

CHEROKEE COUNTY

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT



1980

1980 District Activities Review

Commissioners Meetings
Conference Calls
Regional Meetings
Tours
Miscellaneous Meetings (Watershed, ACP, Tillage, etc.)

Linda Bindner attended the Annual Short Course at Ames on January 15 and 16, 1980

Linda Bindner attended the Area Conservation Education Committee meeting on 2/7/80.

A tillage conservation meeting for the public was held 2/12/80 at the Armory Building in Cherokee.

Pierson Watershed meeting held 2/7/80 at Washta.

Contractors meeting (Cherokee and Plymouth Counties) held at LeMars on 2/28/80.

208 and RCA meeting held at Cherokee on 2/20/80.

Silver Creek Watershed meeting held at Washta on 3/5/80.

Regional Commissioners Meeting held in LeMars 3/11/80.

Silver Creek Watershed meeting held at Washta 3/12/80.

Four Mile Creek Watershed meeting held at Quimby 3/19/80.

Stratton Creek Environmental Assessment meeting held at Washta on 4/7/80.

Golden Acres Tillage Plot (in conjunction with Buena Vista Co. Held gatherings on 3/3, 5/1, and 7/14/80.

Nursery stock distributed on 4/16/80.

Watershed meeting at Quimby 6/11/80.

Marc Cox contest farms were judged 6/17/80. Winners were Marvin Lindsay, Washta; Floyd Zimmer, Cherokee and Perrin & Sons F.F. Inc., Cherokee. Agribusiness Conservation Award for District went to Iver Johnson. District Wildlife Habitat Award went to Bruce Crawford.

Twilite Conservation Tour for the public on 6/17/80

Agriculture Field Day and Tour for Clergy at Cherokee 6/1

Little Sioux Works Committee meeting at Anthon 6/25/80.

Mugge and clerk attended the strategy and work session meeting at Cherokee 7/1/80.

Local speech contest held 10/21/80 with Imina Boger, first place; Julie Jenness, second place and Hattie Schleef, third place.

Regional Commissioners meeting and speech contest at Cherokee on 11/5/80. Imina Boger won third place in the speech contest.

Marc Cox Banquet in Sioux City on 11/13/80.

Linda Bindner attended the Annual Conference in Cedar Rapids 12/1-2, 1980.

Mugge, Bindner, D.C. and Clerk attended meeting in Storm Lake 12/18/80 for information on the Incentive Program for Erosion Control.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 10/1/79 - 9/30/80

District Cooperators	No.	13
Conservations Plans	Ac.	937
Plan Revisions	Ac.	543
Terraces	Ft.	172,985
Structures & Ponds	No.	9
Waterways	Ac.	7
Tile	Ft.	35,698
Contouring	Ac.	633
Farmstead & Feedlot Windbreaks	Ac.	7.1

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 1979 - June 30, 1980

1-M Budget Allocation		\$ 1,150.00
Expenses:		
Commissioners Expense	\$ 642.29	
Office Supplies	240.72	
Printing	27.10	
Contest Expense	87.32	
Meeting Hall Rental	61.00	
Office Expense	31.77	
Meeting Expense	33.57	
Realeased to Dept. of		
Soil Conservation	26.23	
	<u>\$ 1,150.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,150.00</u>
2-M Budget Allocation		\$ 12,124.39
Clerical Salary, FICA, IPERS,		
Travel & Insurance	\$ 11,988.29	
Equipment Maintenance	136.10	
	<u>\$ 12,124.39</u>	<u>\$ 12,124.39</u>
3-M Budgets		\$ 33,813.03
77-78 Allocation		
Funds Paid Out	\$ 29,118.36	
Funds Released	4,694.67	
	<u>\$ 33,813.03</u>	<u>\$ 33,813.03</u>
		\$ 37,000.00
78-79 Allocation		
Funds Paid Out	\$ 35,870.00	
Funds Unobligated	1,119.26	
Funds Released	10.74	
	<u>\$ 37,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 37,000.00</u>
		\$ 40,000.00
79-80 Allocation		
Funds Paid Out	\$ 21,115.13	
Funds Obligated	14,888.50	
Funds Unobligated	3,996.37	
	<u>\$ 40,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 40,000.00</u>
District General Fund		\$ 3,306.20
Balance on Hand 7/1/79		<u>3,432.34</u>
Income		\$ 6,738.54
Sub-total		<u>3,021.19</u>
Expenses		\$ 3,717.35
Balance on Hand 6/30/80		
District Watershed Maintenance Fund		\$ 54,870.74
Balance on Hand 7/1/79		200.00
Watershed payments		<u>3,695.60</u>
Interest		\$ 58,766.84
Sub-total		0
Expenses		\$ 58,766.84
Balance on Hand 6/30/80		

