

CITY OF ASHLAND RECEIVES \$3000.00 GRANT

By Eddie May Executive Director, Coosa Valley RC&D Council

The City of Ashland received a \$3000.00 grant from the Coosa Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council to repair erosion problems affecting the access/entrance road, boat ramp and parking lot at Watershed Site No. 3. The erosion problem also caused the lake to fill with sediment due to the eroded soil being carried into the lake as the water from intensive rainstorms flowed across the terrain.

Watershed site No. 3 is one of the principal sources of municipal water for the city and its customers. The area around the site is also a part of the Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail and it is greatly utilized for outdoor recreation. The city has been working to fix this erosion problem for several years.

The access/entrance road was graded, shaped and crowned. Ditches and culvert piped were installed in order to control the water flow from intensive rainstorms. A permanent vegetative cover was established on the disturbed areas in order to stabilize and prevent further erosion. Gravel was applied on the road and parking lot. In addition, parking bumpers were installed and the boat ramp was extended with a swell installed to reduce further erosion.

All of the labor for the project was provided by the City of Ashland Maintenance Department personnel and by SIFAT volunteers.

Special thanks to State Senator Gerald Dial and State Representative Richard Laird for providing funding to the Coosa Valley RC&D Council for this project and others throughout their respective legislative areas. Senator Dial was present during the check presentation and he said, "my father was on the Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District Board and was heavily involved in the creation of the watershed lakes in Clay County. As a youngster he took me to them and told me how they control flooding, provide recreation, and provide drinking water. I appreciate the effort of the Coosa Valley RC&D Council and the City of Ashland to protect them for future generations."

The Coosa Valley RC&D Council is a 501-c-3 nonprofit organization which serves an eleven county area in east central Alabama.



L-R: Earl Smith-Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District Member, Les Robinson-City of Ashland Maintenance Supervisor, Larry Raughton-Coosa Valley RC&D Chairman, Roy Johnson-Clay County Commissioner and State Senator-Gerald Dial.