

# USDA Honors Clinch-Powell RC&D Council in Annual Awards Ceremony

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Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman honored the Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council in the 54<sup>th</sup> annual U.S. Department of Agriculture Honor Awards Ceremony on June 5.

“Nothing at USDA has impressed me more than the dedication of our work force,” Glickman said. “The Honor Awards are a tribute to our employees and volunteers for their diligence, commitment, and sacrifice in carrying out their responsibilities and serving the American people.”

The Clinch-Powell RC&D Council received the Department of Agriculture’s Honor Award for Public Service. David Lietzke, representing the group, traveled to Washington D.C. on June 5 to receive the award from the Secretary of Agriculture, Dan Glickman.

In 1999, the Clinch-Powell RC&D Council worked with more than 150 partners to implement 181 projects where 865 volunteers spent 4620 hours valued at \$247,420, conducting programs and activities ranging from school programs to historic renovation. They also worked with 4820 students in the RC&D area in hands-on learning and community service projects. Over the past three years, the RC&D Council has worked with its partners to generate \$9.93 million in program funding.

The Clinch-Powell RC&D area is located in northeast Tennessee and is made up of Claiborne, Hancock, Hawkins, Union and Grainger counties.

“The RC&D Council has programs and projects to build foundations for strong, clean, and healthy communities while empowering citizens to help themselves and tackle challenges through education, demonstrated leadership, meaningful volunteer service, and dedicated action,” said Lindy Turner, RC&D Coordinator.

“Every person between the ages of 12 and 21 living in the RC&D area has participated in at least one of the RC&D Councils educational programs,” she added.