

Another Conservation Success Story...

Dougherty County, Georgia

July 2007

“319” Project Success in Dougherty County

Max (Buddy) Lewis is the owner of Lewis poultry farm in Dougherty County. Lewis operates a 250-acre farm of corn, cotton, hay land and pastureland.

Lewis received funding through a Golden Triangle Resource Conservation & Development Council “319” grant project to install a Stackhouse facility for dry litter. The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provided technical assistance with engineering design and writing the required Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) for the farm.

Before assistance was available for Lewis, litter was stacked on the ground, around his four chicken houses which were surrounded by wetlands. Installing this dry litter Stackhouse protects water quality, one of the objectives of the “319” project.



Before...litter was stacked on ground surrounded by wetlands



After...installation of a dry litter stackhouse protects water quality in Dougherty County

This dry litter stackhouse in Dougherty County protects water quality—achieving one of the goals of Section 319 of the Clean Water Act

Clean Water Act, Section 319 (319 Program)

Congress enacted Section 319 of the Clean Water Act in 1987, establishing a national program to control (nonpoint source) NPS pollution. Section 319 helps states address NPS pollution through the development of assessment reports; adoption of management programs to control NPS pollution; and implementation of those management programs. U.S. EPA awards grants to states to assist them in implementing NPS management programs. Under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, NPS pollution control is largely voluntary and promotes practices to protect watersheds (all of the land that drains into a body of water such as a river, lake, wetland, or groundwater).

Nonpoint source pollution is the diffuse, intermittent runoff of pollutants from various sources. Precipitation moving over and through the ground picks up pollutants from these sources and carries them into rivers, lakes, and ground water. Major sources that contribute to nonpoint source pollution problems are agriculture, construction erosion, urban runoff, hydrologic modifications, and resource extraction activities. The Clean Water Act of 1987 included a new national initiative to help states develop innovative nonpoint source pollution control strategies, solutions to nonpoint source problems and that promote the public's knowledge and awareness of nonpoint source pollution.

The 319 Program provides formula grants to the states to implement nonpoint source projects and programs in accordance with Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. Formula grants are awarded to a lead agency in each state. States and local organizations are required to provide 40 percent of the total project or program cost.

Under section 319, states, territories, and Indian tribes receive grant money which supports a wide variety of activities including technical assistance, financial assistance, education, training, technology transfer, demonstration projects, and monitoring to assess the success of specific nonpoint source implementation projects.

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Flint River Soil And Water
Conservation District