



WARREN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Arlan Becker, Chairman
Kenneth Croat, Vice Chairman
Charles Spain
Dammen Moffitt
Anthony Asmus

February, 2005

2004 ANNUAL REPORT

This report is prepared annually by the Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District to provide information concerning our local conservation program to the people of Warren County. This work has been accomplished with the cooperation of the Warren County landowners and operators. We thank you for all of your efforts in conserving the land for future generations.

We thank the many organizations that assisted us during the year. We appreciate the support given by the Iowa Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil Conservation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Board of Supervisors, County Conservation Board and the Extension Service.

We also thank our Booster Club Members who make it possible for conservation educational programs to continue throughout the county. Your donations make it possible for the District to provide Soil Stewardship materials to local churches and schools, gift certificate awards to the poster contest winners and scholarships offered to seniors in the county. Without the generosity of these members, many of our programs could not be carried out. Included with this annual report is a letter asking again for your contributions.

**You make a difference –
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

2004 BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERS

<i>Hank Bechtel</i>	<i>Allan Graham</i>
<i>Fred Hastie</i>	<i>Craig Hill</i>
<i>Lorraine Hill</i>	<i>Dennis Isley</i>
<i>Carl Marsh</i>	<i>Leland McCormick</i>
<i>James Penick</i>	<i>Donald Pochter</i>
<i>Ralph Schlenker</i>	<i>John Sereg</i>
<i>Larry Watts</i>	

Thanks to these generous Boosters donating a total of \$760, the District has been able to enhance the conservation education and awareness in Warren County.

About SWCDs –

Soil and water conservation districts are the local legal subdivisions of state government responsible under state law for soil and water conservation work within their boundaries. Each county in Iowa is a soil and water conservation district and we are the **Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District** or Warren SWCD. Districts promote protection, maintenance, improvement, and wise use of the soil and water within the district. Soil and water conservation district commissioners are the governing body of the local district. Each board consists of five locally elected commissioners who serve four-year terms. Commissioners volunteer their services, but may be reimbursed for actual expenses necessary to carry out their duties.

About our Partners –

The *Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Division of Soil Conservation (IDALS-DSC)* is responsible for the administrative functions of the soil and water conservation laws of Iowa. Division staff advises and assists districts with local resource management programs, allocate state financial incentive program funds (cost-share), and assign state technical, secretarial, and water quality specialist positions to the districts.

The *USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)* is the technical agency that helps landowners and operators plan total resource management systems and apply soil conservation practices to the land. NRCS personnel work through the soil and water conservation districts. NRCS in Iowa provides office space for the soil and water conservation district offices.

The *Farm Service Agency* administers Farm Bill programs that Congress passes into law. Some of those programs include Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (DCP), commodity loans, facility loans, operating loans, etc.

The *Iowa Department of Natural Resources* administers parks, lakes, recreation areas, wildlife areas, forests, natural and cultural preserves and associated user facilities and services. The local Warren County DNR office is located near Lake Ahquabi State Park and provides technical assistance to private landowners for wildlife management.

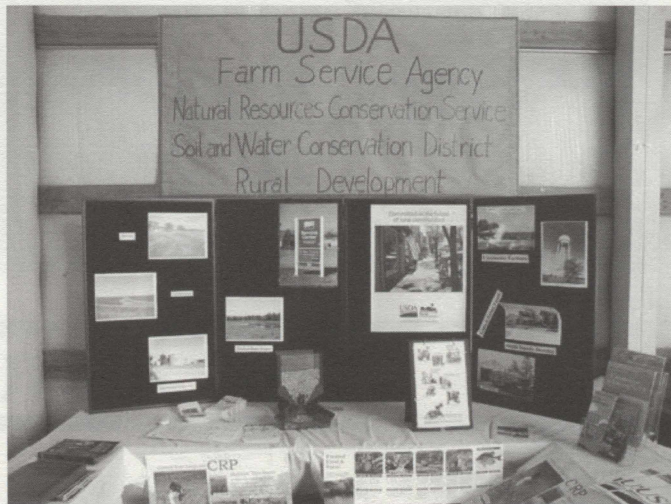
All five agencies work hand in hand in administering the conservation programs available in Warren County. Technical assistance for soil and water conservation purposes is provided free of charge to all landowners and residents of Warren County.

