



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

NATIONAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT WEEK  
September 19-25, 2010

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By the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America

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A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS** the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Program was established by the Agriculture Act of 1962 to help rural communities protect and develop their economic, natural, and social resources; and

**WHEREAS** RC&D Councils across America work in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) through USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service to achieve shared goals, including rural job creation and prosperity; natural resource conservation; sustainable agricultural production; clean energy generation; and food security; and

**WHEREAS** the RC&D Program, which provides RC&D areas with financial and technical assistance while maintaining a focus on local direction and control, makes valuable contributions to the quality of life in rural America by conserving natural resources and stimulating economic development;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in recognition of RC&D Councils' notable achievements in empowering rural communities to address their most significant needs and enhance their quality of life, I, Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, do hereby proclaim September 19-25, 2010, as National Resource Conservation and Development Week. I call upon the people of the United States to join me in celebrating the RC&D Program with appropriate observances and activities.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of September 2010, the two-hundred thirty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom J. Vilsack".

THOMAS J. VILSACK  
Secretary