



[Search](#)

Quick Access

- > [Accountability](#)
- > [Electronic Field](#)
- > [Office Technical Guide \(eFOTG\)](#)
- > [Electronic Government](#)
- > [Employment](#)
- > [Farm Bill](#)
- > [Klamath Basin Special Report](#)
- > [Local Service Centers](#)
- > [NRCS Earth Team Volunteers](#)
- > [NRCS This Week](#)
- > [Photo Gallery](#)
- > [Plants Database](#)
- > [Publications](#)
- > [Site Map](#)
- > [Soil Surveys and Maps](#)

## Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) in the Caribbean Area

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

# Resource Conservation & Development

### The Concept

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) is a unique program that helps local people solve their own natural resource problems while improving the economy, protecting the environment and raising the standard of living. The program was created by the Food and Agriculture Act of 1962. It allows communities to form an RC&D Council so that local people lead the RC&D process. The council will identify problems and opportunities, gather information, develop strategies, secure funding and implement projects. As a result, RC&D affects the social, economic and environmental enrichment of the community.



## UNIQUE ASPECTS

- RC&Ds provide valuable conservation services to the community.



- RC&Ds focus on results and people. They are locally driven by volunteers and are supported by the community.

- RC&D Councils expertly leverage and blend local, state and federal resources to solve local concerns.

- Conservation districts, political leaders, government organizations, concerned citizens, environmental groups and community organizations are represented on RC&D Councils or sponsor RC&D projects.

- The RC&D program supports local decision making and management as keys to healthy, sustainable communities.

## LEVERAGING CAPACITY

For each federal dollar spent toward Resource Conservation and Development, 16 additional dollars are leveraged from other sources. RC&D projects are typically funded by local, state or federal grants and donations from private industries or outside sources.



The Caribbean Area has three authorized RC&D programs: the "El Atlantico" RC&D covering the North central and Northwestern municipalities and the "El Caribe" RC&D covering the south and southwest of the island of Puerto Rico.

The third RC&D Area is in the US Virgin Islands and covers St. Croix, St. Tomas, and St John. Each RC&D receives technical assistance from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the services of a full-time Coordinator.



A dry hydrant provides all weather access to an available water source for fire suppression. A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized permanent pipe assembly system installed into water source that permits the withdrawal of water by suction.

### How does RC&D help?

Throughout the Caribbean Area, about 45 projects are undertaken by RC&D councils each year. These include encouraging investments in local communities, setting up marketing cooperatives and promoting tourism.

Because of their extensive efforts, RC&D councils succeed in generating jobs for local citizens as well as improving communities. Each year they produce about 17,000 permanent jobs, save another 6,000 jobs, and create about 14,000 temporary jobs.

RC&D pulls together communities, various units of government and grassroots organizations and helps them establish direction for the local program. Currently, there are 277 (three in Caribbean Area) authorized RC&D areas serving 2,016 counties in about half of the United States, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Basin. More than 20,000 volunteers annually contribute their time and resources to revitalize and sustain their communities.



### The RC&D Program Activities fit into four areas:

1. Land Conservation - Protects the resource base and finds the best ways to use it.
2. Community Development - Improves economic and community development in rural areas.
3. Water Management -



**Plant nursery handled and administered by students and 4-H members will provide trees for the reforestation of the Rio Grande de Añasco Watershed.**

**The students participated in the official opening of the nursery. Students from the local area also benefit from the RC&D measure and activities.**



Helps local people conserve, utilize and improve the quality and quantity of available water.

4. Environmental Enhancement - Improves the environment.



# RC&D

Resource Conservation and Development



**YOU ...  
Can make a  
difference in  
the Caribbean  
Area**



## RC&D OFFICES

### EL ATLANTICO RC&D OFFICE

Road No. 2, Km. 81.0  
Caribbean Cinema Annex, Suite 202  
PO Box 141537  
Arecibo, PR 00614-1537  
FAX (787) 880-5749 TEL (787) 817-2434  
RC&D Coordinator Extension 235  
Secretary Extension 236

### EL CARIBE RC&D OFFICE

2200 Pedro Albizu Campos  
Suite 102  
Mayaguez, PR 00680-5470  
FAX (787) 831-3315 TEL (787) 831-3416  
RC&D Coordinator Angel L. González  
Secretary Madeline Rosado  
E-Mail address Voice Mail Number  
(Network 9000)

[Angel.gonzalez@prmayaque2.fsc.usda.gov](mailto:Angel.gonzalez@prmayaque2.fsc.usda.gov)  
Angel L. González - 769-1045

### ST CROIX RC&D OFFICE

5030 Anchor Way, Suite 2  
Gallows Bay, Christiansted  
St. Croix, VI 00820-4692  
FAX (340) 692-9607 TEL (340) 692-9632  
RC&D Coordinator  
Lenora Haynes 107  
Secretary Faye Williams 101  
E-Mail address Voice Mail Number  
(Network 9000)

[Lenora.haynes@vichristia.fsc.usda.gov](mailto:Lenora.haynes@vichristia.fsc.usda.gov)

Lenora Haynes - 769-1210

[Faye.williams@vichristia.fsc.usda.gov](mailto:Faye.williams@vichristia.fsc.usda.gov)

Faye Williams - 769-1245