

**April 14, 2003**

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Tennessee NRCS conducted six Undertaking Reviews this past year. All reviews were in conjunction with watershed project activities. Four of the reviews resulted in the need for a Phase I Archaeological Study to meet NRCS's responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act .

NRCS is currently in discussions with the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) seeking consensus on a State and Local Programmatic Agreement. This agreement has the potential to streamline the process of providing technical assistance to landowners in a manner that protects historic properties. The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is cooperating with NRCS and the Tennessee SHPO to assure that both TVA's and NRCS's cultural responsibilities are met while working with landowners to plan and install conservation practices with the Tennessee River watershed.