be an environmentalist, fisherman, or scholar to join this effort. All are welcome to find more information, seek training, and add to the knowledge base of river health in SC! Once you are trained as an AAS observer, you may borrow the RSWCD's AAS kit to support monitoring efforts in your community.

Seed Sanctuary

The Seed Sanctuary provides free vegetable, herb, and wildflower seeds to Richland County residents. Volunteers are needed to stamp, label, and pack seed packets for distribution. Approved volunteers can arrange for a curbside volunteer kit pickup at the Richland County Administration Building at 2020 Hampton Street, take the kit home to complete their volunteer assignment, and return it to 2020 Hampton Street one week later.

Plant of the Month

RSWCD launched the "Plant of the Month" article series in November of 2019. Each month, RSWCD selects a native plant to feature in a short article. The article includes a description of the plant, its natural history, and growing advice. The Plant of the Month is shared during the last week of each month on social media, and past articles can be found on our website.



Month	Plant		
November 2019	Black Tupelo		
December 2019	Mistletoe		
January 2020	Witch Hazel		
February 2020	Carolina Jessamine		
March 2020	Red Columbine		
April 2020	Spiderwort		
May 2020	Scarlet Sage		
June 2020	Lemon Bee Balm		
July 2020	Blanketflower		
August 2020	Black-eyed Susan		

Cricket's Corner

In 2019, RSWCD designated Cricket, a local Golden Retriever, as its official mascot! Cricket is nearly two years old, and she is an eager conservationist. She loves to spend time on her farm and help out with chores. Cricket also helps with RSWCD's social media and shares her favorite conservation clues. She has a wide



Cricket reminds everyone that healthy waters start with healthy soils. One way to cultivate healthy soil is to plant cover crops, which help reduce soil erosion and keep sand, silt, and clay out of waterways.

area of expertise and helps to educate the public on topics such as center pivot irrigation, cover crops, erosion, composting, and best gardening practices. You can keep up with Cricket by following RSWCD's Instagram page, @richland_swcd. Don't miss out on any more conservation clues!



Cricket encourages using mulch in garden areas to promote plant health and soil and water conservation. Mulch can retain soil moisture, regulate soil temperature, reduce weeds, prevent erosion, and increase soil organic matter.

Introducing Commissioner Mary Burts

Mary Burts of Columbia, SC, was appointed to the RSWCD Board of Commissioners in May of 2020. A long-time resident of Richland County, Burts grew up and attended school in the Lowcountry of SC. Burts's father was an agronomist and worked with Conservation Districts around the state, specializing in soil science. His career kept the family on the move, and Burts attended several different schools until beginning her undergraduate career at Montreat College in North Carolina.

Burts studied Library Science and finished her degree at Appalachian State University. She received her K-12 teaching certification and began a long and decorated career as an educator. Burts continued her education at Appalachian State to receive a Master's Degree in Middle School Education. She specialized in environmental education and biology, and she continued as a middle school science teacher for several years.

During her Master's program, Burts learned the effectiveness of hands-on classroom experiences, especially in the subject of science. When Burts became part of the Education Science Leadership program in 1989, she grew familiar with environmental education initiatives such as Project Learning Tree and Project WILD that specialize in hands-on learning. She gained certifications in these programs and integrated their nature-based curricula into her classroom. Burts soon became known as the "Pied Piper of Environmental Science" and was an active leader in local 4-H chapters.

Burts was introduced to RSWCD in the mid-1980s, and she immediately added its educational resources and programs to her toolkit. Since then, Burts has volunteered countless hours to support RSWCD's programs. Burts was recognized as Conservation Teacher of the Year twice during her teaching career, and she became an Associate Commissioner of the RSWCD in 2009. She has served as a classroom presenter, workshop facilitator, event planner, Seed Sanctuary volunteer, science fair judge, and much more. Burts was recognized in 2018 as the RSWCD Volunteer of the Year for her hard work and passion for conservation.

While no longer working with K-12 students, Burts is still active as an adult educator in Richland County School District One. She still makes time to volunteer with RSWCD, and her skills and expertise are put to use each year as a poster contest judge, mini-grant evaluator, and more. It was an obvious choice for her to join the RSWCD Board of Commissioners when a seat became vacant.



Mary Burts was appointed to the role of RSWCD Commissioner in May 2020 when position became vacant. She will be on the ballot for election in November.

As a lifelong educator, Burts's priority as a Commissioner is to further RSWCD's involvement in schools across Richland County and to continue being of service to educators. Burts emphasizes the importance of introducing conservation to students as early as possible. The key to engaging more people in conservation, Burts believes, is "to connect with educators and form lifetime relationships." She wants to keep the fun in education, and she believes RSWCD has the tools to do so.

