

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**West Virginia American Indian SEPM
Business Plan
FY- 2004**

OBJECTIVE: Provide assistance to the State Conservationist by working with all of our NRCS customers both internal and external, in relation to activities, education and needs of Native Americans.

GOAL I: Educate and inform, mostly internal customers about the American Indian in West Virginia.

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>
1. Act as an advisor to the State Conservationist, Civil Rights Committee, and NRCS employees.	FY-2004	V. Scott
2. Coordinate and observe American Indian Heritage Month in West Virginia with NRCS employee's and NHQ.	November	V. Scott
3. Provide information about American Indians, their culture, and location of Native American events that occur in West Virginia.	FY-2004	V. Scott
4. Plans are to give a short presentation at an Area Staff meeting on request from one of the Assistant State Conservationists for Field Operations to better inform our workforce about the American Indian and how we can see their presence in our past.	FY-2004	V. Scott
5. Relocate the State NRCS Native American Reference Library in Parkersburg to Philippi making the books and videos available to all NRCS employee's, statewide.	FY-2004	V. Scott

GOAL II: Work with Native American Groups/Tribes to see how NRCS can better serve their needs.

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>
1. The Plant Materials Center in Alderson, West Virginia, will work with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in North Carolina, by providing	FY-2004	J. Vandevender

Native Plant seedlings for White Oak.

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| 2. Keep in contact with West Virginia groups about ways we as a federal agency can better serve their needs, like in Plant Materials. | FY-2004 | V. Scott |
| 4. Keep in contact with Maggie & Basil Crawford at Buffalo about progress in obtaining land from AEP for American Indian Center. | FY - 2004 | Scott Williamson, RC&D |

GOAL III: Promote the employment of persons with Native American culture and heritage in West Virginia.

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>
1. Work with personnel on new hire position, like SEEP and other positions with Native American applicants.	FY-2004	V. Scott
2. Contact American Indian Tribes/Groups about employment opportunities with NRCS for Native Americans.	FY-2004	V. Scott