



# CAWACO RC&D GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

**FY 2016**

The Cawaco Resource Conservation & Development Council exists to assist people and institutions to conserve, protect and develop the natural resources within its five county area.

Under the terms of its charter, Cawaco RC&D can distribute grants to qualified public entities or 501(c)(3) charities serving the people of Blount, Chilton, Jefferson, Shelby and Walker Counties of Alabama. ***The Council does not lend or grant money to individuals or for-profit institutions.*** All applying organizations must supply proof of tax-exempt status showing specific Internal Revenue Service qualification.

Cawaco RC&D facilitates two grant programs: **Educational and Challenge.**

Grant applications are accepted July 1 through August 15. Late applications will not be considered. **CAWACO GRANT AWARDS ARE SUBJECT TO FUNDING AVAILABILITY.**

Grant awards generally range between \$1,000- \$5,000, with consideration given to applicants whose project serves multiple counties and/or reaches the greatest population. Projects with strong community support, volunteer effort, value added and in-kind contributions are favored.

Adequate information as to the necessity of the project, long range benefit, and the target audience is required. Amounts greater than \$5,000.00 have been awarded to applicants whose project reaches multiple counties. Contact the Program Manager at 205.623.0457 for more information.

**Grant awards are awarded in three categories:**

- **Natural Resources:**
  - Rivers and Streams
  - Agriculture
  - Forestry
- **Conservation:**
  - Improvements and Retro-fits
  - Conservation of land or historic treasures
  - Wise development of natural resources
- **Development:**
  - Environmental Sustainability
  - First Responder Support

**Beginning in 2014, Cawaco began conducting Needs Assessment Meetings in each of its five counties. The results of these meetings help the Cawaco Grant Committee members prioritize the grant submissions in each Cawaco county.**

*The Council does not encourage submissions from schools to support classroom activities that do not provide educational opportunities to the majority of the school.*

*Applications must be sent electronically as well as through US mail. All applicants are required to submit IRS tax verification.*

*The Council strongly encourages you to discuss your grant project with the Cawaco Program Manager prior to submission of your application.*

### **Funds are granted on a reimbursable basis**

#### **Cawaco **does not** fund the following:**

- Operational phases of established programs
- Endowment campaigns
- Religious organizations for religious purposes
- Individuals directly
- Development or public relations activities (e.g. literature, videos, etc.)
- Purchase of land
- Post-event or after-the-fact situations

*Please call the Program Manager, Patti Pennington 205.623.0457 to request a grant application form. Or email [grantfunds@live.com](mailto:grantfunds@live.com)*

*Cawaco RC&D programs and activities are available without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status.*