In addition to her professional and volunteer service, Burts enjoys working in her garden and reading. She loves to travel, and she is a dedicated member of Kathwood Baptist Church.

Burts is excited for the new responsibilities that come with being on the RSWCD's Board of Commissioners. All RSWCD classroom programs begin with a discussion of the word "conservation," and asking students what that word means to them. Burts says that, to her, conservation means "taking care of what we have and where we are, and making it better for tomorrow." With Burts as a Commissioner, RSWCD will continue to invest in local students, schools, and communities to create a better tomorrow through conservation education.

Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators? 2020 Poster Contest Results



Sofia Ananyan won both 1st place in the 2nd-3rd grade category, and the first annual Pollinator's Choice Award. Sofia is a rising 3rd grade student at Harmony School in Forest Acres. Her teacher is Jennifer Mancke, the current SC Conservation Educator of the Year.

The annual poster contest theme for the 2019-2020 school year was "Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators?" Each year, the poster contest asks students to combine artistic skill and scientific knowledge to raise awareness about a conservation topic.

Many students included a wide variety of pollinators in their posters, depicting bees, flies, hummingbirds, bats, moths, and beetles. Students also illustrated some of the challenges pollinators face, like pesticides, habitat loss, pollution, and disease. Pollinators also serve as the base of many food webs, and therefore the endangerment of pollinators leads to food web collapse and the loss of biodiverse ecosystems. Students illustrated best pollinator conservation practices, such as creating a pollinator habitat with native and diverse plants.

The poster contest experienced a rapid transition to a virtual format in April due to COVID-19. In spite of school campus closures and the resultant disruption of education, nearly 50 students participated in the contest, 17 of whom were selected as winners.

For the first time, RSWCD offered a bonus prize — the "Pollinator's Choice Award." Each of the 17 winning entries was posted to the RSWCD Facebook page, and the poster entry that received the most engagements was declared the Pollinator's Choice Award Winner! This was another way to further engage and educate the public on the importance of pollinator conservation, as the Pollinator's Choice Award contest reached nearly 6,000 Facebook users.

We're already looking forward to next year's poster contest, which is themed "Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities." The contest is open to Richland County K-12 students (students in other counties should contact their local Conservation District for details). Entries are due by April 30, 2021. Visit <u>www.richlandcountysc.gov/rswcd</u> for more information.

2020 Poster Contest Winners

K-1st Grades:

- First Place: Nadia Guedhami, Kindergarten at Center for Knowledge
- Second Place: James Harris Hudson, 1st Grade at Brockman Elementary
- Third Place: Reet Modgill, 1st grade at A.C. Moore Elementary
- Honorable Mention: Layla Hoyt Parrish, Kindergarten at Cutler Jewish Day School

2nd-3rd Grades:

- First Place: Sofia Ananyan, 2nd grade at Harmony School
- Second Place: Maya Rekleitis, 3rd grade at Harmony School
- Third Place: Zoey Sangal, 2nd grade at Center for Knowledge
- Honorable Mention: Sophia Hudson, 3rd Grade at Brockman Elementary

4th-6th Grades:

- **First Place:** Sara Guedhami, 4th grade at Center for Knowledge
- Second Place: Sarah Becker, 6th grade at Blythewood Middle
- Third Place: Alex Manuel, 6th grade at E.L. Wright Middle & Rachel Schoeman, 5th grade at Cutler Jewish Day School
- Honorable Mention: William Jacob Davis Cauthen, 4th grade at Bethel-Hanberry Elementary

7th-9th Grades:

- First Place: Ella Catherine Gillam, 7th grade at Longleaf Middle
- Second Place: Brooklynn Kim, 7th grade at Longleaf Middle & Leia Taylor, 7th grade at Longleaf Middle
- Third Place: Samaiya Days, 8th grade at Longleaf Middle

FY20 Event Highlights Arbor Day at L.W. Conder Arts Integrated Magnet School

Richland County's 2019 Arbor Day celebration took place at L.W. Conder Arts Integrated Magnet School. This "tree-mendous" annual event began with the planting of a live oak tree on the school's front lawn, with students assisting with the installation, watering, and mulching of the new addition.

After the planting of the tree, Richland County Councilman Jim Manning spoke at a school assembly attesting to the significance of Arbor Day. "We urge citizens throughout today and this whole weekend to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the wellbeing of this generation and future generations," Manning said.

Tim Womick, educational entertainer, then stole the spotlight with his interactive, dynamic stage show about the importance of trees and forests. Arbor Day is celebrated nationally in April, but is celebrated in South Carolina on the first Friday of December because it is the best time to plant trees in the state.



Partners from the SC Forestry Commission and US Forest Service joined RSWCD for the Arbor Day celebration and donated tree-themed goody bags for each student to enjoy. Conder Elementary invites RSWCD to provide educational programming to its students each year, and RSWCD staff mentor several Green Steps conservation projects at the school.

