

Dickinson County



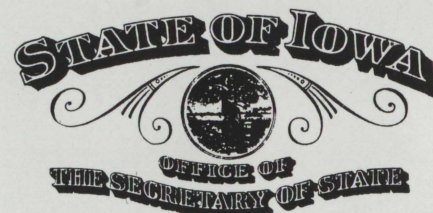
Soil and Water Conservation District

50th Anniversary

1944-1994

ANNUAL REPORT

COMMISSIONER HONOR ROLL



3046

1945 - Present

WHEREAS, H. G. Shafer, Lake Park, Joe Graff, Spirit Lake, and R. B. Taylor, Milford, Commissioners of the DICKINSON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT, have presented to this office an application, in the form required by law, for a certificate of organization of the DICKINSON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT; and

WHEREAS, the said application was accompanied by a statement, from the State Soil Conservation Committee, in the form required by law; and

WHEREAS, the name proposed for the said district is not identical with that of any other soil conservation district of this state, or so nearly similar as to lead to confusion or uncertainty; and

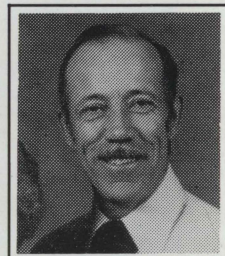
WHEREAS, the said application and statement have been made, filed and recorded in this office as required by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby certified that the DICKINSON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT has been duly organized as a governmental subdivision of this State and a public body corporate and politic.

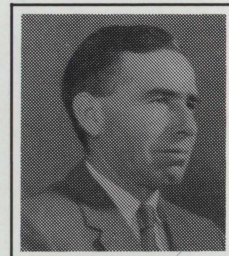
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Secretary of State at the Capitol, in Des Moines, this Fourth day of February, A.D. nineteen hundred and forty-four.