SEEDERS

The District has two battery-operated seeders and two hand-operated seeders that rent for \$10 and \$5 respectively. They are ideal for seeding terraces, waterways, dams, and small area native grass seeding projects.

WARREN COUNTY FAIR BOOTH

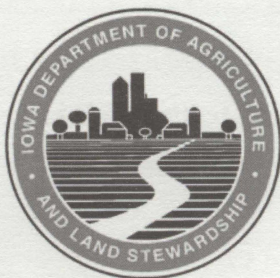
The Soil and Water Conservation District shares fair booth space with the Farm Service Agency, NRCS and Rural Development. A miniature gravity flow wagon depicts the danger involved when children are around farm equipment and emphasized the need of farm safety and supervision.



The fair offers an opportunity for the general public to become informed of the various conservation practices that can be incorporated into any setting.

Riparian Buffer Strips (CP22)

Like trees? The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Riparian Buffer may be for you. Under the continuous CRP sign-up, buffer strips including trees, shrubs, and grasses may be planted alongside streams, ponds, and rivers and may be eligible for CRP payments. Buffers are very effective at keeping sediment, chemical and fertilizer runoff, and other pollutants from entering surface and ground water sources. They also improve fish and wildlife habitat and can serve as a windbreak. CRP Riparian Buffers may extend 35' to 185' from each stream bank and may be installed on crop or pasture ground. Rental payments on crop ground are based on the soil type with more productive soils receiving a higher rate. Pasture rates are based on a county average. There is also a 20% bonus payment and a maintenance fee added to the payment. Contracts may run 10 or 15 years. Cost share is available at 90% (50% plus a 40% bonus for this program) to help with seeding and planting, fencing, and developing alternative water sources. For more information on this program, please contact the office.



Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
Division of Soil Conservation

Warren Soil & Water Conservation District
909 East 2nd Avenue, Suite B
Indianola, IA 50125

Phone: 515-961-5264

FAX: 515-961-5738

February 2005

Dear Conservation Friend:

The Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District has been assisting individuals who share the concern for the protection of our soil, water and related natural resources in the county since February 16, 1944.

Our District has formed a Booster Club to raise money for promoting the educational programs and enhance soil and water conservation in our community. Your donated money is used for conducting a poster contest, scholarships for students to pursue education in conservation, hosting field days for elementary students in the county, conservation education materials for local schools and churches, recognizing the District's outstanding conservation farmers and membership in State and National Associations.

As everyone knows, the State of Iowa is having budget problems. Not only is the District's operating expenses being reduced, but also the cost share program itself has been reduced. **As landowners, operators and contractors you have a voice in stopping this short fall. Talk to your legislators to convince them that the conservation programs are necessary to help protect our soil, water and related natural resources. Your tax dollars are what keeps these programs available for you to use.**

As District Commissioners, we are proud of our conservation program and hope you are too. If you are willing to support the District in our education and promotion activities, please send your contribution along with the bottom portion of this letter to the Warren SWCD. As a contributor, your name will be listed on the display board in our office. Contributions in any amount are greatly appreciated and we thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Warren County SWCD Commissioners

Arlan Becker Charles Spain Kenneth W. Croat Damen Moffitt

Simply send this form with your donation to:

Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District
909 East 2nd Avenue, Suite B
Indianola, IA 50125

Count me in! Please accept my contribution of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Arlan Becker, Chairman
Belmont Twp.

Charles Spain
Linn Twp.

COMMISSIONERS
Kenneth Croat
Jackson Twp.

Damen Moffitt
E. Lincoln Twp.

Vacant Seat

FINANCIAL REPORT – 2004

Iowa Financial Incentives Program (IFIP) and Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP)

IFIP Cost Share -- 01-02

Allocation	\$ 157,576.00
Obligated	\$ 155,338.71
Recalled	\$ 2,237.29
Balance 12/31/04	\$.00

IFIP Cost Share -- 02-03

Allocation	\$ 48,280.00
Obligated	\$ 48,248.87
Recalled	\$ 31.13
Balance 12/31/04	\$.00

IFIP Cost Share -- 03-04

Allocation	\$ 66,509.00
Obligated	\$ 66,509.00
Recalled	\$.00
Balance 12/31/04	\$.00

IFIP Cost Share -- 04-05

Allocation	\$ 62,764.00
Obligated	\$ 58,864.00
Recalled	\$.00
Balance 12/31/04	\$ 5,900.00

REAP – Practices 05

Allocation	\$ 7,940.00
Re-allocation	\$ 4,770.00
Obligated	\$ 9,800.00
Balance 12/31/04	\$ 2,910.00

REAP – Forestry 05

Allocation	\$ 1,985.00
Obligated	\$ 1,985.00
Balance 12/31/04	\$.00

A total of 54,367 feet of terraces have been installed in Warren County in 2004. Eight structures have been installed, and four sediment basins were constructed.