Healthy Forests= Healthy Communities



The 2021 Youth Conservation Poster Contest, open to all Richland County K-12 students, invites students to combine artistic skills with scientific knowledge to illustrate the theme "Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities."

Trees and forests provide clean air and water, healthy soil, abundant wildlife habitat and valuable products we use every day. They also promote mental, physical, and emotional health and have a huge positive impact on local economies! Healthy forests—those which support a variety of plants and animals and provide the things humans and wildlife need to survive promote healthy communities in several ways which students will explore during this contest.

Students may design their posters/images digitally or on paper, but all entries should be submitted electronically. Entries are due by April 30, 2021. Visit <u>www.richlandcountysc.gov/rswcd</u> for more details.

FY20 Event Highlights South Carolina Conservation Teacher of the Year



Mancke, pictured here with seeds from Clemson's Seed Fairy program, encourages students to bring no-waste lunches and use washable bowls and utensils. They create meals with the food from their garden and learn to use every part of their produce to reduce food waste. Jennifer Mancke was named the state's Conservation Teacher of the Year (Primary) by the South Carolina Association of Conservation Districts in February of 2020. Last year, Mancke received the Richland County Conservation Teacher of the Year award for her work with Harmony School.

Mancke has taught 1st-5th grades for more than 20 years. Her classroom revolves around sustainability, and stewardship becomes a lifestyle for her students. "The daily classroom life of Mancke's students is a model of sustainability," says Jane Hiller, Sonoco Recycling Education Coordinator. Mancke's students are taught to reduce, reuse, and recycle whenever possible. The students also develop connections to nature by growing herbs and vegetables in the school's garden and by raising chickens. Mancke guides her students on several field trips throughout the year to local farms and food processing facilities to help the students gain a deeper appreciation for the food they eat. Students discuss current events at the beginning of each school day, focusing on sustainability and environmental issues. They even have participated in Richland County Council and Forest Acres City Council meetings, providing public input on environmental issues.

"Jennifer Mancke is an outstanding role model for conservation education in Richland County," concludes Hiller, who nominated Mancke for this award.

79th Annual South Carolina Conservation Partnership Conference

Natural resource and SWCD professionals gathered in Charleston, South Carolina, in February of 2020 for the 79th Annual South Carolina Conservation Partnership Conference. The conference theme was coastal conservation, and special features included a tour of the SC Department of Natural Resources (SC DNR) Marine Research Center.

The mayor of Charleston, John Tecklenburg, welcomed attendees by highlighting the city's rainwater capture program, Charleston Rainproof. A panel of organizations including the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Clemson Extension, the South Carolina Conservation Bank, Berkeley SWCD, and SC DNR provided remarks on coastal conservation issues like water and soil sustainability, erosion, and flooding.

Richland County teacher Jennifer Mancke was recognized as the South Carolina Conservation Teacher of the Year (Primary) at the conference's partnership awards dinner.



RSWCD Board of Commissioners Chair Kenny Mullis (right) recently completed his second term as the President of the SC Association of Conservation Districts. During the Partnership Conference, Mullis passed the gavel to President-Elect Jefferson H. Wilson, who serves on the Board of Commissioners for Chester County SWCD.

BEE-friend Local Pollinators

A federal grant worth nearly \$30,000 will help an area in Southeast Richland bloom into a teaching initiative for pollinator conservation, and residents can learn lessons from the garden through an online video series which launched in August.

The initiative, "BEE-friend Local Pollinators," refers to the key role of pollinators in the life cycle of many flowering plants. By carrying pollen from flower to flower, animals such as bees, butterflies, birds and bats enable plants to produce seeds. In turn, these seeds allow for new generations of plants to grow.

The \$29,287 Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant will help rehabilitate, expand and maintain an existing demonstration area at Pinewood Lake Park, which remains closed to the public because of COVID-19. While the park is not accessible, lessons from the garden are. The RSWCD will use the area to provide technical assistance with pollinator conservation to educators, small farmers, and home and community gardeners.

Residents are encouraged to participate in outreach efforts hosted online as part of the new Engage Richland "Watch and Learn" video series. The Watch and Learn series started August 5th, 2020. Videos featuring the garden include webinars and virtual tours.

While pollinating animals are critical to agriculture in South Carolina, said RSWCD Chairman Kenny Mullis, "Pollinators are facing many challenges, including habitat loss. We hope our work can help educate the community about the importance of pollinators and showcase things we can do in our own home and community gardens to support pollinator health."

The pollinator demonstration area includes 12 raised garden beds and is managed by the Richland County Conservation Commission. As part of the County's initiative, some of the beds will be planted with annual vegetables and small fruits that depend on pollinators for survival, while others will be designed to provide habitat for pollinators.

