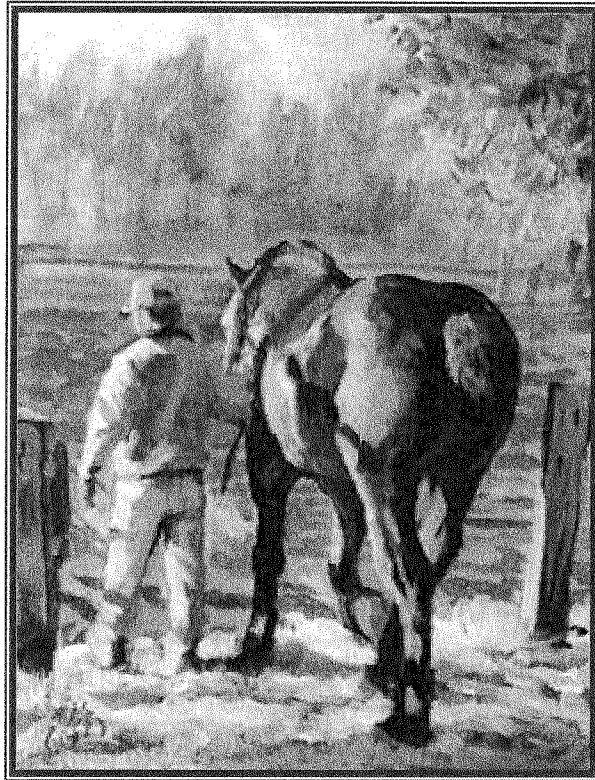


# Beginning Farmer Resource Guide



# Small Farmer Resource Guide Directory, February 2010

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**The University of Georgia Cooperative Extension in Northwest Georgia and Rolling Hills Resource Conservation and Development Council work collaboratively to produce this guide to Agricultural resources for Northwest Georgia. It includes descriptions and contact information for organizations that serve farmers in the region. This guide is also available online at [www.ugaextension.com/paulding/anr/smallfarms.html](http://www.ugaextension.com/paulding/anr/smallfarms.html)**



**ROLLING HILLS  
RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION  
AND  
DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL**

**Sponsorship for printing of this directory was provided by:**



**Cherokee County Farm Bureau  
Paulding County Farm Bureau  
Polk County Farm Bureau**

**Federal Agencies**



**USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services**

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/>

**Mission:** APHIS leads the way in anticipating and responding to issues involving Animal and plant health, conflicts with wildlife, environmental stewardship and animal well being. Together with our customers and stakeholders, we promote the health of animal and plant resources to facilitate their movement in the global marketplace and to ensure abundant agricultural products and services for U.S. consumers. AHIIS is comprised of several divisions including Veterinary Services, Plant Protection and Quarantine and Wildlife services.

To report an **animal** pest or disease, contact:

Dr. Edgardo Arza

Area Veterinarian-in-Charge

1498 Klondike Rd, Suite 200

Conyers, GA 30094

Phone: (770) 922-7860

Fax: (770) 483-9000

To report a **plant** pest or disease, contact:

Bill Kauffman

State Plant Health Director

1506 Klondike Road, Suite 306

Conyers, GA 30094

Phone: (770) 860-4020

FAX: (770) 860-4050

For wildlife services, contact:

Georgia Wildlife Services State Director

School of Forest Resources

University of Georgia

Athens, GA 30602-2152

Phone: (706) 546-5637

Toll Free: 1-866-4USDAWS



## **USDA Farm Service Agency**

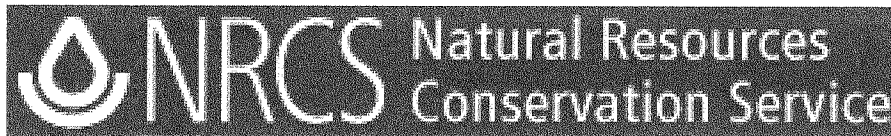
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

See your individual County Listing for the correct office contact #

The **Farm Service Agency's Mission** is to serve all farmers, ranchers, and agricultural partners by delivering effective, efficient agricultural programs for all Americans. **FSA's Vision** is a market-oriented, economically viable and environmentally sound American Agriculture that delivers an abundant, safe and affordable food and fiber supply while sustaining quality agricultural communities.

FSA provides a financial safety net for the Nation's farmers and ranchers. FSA also helps ensure that American agriculture remains competitive and productive in global markets while increasing the viability and stability of domestic agricultural operations.

Under the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (The Farm Bill), FSA assists farmers and ranchers through a number of key programs.



## **USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service**

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

See your individual County for the correct office contact #

Since 1935, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (originally called the Soil Conservation Service) has provided leadership in a partnership effort to help America's private land owners and managers conserve their soil, water, and other natural resources.