There will be POTTED conifers available also. Call for information.

BAREROOT CONIFEROUS TREES

White Pine	12"-18"	25 per bundle	40.00		
Black Hills Spruce	12"-18"	25 per bundle	40.00		
Colorado Blue Spruce	12"-18"	25 per bundle	40.00		
Norway Spruce	12"-18"	25 per bundle	40.00		
White Spruce	12"-18"	25 per bundle	40.00		
Concolor Fir	12"-18"	25 per bundle	50.00		
American Arborvitae	12"-18"	25 per bundle	45.00		

BAREROOT DECIDUOUS TREES

Red Maple	2'-3'	25 per bundle	38.00		
Silver Maple	8"-18"	25 per bundle	17.50		
Black Walnut	2'-3'	25 per bundle	37.50		
Hackberry	18"-24"	25 per bundle	30.00		
Northern Pecan	8"-18"	25 per bundle	32.50		
Green Ash	18"-24"	25 per bundle	32.50		
White Ash	2'-3'	25 per bundle	36.00		
Shellbark Hickory	6"-12"	25 per bundle	37.50		
Red Oak	2'-3'	25 per bundle	40.00		
White Oak	2'-3'	25 per bundle	40.00		
Bur Oak	2'-3'	25 per bundle	40.00		
Swamp White Oak	2'-3'	25 per bundle	40.00		

BAREROOT DECIDUOUS SHRUBS & SMALL TREES

Cranberrybush	18"-24"	25 per bundle	44.00		
American Plum	18"-24"	25 per bundle	23.00		
Nannyberry	18"-24"	25 per bundle	44.00		
Ninebark	12"-24"	25 per bundle	30.00		
Common Purple Lilac	2'-3'	25 per bundle	37.50		
Nanking Cherry	18"-24"	25 per bundle	30.00		
Red Osier Dogwood	18"-24"	25 per bundle	24.00		
Serviceberry	18"-24"	25 per bundle	35.00		
Crabapple	18"-24"	25 per bundle	26.00		

Evergreen Tree Package	Details on reverse	60.00		
Wildlife Shrub Package	Details on reverse	60.00		

Order early, trees and shrubs will sell quickly. Plants are such reasonable rates there will be NO GUARANTEES. You will receive a post card in April informing you of the time, place, and date of tree pick-up. Checks payable to: **Warren Soil & Water Conservation District**

SUBTOTAL	
6% TAX	
TOTAL DUE	

+++++

PAYMENT DUE WITH ORDER

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Mail To: Warren Soil & Water Conservation District
909 East Second Ave., Ste. B, Indianola IA 50125

