

## **Partnerships Get Conservation on the Ground in Union County**

**T**he Union County Soil Conservation District worked with the Ag Resources Classes at the Union County High School to install 1200 feet stream bank stabilization practices in the Hinds Creek Watershed. The watershed project work was done in two sessions – one in November 2004 and the other in March 2005.

This project was a partnership effort of the Tennessee Valley Authority, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Hallsdale Powell Utility District and the landowner to install best management practices to stabilize a severely eroded section of stream bank that flows through the property.

Eight students volunteered to help with the installation of the cedar tree revetments, riparian tree planting, coconut fiber roll placement, and willow stake plantings. The students donned their waders and used the tools provided by TVA, and did the installations with instructions and assistance from Todd Reed and Bobby Ellison with NRCS, Daniel Horne with Knox County SCD, and Tiffany Foster with TVA Watts Barr/Clinch Watershed team.

The students had the opportunity to get some hands-on experience and see the results of their efforts. They also gained experience in the installation of bio-engineering practices for stream bank stabilization.

Not only did the Union County Field Office get assistance with this project, but each student signed up to be an Earth Team Volunteer and will be available to help with future projects.