



Agua Para La Vida

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Watershed conservation is the key to clean water for the future

For the past several years, APLV has put significant effort into watershed conservation in the communities we work with. In November 2004, we received a \$7,000 grant from New England Biolabs Foundation to expand our conservation work. This project involved working with several communities to establish tree nurseries, improve pasture land, develop community education materials and influence land management practices.

We also used this funding to develop two educational pamphlets. "Preparing for our future" is an environmental conservation and community health manual in which APLV links conservation with personal and community well-being. This lesson plan and manual is written in a clear and simple language targeted to the level of the Nicaraguan rural community. "Save Our Cerro Musún" is a publication which uses the disastrous landslides of June 2004 as an learning opportunity. The events of that time are described in a story which weaves together local legend and environmental conservation. In the story, the landslides are a form of revenge by Nature for deforestation along the slopes of the mountain, Cerro Musún.



Community members in La Ponzona transplant tree seedlings.



The APLV tree nursery in Rio Blanco. This year we hope to plant 40,000 trees.

Two new projects were completed in 2005 and three more are nearly complete. Los Cerritos and La Isla II were completed in September, and Sitio Historico (Pancasán), Las Mulas and Isla de Wanawas will be completed in 2006. We will also begin work on a large project with the 1,200 inhabitants of Yaoya. This project is being funded largely by grants from the Japanese embassy in Nicaragua and Save the Children.

APLV considers expansion

The underlying model for APLV's work is to train local Nicaraguans in all aspects of drinking water and sanitation projects as a way of expanding our impact. We are now considering putting some of our graduates to work in another region of Nicaragua. We are in the early stages of identifying a good location and exploring sources of funding for an expansion.

APLV's school gets accredited!

Escuela Tecnica de Agua Potable, APLV's technical training school, was recently accredited by INATEC, the Nicaraguan National Technical Institute. This means that the diplomas received by our graduates will be officially recognized by the Nicaraguan government and also by potential employers of our graduates. Gracias to Kelly and Jim for pulling together the endless paperwork to make this happen.

More clean water!

What you can do...

- Make a **financial contribution** to APLV. Consider making a larger gift than you did last year.
- **Spread the word!** We've enclosed a copy of our brochure- pass it along to somebody you think will want to help improve the lives of some of the poorest people in the Western Hemisphere.

We thank you for your support and wish the whole world a year of peace, good health and clean water.



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- I'm interested in learning more about the APLV Nicaragua Project Tour next spring
- Please add the following person to the APLV mailing list
- I would like to support APLV in bringing clean drinking water to the people of Nicaragua. Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of:
 - \$25 Material cost for drinking water for one person
 - \$50 Material cost of 500 seedlings for reforestation
 - \$100 Material cost of a latrine for a family
 - \$200 Sponsorship for one APLV technical student for one month
 - \$300 Material cost for drinking water for one family
 - \$500 Drinking water, latrine and health education for one family

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

(we won't share your e-mail address with anybody!)