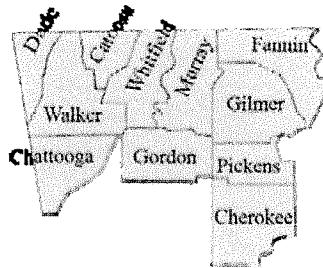
NRCS employees provide technical assistance based on sound science and suited to a customer's specific needs. We provide financial assistance for many conservation activities. Participation in our programs is voluntary.

## Resource Conservation and Development Councils (RC&D)

Resource Conservation and Development, better known as RC&D, is a unique program that helps people initiate, sponsor, plan and implement projects that will make their communities better places in which to live. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers the program for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. NRCS provides a coordinator, and gives other support to each RC&D area. The local councils make each RC&D area unique by defining goals and objectives to meet local needs. Maps outlining northwest Georgia's RC&D areas are provided below.

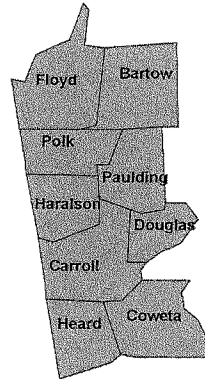
### Limestone Valley RC&D

125 Red Bud Road, Suite 7  
Calhoun, Georgia 30701  
706-625-7044  
Fax: 706-625-9943  
<http://www.lvrcd.org/>



### Rolling Hills RC&D

512 Main Street  
Cedartown, Georgia  
770-749-0444  
Fax: 706-749-9444  
<http://www.rollinghillsrccd.org/>



## USDA Rural Development

### Area I-Serving Northwest Georgia Counties

Area Director, Jack Stanek  
Suite A - 12 Felton Place  
Cartersville North Business Center  
Cartersville, GA 30120  
Phone 770-386-3393

Rural Development is working to eliminate substandard housing from rural America by helping rural people buy, build or rent decent housing. Rural Development creates jobs by funding the growth and creation of rural businesses and cooperatives. In a typical year, Rural Development programs create or preserve more than 150,000 rural jobs, enable 40,000 to 50,000 rural Americans to buy homes and help 450,000 low-income rural people rent apartments or other housing. Assistance is provided in many ways, including direct or guaranteed loans, grants, technical assistance, research and educational materials. To accomplish our mission, USDA Rural Development often works in partnership with state, local and tribal governments, as well as rural businesses, cooperatives and nonprofit agencies.

## State Agencies and Educational Institutions

### **Georgia Department of Agriculture**

The Georgia Department of Agriculture administers a variety of programs which all have a primary goal - to maintain the state's viable farm industry and protect the consuming public.

19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
404-656-3645 or  
1-800-282-5852  
<http://agr.georgia.gov>



#### Georgia Department of Agriculture State Licenses, Certifications, and Services:

- Administration Division:
  - Farmers and Consumers Market Bulletin (free weekly newspaper)
- Animal Industry Division:
  - Animal Manure Handler Permit
  - Animal Shelter License
  - Bird Dealer License
  - Equine Stable License
  - Georgia Poultry Diagnostic Laboratory Network
  - Kennel Boarding License
  - Livestock Special Sale or Show Permit
  - Meat Processing License
  - Pet Dealer License
  - Poultry Dealer or Broker License
  - Poultry Sales Establishment License
- Consumer Protection Division:
  - Bottled Water Certification
  - Egg Grader Certification (Candling License)
  - Food Processor License
  - Food Sales Establishment License
  - Wholesale Fish Dealer License
- Marketing Division:
  - Dealers in Agricultural Products License (bond coverage)
  - State Agricultural Commodity Commissions
  - State Farmer's Market Vendors License
  - Warehouse or Grain Dealers License
  - Georgia Agritourism Attraction Registration
- Plant Industry Division:
  - Beekeeper License (sale of queen and package bees)
  - Commercial Feed License
  - Fertilizer License
  - Horticultural Growing Media Registration
  - Lime License
  - Live Plant Dealer License (Retail and Wholesale License)
  - Live Plant Grower License (Nursery and Greenhouse License)
  - Organic Certification and Registration
  - Pesticide Applicator's License
  - Pesticide Contractor's License
  - Pesticide Dealer's License
  - Seed Dealer License
  - Soil Amendment Registration
  - Structural Pest Control Company License



## GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Georgia Department of Labor

<http://www.dol.state.ga.us/>

1-877-JOBS4GA

The Georgia Department of Labor provides a wide range of services to job seekers and employers. These include administration of Georgia's unemployment insurance, employment service, and vocational rehabilitation programs; provision of workforce information to the public and private sectors; inspection of boilers, pressure vessels, amusement park and carnival rides; and oversight of child labor issues. The Department of Labor is the state agency designated by the governor to lead the state's implementation of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

### Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division

<http://www.georgiawildlife.org>

DNR General Information:

(770) 918-6400

Department of Natural Resources

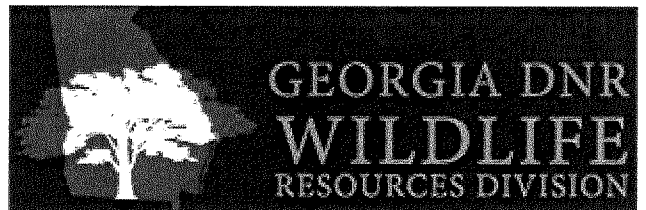
Wildlife Resources Division

Special Permits

2109 U.S. Hwy. 278, S.E.

Social Circle, GA 30025

770-761-3044



DNR Wildlife Resources Division

Region I Law Enforcement

P.O. Box 786

Calhoun, GA 30703-0786

(770) 769-9680

(706) 624-1367

(706) 624-1365

## Georgia Forestry Commission

The mission of the Georgia Forestry Commission is to provide leadership, service, and education in the protection and conservation of Georgia's forest resources.

5645 Riggins Mill Road  
Dry Branch, Georgia 31020

P. O. Box 819  
Macon, Georgia 31202-0819

1-800-GA-TREES (428-7337)

\*Burn Permits:

1-877-ok-2-burn (652-2876)

[www.gfc.state.ga.us](http://www.gfc.state.ga.us)



## Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission

<http://gaswcc.georgia.gov>

### Region 1

700 East 2nd Avenue

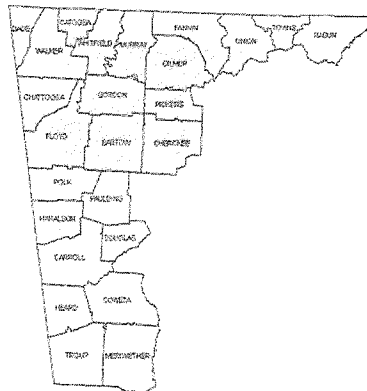
Suite J

Rome, GA 30161-3359

Phone: 706-295-6131

Fax: 706-802-5131

[region1@gaswcc.org](mailto:region1@gaswcc.org)



The Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC) provides soil and water resource information; education; technical, financial, and planning assistance; and program oversight to locally led soil and water conservation districts, landowners/users, and local, state, and federal governments to maintain, conserve, and wisely use the soil and water resources for all Georgians.





THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**  
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

**University of Georgia Cooperative Extension**

1-800-ASK UGA 1

Dialed from a landline will connect you to your County Extension Office

[www.ugaextension.com](http://www.ugaextension.com)

The mission of UGA Cooperative Extension is to extend lifelong learning to Georgia citizens through unbiased, research-based education in agriculture, the environment, communities, youth and families. University of Georgia Cooperative Extension is a statewide educational organization. It is funded by federal, state and local governments to bring research-based education directly to individuals, families and communities. It is conducted through the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

**University of Georgia Small Business Development Center**

550 North College Drive Dalton, GA 30720 Phone: (706) 272-2700

<http://nwgasbdc.blogspot.com>



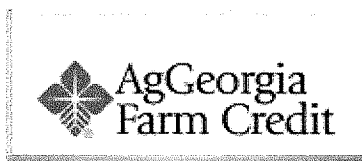
Entrepreneurial ventures provide hundreds of thousands of jobs in Georgia for both business owners and employees. Small businesses not only supply principal income for families, but they meet unique needs for part-time employment, temporary employment, supplementary income. The Georgia SBDC Network provides training, technical assistance, and research to help entrepreneurs improve their chances for success.

**Non-Governmental Organizations**

**AgGeorgia Farm Credit**

<http://www.aggeorgia.com/>

800-868-6404



AgGeorgia Farm Credit, ACA makes long-term farm and country home loans, intermediate-term loans for equipment and buildings, land loans, construction loans, improvement loans and short-term production loans.

# Learning *for* Life

## **Georgia Farm Bureau**

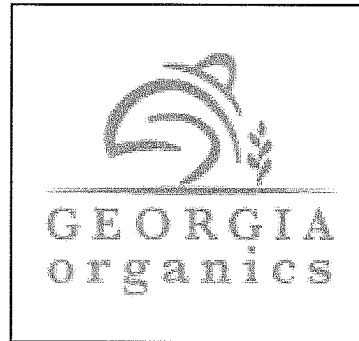
1620 Bass Road  
P.O. Box 7068  
Macon, Georgia 31209  
478-474-8411  
<http://www.gfb.org/>



The purpose of the Georgia Farm Bureau Federation, as the largest farm organization in Georgia, is to provide leadership and assistance to the agricultural sector, to promote farm products, to aid in agri-related procurement, to be a spokesman for the farmer in the legislative arena, to be a leader in the development and expansion of farm markets, to strive for more agricultural research and educational funds and facilities -- in essence -- to use the Georgia Farm Bureau organization and its facilities as the vehicle with which to assist in providing farm families a fair and equitable standard of living and to ensure the existence of agriculture as a vital and thriving industry in the future.

