

What is RC&D?

East Central Colorado RC&D (ECCRC&D) is a non profit rural development organization that promotes community, economic and natural resource development in the region. The purpose of RC&D is to improve general levels of economic activity and to enhance the environment and standard of living in all communities through promotion of conservation, development and utilization of natural resources, and improve the quality of life in rural communities. The RC&D is organized around some core concepts to insure locally led action. These include:

- ⇒ *Sharing the value of grass-roots involvement in decision-making*
- ⇒ *Sharing the value of public private partnerships*
- ⇒ *Leveraging governmental funds with private funds to accomplish goals*
- ⇒ *Working towards community sustainability*
- ⇒ *Achieving a balance between rural economic development and natural resource protection*
- ⇒ *Bringing Governmental Agencies and others together to focus on common problems and opportunities*



East Central Colorado
Resource Conservation and Development
Natural Resources Conservation Service

WHAT WE CAN OFFER :

Organizational development;
Community visioning and planning;
Consensus building processes;
Conflict resolution;
Team building;
Strategic planning;
Grant writing assistance;
Grant writing training;
How to conduct productive meetings;
Board training;
Research;
Program development;
Internet training;
and *much more*

RC&D SUPPORTERS:

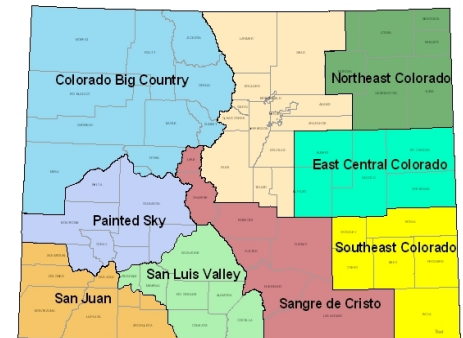
Counties: Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, Lincoln, and Eastern El Paso.
Businesses/Organizations: Agate Mutual Telephone, Arriba-Flagler School, BOCES, Dynamic Dimensions, Eastern Plains Players, Eastern Slope Rural Telephone, K.C. Electric, High Plains Bank of Flagler, K.C. Electric, Mountain View Electric, Prairie Horizons, VFW Will Post # 6612
Conservation Districts: Agate, Burlington, Cheyenne, Double El, El Paso, Flagler, High Plains, Kiowa, and Prairie.
Towns/Cities: Arriba, Bethune, Calhan, Cheyenne Wells, Flagler, Hugo, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Limon, Seibert, Simla, & Stratton.

Mission and Vision of RC&D

MISSION: *Provide a continuing program to encourage enrichments of the rural life-style for the communities and citizens of the East Central Colorado RC&D region.*

VISION: *Neighbors helping neighbors accomplish economic, social and environmental benefits for their communities.*

Remember the RC&D Council is made up of local people finding solutions to local issues.



The East Central Colorado RC&D Council invites everyone to become involved with RC&D. This is about and for your community and the East Central Colorado Region we live in.

EXAMPLES OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Each RC&D council has the opportunity to propose and develop projects unique to their own area. There are no top-down programs/projects that they must do. Partnerships with other organizations, and agencies are vital to the functioning of RC&D. Here are just a few of the projects we worked on in the past:

- ◆ **Historical Preservation:** *Inventoried 75 historical buildings in the area and listed several on the Colorado State Historical Register. Grants for assessment & restoration of registered buildings. Examples are the Drennan School, Empress Theater, and the Hedlund House Museum.*
- ◆ **Community Improvement:** *In partnership with local community groups helped to replace the playground equipment in Hugo, Seibert/High Plains schools and Develop the Rush Ball field.*
- ◆ **Noxious Weed Educational Program:** *Wrote two grants in partnership with NRCS, CSU Cooperative Extension, the Hi-Plains and Prairie CD to obtain funding to do a weed survey in Lincoln County. Weed workshops were held.*
- ◆ **Recycling:** *Initiated the original Eastern Colorado Recycling program. Now South-east/East Central Recycling. The program currently serves 42 communities in 12 counties. Largest Rural Recycling Program in the Nation.*
- ◆ **Area Reorganization:** *ECC RC&D worked with NEC RC&D to move Washington county to the NEC RC&D service region.*
- ◆ **Renewable Energy:** *Strategic plan for east central counties, assisted with "Wind for Schools".*

- ◆ **Council Development:** *Cooperatively sponsored a two day Council Member Training, in 2001, 2002, 2003 & 2004. Continue education at each council meeting*
- ◆ **Economic Development Committees:** *Working with groups such as Hugo Improvement Partnership, Lincoln County Economic Development, and Flagler Community Development to improve the quality of life in these areas.*
- ◆ **Water Management:** *Assisted the Town of Burlington, Kit Carson County, Kyle Railroad, and East Central Council of Gov. to create the 15th Street storm water drainage system to improve water drainage. Working with two other communities on water drainage issues.*
- ◆ **Community Self Renewal:** *3 year project funded by El Pomar Foundation in which 6 communities assessed their needs, planned projects to benefit their communities, then did fundraising for their projects*
Burlington Area 2020—Park/Lifeline \$90,000
Stratton 2000—Pool/Job \$100,000
Seibert Action—Comm. Bldg & Store \$300,000
Hugo Improvement—Depot & Trail \$20,000
Kit Carson R.D.—Golf/Pool Hall/Sign \$50,000
Cheyenne Wells 21—Housing/Park \$15,000
- ◆ **Conservation Projects:** *Assisted seven conservation districts obtain \$127,000 in matching funds for local conservation cost-share projects with Ag producers.*

Executive Council Members:

Richard Sears, President— El Paso
Nancy Bogenhagen, Vice Pres- Cheyenne
Doris King, Secretary/Treasurer— K.C.
Henry Schuler, Elbert
Ted Lyons, Lincoln
Jerry Allen, Elbert
Ben Orrell, Lincoln
Vacant, Cheyenne
Vacant, El Paso
Vacant, Kit Carson

Colorado RC&D Council programs are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

EAST CENTRAL COLORADO RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT (RC&D)

Website: www.eastcentralrcd.org



A locally led program in East Central Colorado bringing improved quality of life to rural communities since 1970.

ECCRC&D serves
Cheyenne, Rural El Paso, Elbert, Lincoln,
Kit Carson, Counties

East Central Colorado RC&D

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