



## RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

### AL ASSN OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEV. (RC&D) COUNCILS

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#### MISSION

The mission of the Alabama Association of RC&D is to accelerate the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources; to improve the general level of economic activity; and to enhance the quality of life in Alabama. This association is an umbrella organization for the nine RC&D Councils, all 501-(c) 3 nonprofits that cover all 67 counties in the state. Each Council has a Board of Directors and adopts a plan of work for its area in cooperation with the USDA-NRCS and local partners.

### AL DEPT. OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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#### PURPOSE

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources exercises control over the Alabama's natural resources, including the management of fresh water fish, wildlife, marine resources, waterway safety, state lands, and state parks.

#### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Game and Fish Division serves as the governing agency for Alabama hunting and sport fishing laws and regulations. In this capacity, the Game and Fish Division designates public fishing lakes, establishes and supervises wildlife management areas, provides program information for hunter education, establishes bag and possession limits, and regulates licensing.

## **ALABAMA'S FOREVER WILD PROGRAM AND NATURAL RESOURCES STATE LANDS DIVISION**

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Director of State Lands Division  
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### **PURPOSE**

The Forever Wild program was adopted by Alabama voters in November 1992 to set aside land for permanent state ownership using a portion of the interest earned on profits from the sale of offshore natural gas. The land is to be used for hunting, fishing, camping, outdoor recreation, natural resource protection and research and preservation of unique sites, will be acquired from willing sellers at no taxpayer cost and will belong the public.

### **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

- Marine Police - Help guard Alabama's precious aquatic resources for today's ethical recreational and commercial use and for tomorrow's enjoyment
- Marine Resources - Responsible for the management of Alabama's marine fisheries resources through research and enforcement programs
- State Lands - Manages undeveloped, state-owned trust lands that are specific as to their identity as well as to the income beneficiary
- State Parks - Acquire and preserve natural areas; to develop, furnish, operate and maintain recreational facilities; and to extend the public's knowledge of the state's natural environment
- Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries - Manage, protect, conserve, and enhance the wildlife and aquatic resources of Alabama for the sustainable benefit of the people of Alabama

## **TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY (TVA)**

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### **PURPOSE**

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) addresses the stewardship needs for 235,000 acres of TVA managed public lands around the Tennessee Valley. To date, approximately 1,114,000 acres of this land has been allocated for natural resource management. TVA is currently developing natural resource management for these lands based on public needs and concerns, with the goals of providing increased opportunities for public use and enjoyment of the forest, wildlife, and other natural resources. TVA seeks public involvement and partnership in the development and implementation of its natural resources management plans.

## **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

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The employees of TVA are involved in many corporate philanthropy, public participation, and volunteer activities. TVA Community Relations coordinates those activities as well as community investments and stakeholder outreach to help TVA strengthen and serve communities in the Tennessee Valley through:

- Corporate Contributions - make contributions of cash, supplies, equipment, or in-kind services
- Speakers Bureau - available to speak on a wide variety of topics
- Team TVA - volunteers assist with community service projects

## **THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF ALABAMA**

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Alabama Field Office  
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## **MISSION**

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The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. Alabama's natural heritage is second to none; the state is ranked by scientists as the fourth most biologically significant state in the nation. Yet it is the second most extinction prone state, behind only Hawaii.

## **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

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The Nature Conservancy of Alabama, a field office of The Nature Conservancy, opened in 1989, employs a professional staff and is overseen by a volunteer Board of Trustees. The Nature Conservancy has already protected over 101,000 acres in Alabama. It owns 14 preserves in the state, and has completed 27 projects with corporations, government and private partners.

## **USDA FOREST SERVICE - NATIONAL FORESTS IN ALABAMA**

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## **OVERVIEW**

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The Forest Service is an agency within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). It manages the national forests for multiple use, including recreation, timber, wildlife and fish, water and soil, wilderness and range. The main focus of the Forest Service is the protection and conservation of natural resources on public lands.

## **USDA NATIONAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)**

Mr. Bob Jones, State Conservationist  
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Birmingham, AL 35216

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### **PURPOSE**

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The USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service is the federal agency that works hand-in-hand with the American people to conserve natural resources on private lands. The agency's recent name change from the Soil Conservation Service to the Natural Resources Conservation Service more accurately reflects what the agency does in its efforts to help people conserve natural resources on private lands.

### **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

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The NRCS provides information on farm programs, aerial mapping, and water quality is available from the USDA.