## **Georgia Organics**

P.O. Box 8924  
Atlanta, GA 31106  
Phone: 678.702.0400  
Fax: 678.702.0401  
[info@georgiaorganics.org](mailto:info@georgiaorganics.org)  
<http://www.georgiaorganics.org/>



Georgia Organics is a member supported non-profit organization working to integrate healthy, sustainable and locally grown food into the lives of all Georgians.

## **Georgia Agribusiness Council**

1655 S Elm St  
Commerce, GA 30529-2700  
(706) 336-6830  
800-726-2474

The mission of the Georgia Agribusiness Council is to Advance the Business of Agriculture and Promote Environmental Stewardship to Enhance the Quality of Life for All Georgians.

**Walker County**

**Limestone Valley RC&D**  
706-625-7044

**UGA Cooperative Extension**  
102 E Napier Street  
LaFayette, GA 30728-2914  
706-638-2548

**USDA Service Center- LaFayette**  
**(Farm Service Agency, NRCS)**  
208 N Duke St  
LaFayette, GA 30728-2591  
706-638-1558

**Walker County Farm Bureau**  
101 South Cherokee Street  
LaFayette, GA 30728  
706-638-3237

**Whitfield County**

**USDA Service Center- Calhoun**  
**(Farm Service Agency, NRCS)**  
706-629-2582  
717 S. Wall Street  
Calhoun, GA 30701-2615

**Limestone Valley RC&D**  
706-625-7044

**UGA Cooperative Extension**  
1407 Applewood Dr  
Dalton, GA 30720-2699  
706-278-8207

**Whitfield County Farm Bureau**  
1509 Chattanooga Rd  
Dalton, GA 30720  
706-278-9380

## Web Resources

American Farmland Trust  
[www.farmland.org](http://www.farmland.org)

Georgia Seed Development Commission:  
<http://www.gsdc.com/>

Center for Agribusiness and Economic  
Development:  
[www.caed.uga.edu/app](http://www.caed.uga.edu/app)

Georgia Conservation Use Assessment:  
<https://etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/cas/cuse/assmt.assx>

Georgia Small Business Development  
Center Network:  
<http://www.sbdc.uga.edu/>

Georgia Market Maker:  
<http://ga.marketmaker.uiuc.edu/>

Georgia Agriculture and Nature Based  
Tourism Directory (AGNET):  
<http://www.caed.uga.edu/agnet/>

Licensed Well Drillers and Pump Installers:  
[http://www.gaepd.org/Documents/regcomm\\_wpb.html](http://www.gaepd.org/Documents/regcomm_wpb.html)

Georgia Weather Network:  
<http://www.georgiaweather.net/>

### Small Farm Extension References:

Pasture & Forages:  
<http://www.georgiaforages.com/>

Vegetables:  
<http://www.tifton.uga.edu/veg/>

Beef Production:  
<http://www.ugabeef.caes.uga.edu/>

Aquaculture:  
<http://www.cpes.peachnet.edu/aquaculture/>

Beekeeping:  
<http://www.ent.uga.edu/Bees/>

Christmas Trees:  
<http://www.bugwood.org/christmas/>

Small Fruits:  
<http://www.smallfruits.org/>

Backyard Poultry:  
<http://www.poultry.uga.edu/extension/tips/index.htm>

Sustainable Agriculture, Research, and  
Education:  
<http://www.sare.org/>

National Sustainable Agriculture  
Information Service:  
<http://attra.ncat.org/>

Georgia Land Trust:  
<http://www.galandtrust.org/>

Georgia Pest Management Handbook:  
<http://www.ent.uga.edu/pmh/>

# Learning *for* Life

## **Professional Associations:**

Georgia Beekeepers Association:  
<http://www.gabeekeeping.com/>

Georgia Cattlemen's Association:  
<http://www.gabeef.org/>

Georgia Christmas Tree Association  
<http://www.gacta.com/index.php>

Georgia Fruit & Vegetable Growers  
Association:  
<http://www.gfvga.org/>

Southern Highlands Goat Producers  
Association:  
<http://www.sohighgoats.com/>

The above listing is for reference information only and not intended as an endorsement by UGA Cooperative Extension.

The University of Georgia College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences offers its educational programs, assistance, and materials to all people regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, or veteran status and is an equal opportunity, affirmative action organization.

# Learning *for* Life

## Directory Updates and other Important Contacts

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