

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service – Tucson Field Office
3241 N Romero Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85705
520.292-2999 x 3

To whom it may concern,

November 9, 2011

For the past 30 years I have worked as a Soil Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in a wide variety of capacities. NRCS is an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) that provides technical and financial assistance to farmers and ranchers. In recent years, much of my work has been directly related to fostering enhanced grazing environments for livestock.

Over the past three years I have been working with the staff at Avalon Gardens in Tumacácori, Arizona. We have been working together to implement a variety of conservation practices. The NRCS has provided technical and financial assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. In addition, I serve as a technical advisor to a Sustainable Agricultural Research and Education (S.A.R.E.) grant they are applying for in order to research a perennial forage system for dairy animals.

I am also aware of a special rehabilitation program for troubled teens they offer at their facility. In my frequent visits I have observed many young people involved in the daily activities associated with running the farm and ranch. As I have had a chance to personally get to know a number of their staff persons, I can attest they are dedicated in both their pursuits of implementing conservation sponsored agricultural programs as well as in mentoring young persons.

I believe anyone considering supporting this organization's efforts can rest assured their funds and resources would be well utilized.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Haynes".

Chris Haynes
Soil Conservationist

Helping People Help the Land

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