Phone: 515-961-5264
Fax: 515-961-5738

<u>WHITE PINE</u> A hardy, valuable tree. Clustered soft blue-green needles. Ideal screen or windbreak. Likes moist, well-drained soils. Fast oval-shaped growth rate to 80' with 40' spread. Good wildlife habitat.	<u>SHELLBARK HICKORY</u> A bottomland species, grows well on deep, upland soils. Closely resembles shagbark hickory but has a much larger nut.
<u>BLACK HILLS SPRUCE</u> Very slow growing to 30'-60'. One of the most tolerant spruces withstanding wind, heat, cold, drought and crowding. Short, stiff bluish-green needles.	<u>RED OAK</u> Fast growth to 75' with 45' spread. Dense, lustrous green foliage turns deep red in fall. Prefers sandy to rich loamy soil, full sun. Excellent wildlife habitat. Tolerates urban environments well.
<u>COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE</u> A magnificent sight of silver blue-green spruce. Rated one of the most popular evergreens. Grows well while young and matures at 50'-75' with 25' spread.	<u>WHITE OAK</u> Grows fast to 40'-70' in deep loamy, well-drained soil. Known for its broad, round head and massive, wide spreading branches. Bluish-green foliage; reddish-brown in autumn. Excellent wildlife habitat.
<u>NORWAY SPRUCE</u> Fastest growing of the spruces. Develops strong graceful branches that are covered with dark green needles. Ideal windbreaker. Matures at 60', 25' spread.	<u>SWAMP WHITE OAK</u> Grows to 50'-60'. Does well in wet, swampy conditions along rivers and streams. Excellent wildlife habitat. Bronze/yellow color in autumn.
<u>WHITE SPRUCE</u> A straight tall tree easily recognized by its needles. Cones always hang down. Beautiful year-round color. Tolerates most soil conditions. Grows to 60'; 15' spread.	<u>BUR OAK</u> Tolerant of a variety of moisture and soil conditions, adapts well to urban settings. Its fringed acorns are food for wildlife. A very long-lived tree. Prefers full sun. Grows 70' to 80', 80' spread.
<u>CONCOLOR FIR</u> Grows to 120'. One of the most beautiful and easy to care for evergreens. Silver trunk, soft silver foliage, very sturdy branches. Grows about 12"/year. Needs good drainage.	<u>CRANBERRYBUSH</u> A deciduous shrub, growing 8-12' with spread of 8-12'. White flowers in clusters in May. Scarlet berries midsummer through winter providing food for birds. A good wetland plant. Good screen/background plant, space 4' apart.
<u>AMERICAN ARBORVITAE</u> Small tree growing 20-30 feet tall. Prefers fertile soils with adequate moisture. Medium growth rate. Used in landscapes; makes beautiful living fence when planted close.	<u>AMERICAN PLUM</u> Small tree or shrub growing to 20'. Profuse white flowers before leaves appear in spring, followed by yellow to red edible fruits. Excellent wildlife habitat.
<u>RED MAPLE</u> Brings color to your landscape year-round. Fast growing and tolerant of many soils. Grows 40'-60' with 40' spread. Bright green leaves turn brilliant red or orange/yellow in fall.	<u>NANNYBERRY</u> Medium to large-sized viburnum reaching 25-30 feet in height. Spreads to nearly 10'. Adaptable to a wide range of planting sites. Leaves remain glossy green up to/through leaf drop. Desired by wildlife for its fruit.
<u>SILVER MAPLE</u> Very fast growing to 50'-80' with 50' spread. Leaves are green on top with silvery-white underside that shimmer and dance in slightest breeze. Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions.	<u>NINEBARK</u> Grows 8' tall; 8' spread. Small, very hardy, dense, adaptable to most sites, moderately dry to moist, excellent wildlife habitat.
<u>BLACK WALNUT</u> Grows to 100' in deep, rich, moist soils. For best nut production space 30' apart. For timber use, space 8' apart for fast, straight growth.	<u>PURPLE LILAC</u> Dense, vigorous growth to 15'; spreads 6' to 10'. Masses of fragrant, light lavender flowers in late spring. Adapts to wide variety of soils, drought tolerant, full sun.
<u>HACKBERRY</u> Tolerant of a wide range of conditions, this is a good landscape choice. Grows to a broad crown, making a valuable shade tree. Well-suited to urban areas; grows 40'-70' with a 50' spread.	<u>NANKING CHERRY</u> Grows 8' tall with 8' spread. Shrub can be pruned into a small tree, showy white flowers in early spring, tart edible red fruit, cold hardy, good wildlife habitat.
<u>NORTHERN PECAN</u> Medium-sized tree growing 60-80 feet tall and 1-2 feet in diameter. Largest of the hickories. Moderate growth rate. Does well in moist bottomlands and hillsides with walnut and red oak. Nuts are smaller than commercially grown pecan but sweeter tasting.	<u>RED OSIER DOGWOOD</u> Grows 7' to 10' tall; Spread 6' to 8'. Prefers sandy to clay soils; does well on moderately wet soils. Bright red in winter.
<u>GREEN ASH</u> Hardy, fast-growing to 50'-60' with 25' spread. Bright green leaves turn yellow in fall. Adapts to wide range of soils and is drought tolerant. Attractive, dense, rounded-growth.	<u>SERVICEBERRY</u> Shrub or small tree grows 25'-30'. Covered with billowy masses of small white flowers in early spring. Birds love berry-like edible purplish-black fruits in summer.
<u>WHITE ASH</u> Handsome North American native for large properties. Exquisite fall leaf colors ranging from yellow to deep purple. Prefers well drained soils and full sun. Grows 50'-80'; 45' spread.	<u>CRABAPPLE</u> Small tree growing to 30' tall and less than 1 foot in diameter. Often seen in thickets along roads and streams. Very beautiful spring flowers before leaving. Great wildlife habitat.