"This garden will model plant selection and maintenance practices that encourage pollinators," said Anne Marie Johnson, pollinator garden manager.

The RSWCD was awarded the grant through a partnership with the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Nationwide, 21 conservation districts received funding through the Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant Initiative in 2020.

The Urban Agriculture Conservation program, which began in 2016, is designed to enhance SWCD's urban agriculture conservation technical assistance activities in developed and developing areas. To date, NACD and NRCS have awarded \$5 million to 102 conservation districts across the nation.

Visit <u>Richland County's YouTube page</u> to view Engage Richland "Watch and Learn" videos from the garden, and Contact Education Program Coordinator Chanda Cooper at <u>cooper.chanda@richlandcountysc.gov</u> for more information about this initiative.



Pollinator Garden Manager Anne Marie Johnson designed the garden with pollinator conservation, education, and sustainability in mind. Plants were selected to provide season-long blooms, easy access to nectar and pollen, height and flower variety, larval food sources, and nesting habitat for pollinating insects.



The pollinator garden is abuzz with pollinator activity! Each of the twelve raised beds illustrates a different principle of pollinator conservation. Some beds showcase seasonal blooms; some beds include plants that serve as larval host plants for butterflies. Some beds are designed to provide habitat for ground– and cavity-nesting insects.

Ten Tips for Pollinator Gardening

Go Native

Native plants provide the best forage for native pollinators, and these plants are also more likely to thrive in the local climate.

Create Groups

Pollinators are attracted to swaths of color, so arrange plants in groups to make them easy to spot. This also helps pollinators conserve energy as they fly from flower to flower.

Keep it Simple

Simple flowers with fewer petals provide better forage than flowers with double whorls of petals, which can make nectar difficult to access and reduce the amount of pollen produced.

Diversify

Select diverse plants with a variety of heights, flower shapes, flower sizes, and colors. Different pollinators specialize on different plants; plant diversity produces pollinator diversity.

Something for All Seasons

Plan for season-long blooms! Some plants flower in early spring; others are fall favorites. Including some of each can provide access to nectar and pollen almost year-round.



Clasping Coneflower Dracopis amplexicaulis (formerly Rudbeckia amplexicaulis)



Purple Coneflower Echinacea purpurea



Scarlet Sage Salvia coccinea

Feed the Very Hungry Caterpillars

The larval forms of butterflies and moths—caterpillars specialize on one or a few types of plant. Including these "larval host plants" will attract butterflies to your garden.

Use IPM

Pesticides can harm pollinators and other beneficial insects, so use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to prevent problems and choose the safest methods of pest control.

Create No-Mow Zones

While many people love the sight (and scent!) of just-cut grass, lawns provide very little habitat or forage for pollinators. Establish no-mow zones to allow native plants to flourish.

Provide Ground-Nesting Sites

70% of native bees nest in tunnels in bare earth! Leave some bare ground exposed in your garden so these solitary insects have a place to call home.

Provide Tunnel-Nesting Sites

30% of native bees lay their eggs in holes in dead wood and in the hollow stems of some plants. "Plant" a section of log in your garden to provide tunnelnesting sites for these creatures.

Affiliate Members

Gold Members

Hunter Suggs Edwin Eargle Gonzales Land & Timber Raymond & Julianne Hendrix Al & Linda McNeill International Paper Ravi Surendran & Lydia Ravindran Steve & Janie Stancyk

> Silver Members Al & Mary Burts Carol Kososki

Affiliate Members Lizard's Thicket

Honorary Members City Roots Farm Mike Craven SC Farm Bureau Ginger Spires Mitch Williams

Thank you!

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District

2020 Hampton Street, Rm. 3063A Columbia, SC 29204

Phone: 803.576.2080 Fax: 803.576.2088 soilandwater@richlandcountysc.gov Website: richlandcountysc.gov/rswcd Facebook: www.facebook.com/rswcd Twitter: twitter.com/rswcd Instagram: instagramcom/richland_swcd







Support the District: Become an Affiliate

Affiliate Members are a vital part of our conservation team. The financial support given by Affiliates helps us carry out many of our conservation and stewardship programs within the County. Please support our efforts by becoming an Affiliate Member today! Affiliate Memberships are good for **one year** from the date of application. Contributions are tax deductible.

- () \$25—Affiliate Member
- () \$50—Silver Affiliate Member
- () \$100—Gold Affiliate Member
- () \$250—Platinum Affiliate Member
- () Mini-Grant Sponsor*: \$500 each

*Conservation Education Mini-Grants are awarded to local schools to support conservation projects each

Membership Information

Name:	 	 	
Address:			
Phone #:			
E-mail addres		 	



Please return this form and a check made payable to Richland Soil and Water Conservation District to:

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District 2020 Hampton Street, Rm. 3063A Columbia, SC 29204