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Are You A Lawbreaker?

BY RAY DORSETT Soil Conservation Service

In North Carolina a law many people are unaware of is the Sedimentation Law. In summary this law states that a landowner who disturbs more than one acre of land is required to have a sediment control plan on this construction. The acre includes measurements of roads, parking areas, etc. This plan must include means for control of sediment washing of the property and revegetation of the area after construction is complete. Violators of this law are subject to a daily fine for sixty days and thereafter possible imprisonment.

Any site in which construction was begun or has been going on since July 1, 1973 falls under this legislation. If soil is washing off their property onto someone else or in a stream or pond the landowner or landowners are in violation. This law also covers realtors and developers cutting roads to lots. The Soil Conservation Service will give you free assistance and help you develop a sediment control plan to present to the Department of Natural and Economic Resources. You need not pay for this assistance.

One such landowner in Yancey County who received this assistance was E.L. Briggs. He discovered that a tract of property he owned on Mitchell Branch was in violation of this law. He contacted the Soil Conservation Service and we gave him information on stabilizing the site, sloping the steep banks, and reseeding the area. Besides conserving soil it changed this site from a raw eroding area to a pleasant, grassy green industrial site. If you think we might be of assistance to you feel free to call us or come by our office in the county courthouse.

Pictured above, E.L. Briggs property when in violation of the Sediment Control Law; below shows same site two months later after grading and seeding have taken place.



Annual Awards Luncheon Held

Several hundred rural leaders and officials of the 18 western counties are expected to be on hand for the annual awards luncheon of the Western North Carolina Development Association on Saturday, December 4, at the Asheville Civic Center. This will be the 27th annual meeting of the development program, which is one of the nation's oldest and most widely recognized 'self-help' community improvement efforts.

Area winners of the community improvement program for 1976 will be named at the meeting and \$7,500 in area awards were provided this year to be presented to the top winners. Representing Yancey County in contention for top area awards is Brush Creek in Division A-(less than 75 families). Green Mountain represented the county in final judging to select the community making the most progress in its overall youth program.

The luncheon will be catered by residents of the Dix Creek #2 community_in the Leicester area of Buncombe County, who are using the project to help raise funds to pay for a site for a community center. Tickets are \$2.75 each and may be secured from the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service

office in each county.

Ed Broadwell of Clyde, a director of the development association, will preside at the meeting. Richard Wynn, publisher of the Asheville Citizen-Times will present awards to the overall community winners and Randal

and recognized in remarks to be made by Jerry Sutton, Macon County dairy farmer and president of the Clark's Chapel Community Club and Frank H. Brown, Jr. of Cullowhee, former vice chancellor of Western Carolina University.

The Community Development Program is sponsored by the WNC Development Association in cooperation with the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service and local sponsors and agencies in each county. This year 97 communities in 15 of the western counties have participated.

Awards and sponsors for the communities in division A are: First prize, \$400, Sears; second prize, \$300, The Northwestern Bank; third prize, \$200, Iveys of Asheville; fourth prize, \$100, Gerber Products Company.

Also in Division A Honorable Mention awards of \$50 each are being provided by Lowe's of Asheville, Matthews Motors, FCX, Inc., Biltmore Dairy Farms, Chero-, kee Historical Association, Ingle's Markets and WLOS-

TV/FM. In division B (75 to 150) families), the sponsors are: First prize, \$400, American Enka Co.; second prize, \$300, J.C. Penney Co.; third prize \$200, Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Asheville; fourth prize, \$100, Sealtest Foods. Honorable mention awards of \$50 are sponsored by Gerber Products Co., Belk, Cherokee Hist. Assoc., The Man Store, Sears, First Union National Bank, Western Carolina Telephone Co., and Rose's-Grace Plaza.

For the communities with 150 or more families in division C the sponsors are: First prize \$400, Asheville Citizen-Times; second prize, \$300, Champion Papers-Drexel Heritage Furnishings; third prize \$200, General Electric Co.; fourth prize \$100, Wachovia Bank & Trust Co. Honorable Mention sponsors are Belk, Free Service, Tire Co., Sealtest Foods, Cherokee Hist. Assoc., First Citizens Bank & Trust Co., Southern Bell Telephone &