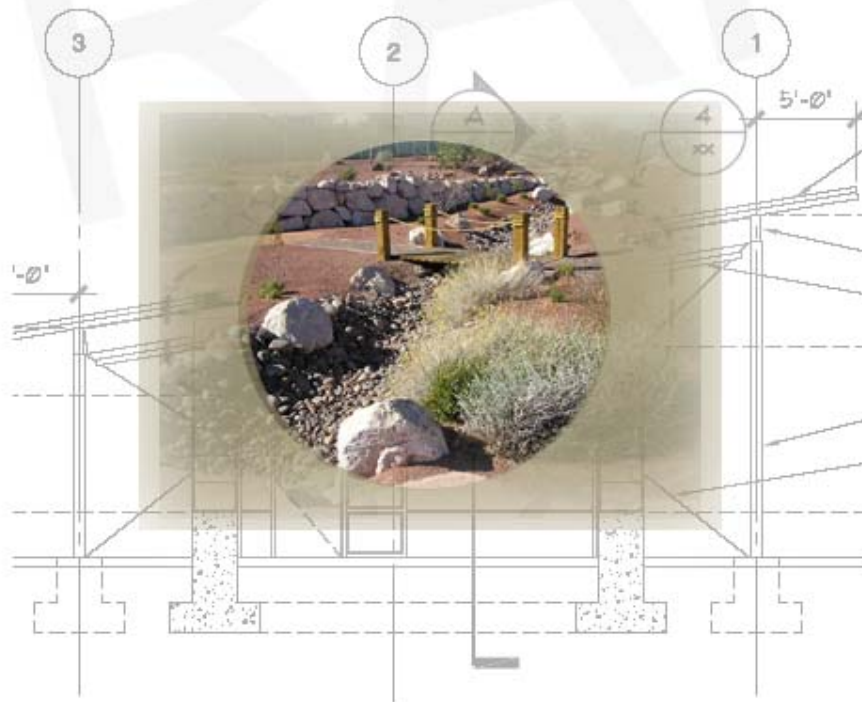


CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN NEVADA



2004-2005 ANNUAL REPORT



The Conservation District of Southern Nevada (CDSN) is a sub-division of state government dedicated to natural resource conservation needs of Clark County. An elected seven member board of supervisors administers the District and directs staff in providing leadership in identifying and meeting the resource conservation needs for citizens of both rural and urban areas within Clark County. Each year supervisors work with staff to create a work plan that outlines goals and objectives for accomplishing this mission. During the 2004-2005 fiscal year, the District employed two full-time staff members and one part-time contract employee to implement the following:

2004-2005 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1: *Obtain and maintain adequate finances for District operations*

Goal A: Pursue funding from federal, state, and local governments.

Goal B: Research and pursue fundraising opportunities for operating expenses.

Goal C: Pursue and implement new plans for generating discretionary operating funds.

OBJECTIVE 2: *Coordinate and promote environmental education programs*

Goal A: Provide for and participate in community environmental education programs.

Goal B: Sponsor environmental education programs within the Clark County School District.

OBJECTIVE 3: *Provide District administrative and operational activities*

Goal A: Ensure the District is fulfilling the requirements of NRS 548 through its programs and practices.

Goal B: Employ staff and designate committees to provide services needed to achieve CDSN mission.

Goal C: Participate and assist in State, Regional, and National meetings.

OBJECTIVE 4: *Assist in the development and implementation of conservation plans and programs*

Goal A: Assist community partners in developing, managing, and promoting environmental plans, programs, and demonstration projects.

Goal B: Support the NRCS in their efforts to assist landowners with conservation needs and with meeting the provisions of the Farm Bill.

Goal C: Identify and pursue projects that fulfill a unique conservation niche.

OBJECTIVE 5: *Build, promote, and facilitate partnerships among stakeholders*

Goal A: Maintain and enhance partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies.

Goal B: Participate in and assist with the environmental efforts of grassroots organizations, local businesses, and the general public.

Goal C: Identify what other organizations do and reorganize current and future District projects according to their viability, relevance, and service to the community.

OBJECTIVE 6: *Promote Conservation District efforts through public outreach*

Goal: Communicate District's efforts to the community.

Board of Supervisors: *Jodi Bechtel, Chair & Clark County Representative; Judy Currier, Vice Chair; John Hunt, Secretary/Treasurer; Dirick Van Gorp, Incorporated Cities Representative; Elizabeth Tomica Hewitt, Supervisor; Elise McAllister, Supervisor; Jon Wardlaw, Supervisor*

2004-2005 CONSERVATION PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Acacia Demonstration Gardens

Years of hard work came to fruition on November 20, 2004 when the Gardens were officially opened to the public. Over \$600,000.00 of grant funds, private donations, in-kind supplies and volunteer labor went into the creation of the Gardens, which now serve as a premier education center for backyard conservation and urban landscape design. Upon opening, maintenance of the Gardens was turned over the City of Henderson. The Conservation District continues to participate in educational workshops and events held in the spring and fall.



Air Quality Education



Silverado High School teacher Don Curry poses with Wayne Nastri, EPA Region 9 Administrator and CDSN's Wilisha Daniels.

The air quality student-to-student outreach program designed by the Conservation District for Clark County's Department of Air Quality and Environmental Management (DAQEM) received an outstanding achievement award from the Environmental Protection Agency Region 9. The Conservation District and staff member Wilisha Daniels were also recognized by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas for designing this innovative program that sends specially trained high school aged air quality "ambassadors" into elementary school classrooms. CDSN continued to assist DAQEM with air quality education programs, outreach events and the design of educational materials.