Looking Ahead in the "80's"

As we leave the decade of the 1970's and enter into the 1980's, we, at the technical level of the soil conservation movement can detect a definite change in the conservation ethics of farmers in general. More and more is being discussed about conservation tillage, not only as a means of conserving soil and water, but also to save fuel. As the price of fuel increases disproportionately to the price of grain at the market place, the savings of fuel costs will become more important to the land operator. Very possibly the future will see a return to small tractors on the farm rather than huge dinosaurs with four wheel drive much as the trend is to smaller fuel efficient cars is noticed on the highway.

Conservation tillage or the management of the residue of the former crop, requires much less fuel and operator's time when compared to the conventional method of planting and cultivating a crop. To point this out, consider the fuel requirement for conventional method of 6.45 gallons and a labor requirement 1.60 man hours per acre to a till planting system with 2.25 gallons and a labor rate of 0.89 man hours per acre. The State of Nebraska has been a leader in the use of conservation tillage and Dr. Dale Flowerday of the University of Nebraska relates that a large tractor belching large clouds of black smoke at the pull of the throttle has long been a "macho" symbol for land operators. As we leave the 1970's and cheap fuel prices and go into the 1980's, an era of expensive energy, the conservation ethic will see the end of "muscle" cars and we will see the end of dinosaurs in the field also.

Bernard Braband, District Conservationist

COMMISSIONERS

Max E. Mugge, Chairman	<i>Max E. Mugge</i>	Cleghorn
Linda Bindner, Vice-chairman	<i>Linda Bindner</i>	Marcus
Joe V. Dessel, Treasurer		Cherokee
Donald L. DeWitt, Little Sioux Representative		Washta
Edwin J. Clow, Member	<i>Edwin J. Clow</i>	Cherokee
Bruce Klaschen, Assistant Comm. (Dec. 1980)		Cherokee
Loren Schuett, Assistant Comm. (Dec. 1980)		Holstein

FIELD OFFICE STAFF

Bernard Braband	District Conservationist
Tom Oswald (to May 1980)	Soil Conservationist
Jeff Kestel (June 1980 to present)	Soil Conservationist
Monas Nixon	Conservation Technician
Duane Hollenbeck (Part-time)	Conservation Technician
Gladys Schroeder	Clerk-Secretary (District)

AREA OFFICE STAFF

Wallis R. Tonsfeldt	Area Conservationist
Richard Hall	Area Engineer
Wayne Eberly	Civil Engineer Technician
Judith Rathel	Area Clerk
Margaret Walker	Clerk

IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Thomas Neal	(Stationed at Cherokee)	Wildlife Biologist
Joe Schwartz	(Stationed at LeMars)	District Forester

THANKS

The Cherokee County Soil Conservation District wishes to thank all USDA Agencies, Extension Service, County Boards, Local Businesses, News Media and especially the district cooperators and landowners who carried on their programs of conservation on the land. We must all work together to control our soil erosion and protect this valuable resource.

- Cherokee County Soil Conservation Commissioners