Evergreen Package – 15 Trees for \$60.00

5 White Pine 12"-18"
5 Blue Spruce 12"-18"
5 Norway Spruce 12"-18"

Wildlife Package -- 15 Shrubs for \$60.00

3 Serviceberry
3 Cranberrybush
3 American Plum
3 Red Osier Dogwood
3 Hazelnut

Buffer Initiative Funds (for wages)	14,794.72
Flag sales, seeder rent, tree sales	8,458.35
Reimbursement -- Whitebreast Watershed Expense	3,653.95
Total Receipts	+27,667.02
EXPENDITURES:	
Commissioner Mileage/Expense	540.85
Office supplies, postage, printing, plat books	1,363.51
Wages (Buffer Initiative funds)	14,647.36
Dues – NACD, CDI, Pheasants Forever Membrshp.	1,760.00
Trees, refunds on out-of-stock, supplies, sales tax, advertisement	7,494.87
Education (field days, workshop, poster contest, conference, Stewardship materials)	836.58
Expenses paid on behalf of Whitebreast Watershed	3,872.92
Total Expenditures	- 30,516.09
Balance 12/31/04	10,278.17



TREES

A windbreak is a permanent part of the farm landscape. Therefore, careful thought and planning should precede the planting of trees. Care and protection of the trees will be required. Since prevailing winter winds come from the northwest, a windbreak should be located on the north and west sides of the farmstead to break their force. Consider slope and drainage of the land as well as building arrangement when planning the windbreak planting. Planting the barrier too close to buildings can cause air stagnation in summer and unwanted snowdrifts in winter. Planting too far away provides little protection. A general rule is to locate the windbreak **at least 50 - 100 feet** and no more than 350 - 400

feet from the area where maximum protection is desired. Never surround your farmstead with trees on all four sides because a “dead air pocket” will be created in the center. In the winter, trees on all four sides will deflect the snow upward and then drop it in the farmyard. Trees on all four sides will also reduce air movement during hot months. As an example, a windbreak that is 30’ tall will reduce winds to 50% of their original velocities at leeward distances of up to 240 feet.

Through REAP funds, the District can cost share up to 75% to help establish a windbreak, providing you meet all the requirements. If you are interested in planting a windbreak, please contact the office at 515-961-5264 in December or early January to set up an appointment with a technician to discuss species, spacing, etc. An application for cost share could be signed at that time.

The District sells a wide variety of windbreak trees and shrubs from bareroot to potted stock. Delivery of trees is usually the first part of April each year. If you are ordering trees through the District, you are encouraged to order early to be assured of the availability of the species you want. Proceeds from the sale of nursery stock are used to support scholarships and conservation education throughout the year in Warren County schools. **You need not be a farmer or a landowner to purchase trees sold by the District.**

CONSERVATION POSTER CONTEST

Each year the District hosts a conservation poster contest for all K-12 students in Warren County. The 2004 poster theme was "The Living Soil". Twenty-two students participated in the contest. All of the posters were excellent and the students showed their individual knowledge on the topic. Congratulations to all poster contest participants and to these 2004 winners who have been awarded a gift certificate to Barnes & Noble Bookstore.



Dianna Krejsa, 7th grader at Indianola Middle School, daughter of Steve and Bev Krejsa. Congratulations!



Emma Niedermayer, 5th grader at Emerson Elementary, daughter of Nick and Lisa Niedermayer. Congratulations!



Ryan Niedermayer, 1st grader at Emerson Elementary, son of Nick and Lisa Niedermayer. Congratulations!

4th Grade Field Day

On May 6, 2004 the District hosted a Conservation Field Day at the Annett Nature Center. Approximately 170 fourth grade students participated from Emerson Elementary, Whittier Elementary, and Martensdale St. Mary's Elementary schools.