Clark County Wetlands Park

CDSN continued supplying grant writing services for the Clark County Wetlands Park. Projects funded this year included tree plantings, weed removal and environmental education materials. The existing contract is being expanded to include project management and coordination services to cover design, weed removal and revegetation projects to begin in the fall of 2005.

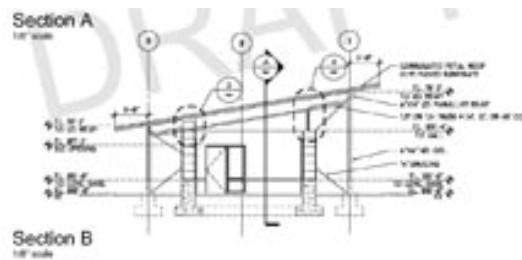
Clark County Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)

CDSN created a full-time position, half of which is dedicated to coordinating efforts of the CWMA. The District received a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's "Pulling Together Initiative" to fund weed activities for the position. The CWMA has taken on several new projects this year including a Water Quality Improvement grant through USDA/NRCS to remove approximately 14 acres of tamarisk at Valley of Fire State Park. The CWMA created and distributed an invasive weed educational film to Clark County science teachers that highlights the importance of biodiversity and local invasive weed management strategies. Pending projects include a 2005 Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program submitted in partnership with the City of Henderson and a pilot weed education and identification program in Moapa with the nonprofit organization Partners in Conservation.

The CWMA continues to coordinate with local weed groups and assisted in developing the Clark County Desert Conservation Program Weeds Working Group Strategic Plan.

Green Building and Recycling

Grant funds from the Environmental Protection Agency are helping the District create a straw bale meeting room at Moapa Valley High School's agricultural farm, the only remaining high school farm in the state of Nevada. The local architecture firm Luchessi Galati donated design for the structure and agricultural students from the high school will build the straw bale room in the fall of 2005. The District has also partnered with Moapa Valley High School students to design and build a three-bin compost system for the school to demonstrate green waste recycling. CDSN staff has produced educational materials as part of the project and visited local classrooms to discuss composting as part of the project.



Irrigation Study

CDSN received a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation to partner with the Clark County School District in demonstrating a new subsurface turf irrigation system. The project will quantify water, energy and time saved with the system and present results to local government agencies and business owners at a workshop to be held at the end of the project.

Centennial projects

CDSN participated in Las Vegas Centennial celebrations with two grant projects awarded by the City of Las Vegas. One project involved working with high school students to create and film an educational DVD about weed problems. The other project planted trees and installed a commemorative bench at Tomiyasu Elementary School in honor of the Tomiyasu family's contributions to Las Vegas over the past 100 years.

Special Events, Public Outreach & Education



CDSN continued disseminating educational materials at outreach events including the Southern Nevada Water Authority's "Day With the Experts," Clark County Fair, various Back to School and Earth Day events and environmental workshops. Board Supervisors and staff attended the Nevada Association of Conservation District and Pacific Region Conservation District Annual Meetings. The CDSN sponsored a Clark County high school student from Moapa at Nevada's Youth Range Camp. A new project for the District is the annual "Through the Eyes of Children" Environment and Conservation Calendar, which transformed winning entries from NACD's annual poster contest into a free 12-month calendar. DAQEM and local partners funded the project and preparations are underway for the 2006 edition.

2004-2005 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Receipts

a. Wells Fargo Checking Account

Acacia Demonstration Gardens	
<i>BOR</i>	\$10,000.00
<i>NDF</i>	\$3,046.40
City of Las Vegas - Centennial Grant	\$1,750.00
City of North Las Vegas	\$10,000.00
Christmas Tree Recycling Program	\$6,000.00
Clark County	\$63,200.41
Clark County Department of Air Quality Management	\$65,205.20
Clark County Wetlands Park Grant	
Writing Services	\$5,003.00
Compost Bin Retail Program	\$360.00
Employer's Insurance	\$3,113.00
High Desert Resource Conservation and Development	\$8,413.96
Interest Receipts from Wells Fargo Checking Account	\$20.93
Environmental Protection Agency	\$6,120.88
Natural Resources Calendar Project	\$15,250.00
State of Nevada	\$5,289.03
Volunteer Program Donations	\$50.00
Wetlands Pond and Kiosks - NDEP	\$3,784.84
Wetlands Southern Expansion - NDEP	\$392.10

Total Checking Account **\$206,999.75**

b. Dean Witter Account Interest Receipts

\$2,924.67

Expenditures

Acacia Demonstration Gardens	\$19,848.63
Air Quality Outreach Promotions	\$5,328.95
Bank Fees	\$30.00
Centennial Project	\$1,078.00
Christmas Tree Recycling Project	\$5,343.68
Clark County Wetlands Park	\$9,945.09
Clark County Weeds Management Association	\$8,151.96
Compost Education Program	\$2,108.09
Compost Bin Retail Program	\$91.43
Conferences	\$1,417.44
E-mail & Website	\$526.80
Employee Expenses	\$127,549.16
Equipment Maintenance & Purchase	\$1,415.98
Membership Fees (NACD)	\$775.00
Membership Fees (NvACD)	\$600.00
Membership Fees (RC&D)	\$200.00
Membership Fees (Sam's Club)	\$60.00
Miscellaneous	\$605.00
Natural Resource 2005 Calendar	\$15,875.26
NACD Recognition	\$60.69
Office Supplies	\$780.84
Petty Cash	\$75.00
Postage	\$466.84
Printing and Promotions	\$4,707.49
Strawbale Building Project	\$1,860.20
Storage	\$612.00
Telephone	\$454.96
Training	\$956.00
Travel/Mileage	\$3,096.74

TOTAL RECEIPTS **\$209,924.42**

TOTAL EXPENDITURES **\$214,021.23**