Rick Bednarck is explaining the use of a soil probe and how various types of soils can be identified.

Conservation Nature Walk sessions were conducted by Josh Gansen from DNR and Lisa Niedermayer from the Indianola NRCS field office. They identified numerous plants and grasses, trees and shrubs and offered some information about each.

Students were exposed to information on the habitat of a few of Iowa's wild animals. Jim Coffey and Matt Purvis from the DNR conducted sessions that captured every fourth graders attention.



Phil Patterson from the Indianola NRCS office and Martin Konrad from DNR provided students with hands-on participation creating various water flow situations and learning how erosion happens and how it can be prevented.

Water monitoring sessions were presented by Jackie Neely and Kristi Raymond of IOWATER.

Students learned how water is tested and learned about some of the impurities in water and water runoff and the causes of contaminated water.



Angela Biggs from the Indianola NRCS office and Vince Sitzmann from the Division of Soil Conservation encouraged student participation at the EnviroScape demonstration site. Students could see how water flow from smooth surfaces moves faster thus eroding soil and gravel quicker. Some conservation measures to protect soil and water were explained.

PROJECTS COMPLETED – STATE COST SHARE FUNDS PAID IN 2004

410 – Grade Stabilization Structure	600 – Terrace	620 – Underground Outlet	380 – Farmstead Windbreak	692 – Timber Stand
412 – Grassed Waterway	612 – Tree Planting	638 – Sediment Control Basin	327 – Conservation Cover	Improvement

<u>LINN TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>ALLEN TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>PALMYRA TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>RICHLAND TOWNSHIP</u> 600 – Richard Freeman
<u>JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP</u> 380 – James Watts	<u>WEST LINCOLN TOWNSHIP</u> 600 – John Hutchcroft	<u>EAST LINCOLN TOWNSHIP</u> 600 – D. Robert Downing 600 – Phil Langstraat	<u>UNION TOWNSHIP</u> 600/412 – Craig Hill 600 – Sigler Trust 600 – Dennis Krichau 600 – Charles D. Oakley	
<u>JACKSON TOWNSHIP</u> 692 – Richard Krumme 638 – Dean Schooler Estate 612 – Greg Hicklin	<u>WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP</u> 410 – Dennis Walker	<u>OTTER TOWNSHIP</u> 600 – Martin Bown 600 – Dollison Family LP, LLC	<u>BELMONT TOWNSHIP</u> 380 – Teresa Baumgarten 600 – Ronald Stearns 600 – Maeschen Farms 600/638 – Everett Overton Estate 600 – Chris McCormick 600 – Jaren Dittmer	
<u>VIRGINIA TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>SQUAW TOWNSHIP</u> 327 – Michael L. White	<u>LIBERTY TOWNSHIP</u> 600 – Joseph Graham	<u>WHITEBREAST TOWNSHIP</u> 380 – Harold Whipple 327 – David Offchiss 600/410 – Marlin Balk 620 – Arlan Becker	

Warren Soil & Water Conservation District
909 East Second Ave., Ste. B
Indianola, IA 50125

PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
DES MOINES IA
PERMIT 5297

BECOMING A DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

As of Jan. 3, 2005 there is a vacant seat on the Board of Commissioners for the Soil and Water Conservation District. Each district is governed by five commissioners who are elected on a nonpartisan basis for four-year terms. Only one commissioner may reside in any single township.

As a commissioner, you'll help guide soil and water conservation programs in the county and will have the opportunity to influence state and national conservation programs. Your involvement will include establishing conservation priorities, resolving soil loss complaints, establishing acceptable soil loss limits, approving soil conservation plans, and assisting in the management of district funds and personnel.

A commissioner is a volunteer conservation promoter in the community. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact the Warren SWCD office at 515-961-5264.

DISTRICT TREE SALES

The Soil and Water Conservation District is again selling potted and bare root trees and shrubs. This is the district's main fund raiser and profits are used for conservation education in Warren County.

Some nursery stock is limited, so you should order as soon possible to assure receipt of the species you want.

The deadline for ordering will be April 1, 2005. A list of trees and shrubs showing price, size and quantity is on a separate sheet and is incorporated with this report. If you desire a species not on the list, we will do our best to obtain it for you.

All programs and services of the Warren SWCD are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.