Rayne M. Rogers
Secretary of State

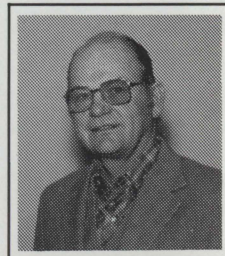
Deputy



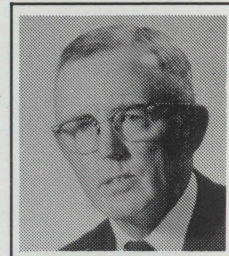
(1958 - 1965)
R.M. HERBERT



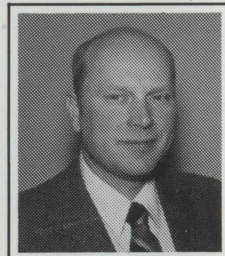
(1959)
WILLIAM JOHNSON



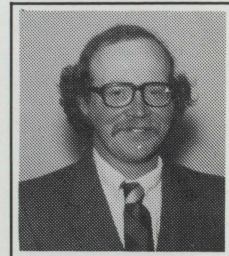
(1964 - 1988)
ROBERT INGWERSEN



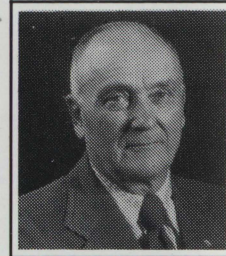
(1966 - 1973)
ROBERT FITZPATRICK



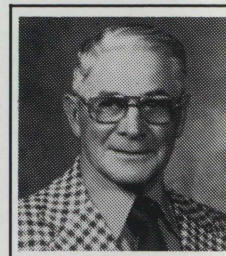
(1978 - Present)
ORVILLE BERG



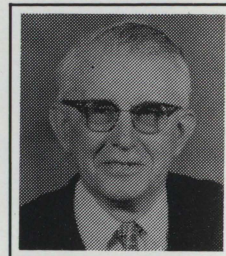
(1983 - Present)
CHRIS HOFFMAN



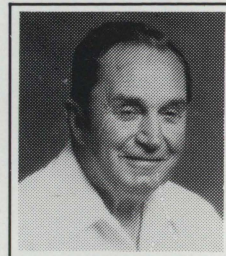
(1945 - 1949)
H.G. SHAFER



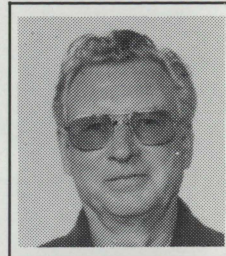
(1950 - 1957)
SID NORTHEY



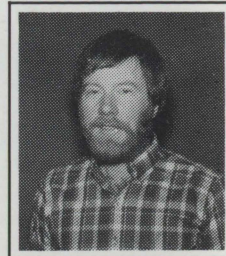
(1954 - 1956)
MARINUS KAMPHUIS



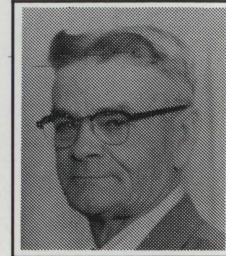
(1960 - 1963)
MILTON SANDERS



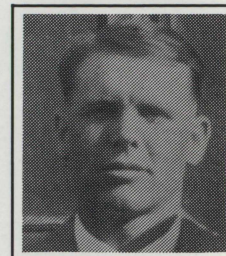
(1970 - 1975)
CLAIRE CHAMPINE



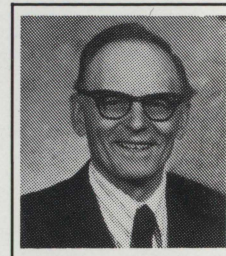
(1985 - 1994)
JARED HERBERT



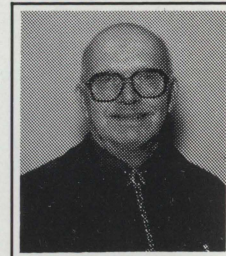
(1945 - 1951)
R.B. TAYLOR



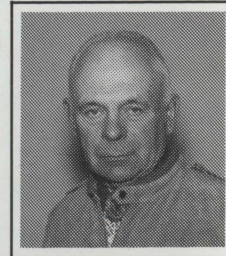
(1952 - 1957)
CHARLES WATSON



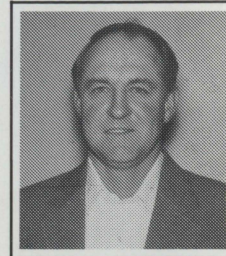
(1956 - 1961)
NORMAN BLASS



(1960 - 1988)
ERNEST H. SKOW



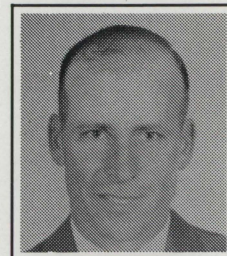
(1970 - 1986)
CHUCK SHOREY



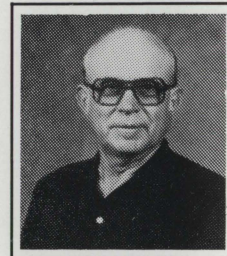
(1987 - Present)
TIM HEMPHILL



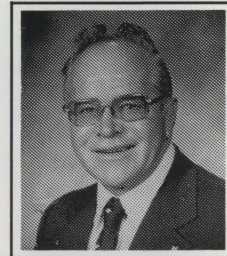
(1945 - 1956)
JOE GRAFF



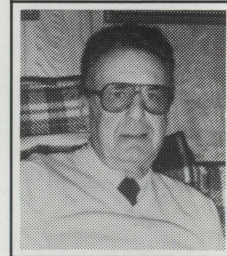
(1952 - 1959)
GERALD MAYOU



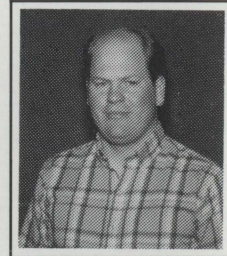
(1958 - 1959)
JACK EICHMAN



(1962 - 1984)
ANDREW HOFFMAN



1976 - 1982
DON SCHUBERT



(1988 - Present)
MARK INGWERSEN

FOREWARD

The Dickinson County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners present the 1994 Annual Report, with appreciation to the landowners and operators who have worked closely with the District staff to accomplish yet another successful year of conservation. This was the 50th Year Dickinson County has been organized as a Soil Conservation District, so you will find a brief history of the things we have done over the years as well as a report of our current efforts.

We, the Commissioners of the District, also would like to acknowledge the many organizations for their cooperation in the conservation effort in Dickinson County: **ASCS, Soil Conservation Service, DNR, County Board of Supervisors, County Newspapers,**

Contractors, State of Iowa, Iowa State University Extension Service and County Engineer. Also radio stations KUOO, KICD and KILR who make our regular and special news items available to the public, and the local soil districts bordering the county.

Activities of the District are accomplished through funding appropriated by the Iowa State Legislature, and allocated through the State Conservation Committee to Iowa Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

We hope to remind you, as landowners and operators, of the responsibility we all have to treat our land with care and to let you become familiar with the services our Soil and Water Conservation District offers.

PURPOSE

Government interest in better management of our natural resources began during the Depression with Franklin D. Roosevelt's conservation programs. Since that time a great deal of concern for soil and water conservation has come about, from the Dust Bowl Days of the 30's to the Flood of 1993, and the District has played a significant part along the way. The Soil and Water Conservation District is available to help solve resource management problems, so whether you live in the city or country and are a landowner or not, you are invited to contact our office for assistance in conservation related practices.

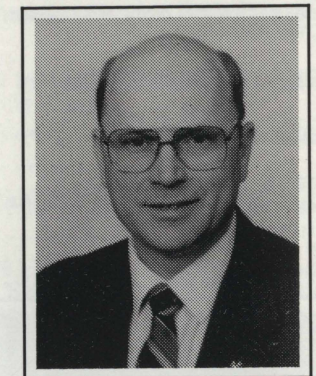
STEWARDSHIP WEEK

"Partners in Stewardship" was the theme of Soil and Water Stewardship Week, April 24 - May 1, 1994. The purpose of Soil and Water Stewardship Week is to create a larger awareness of our responsibilities for stewardship of the natural resources that sustain us all. Stewardship observances can also draw public attention to local resource problems, and efforts being made in the community to help solve them.

This week has become a special time to remind all people that these gifts warrant their best in creative conservation and considerate management.

The Dickinson County SWCD, which works throughout the year on soil and water conservation measures, provided church bulletin covers, program inserts, and children's educational supplements free to the churches in the county. The Commissioners also furnished literature, educational materials, and posters that describe how people are dependent upon and interact with trees.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP



ORVILLE BERG

Each year honorary memberships are bestowed upon individuals who have had a significant influence on the Iowa soil and water conservation program and contributed to its growth. In 1993, Dickinson County Commissioner, **Orville Berg**, received this award at the Iowa Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner's Annual Conference. Orville has been an active SWCD Commissioner for over 15 years and has served in several state and regional offices.

WHY WATERWAYS?

by David Kohlhaase • Soil Technician

Runoff water from heavy rains does not flow evenly off of a field; it works its way to the bottom of a slope through natural depressions or channels that have formed over time.

If these natural drainageways are continually cultivated, the soil within them becomes bare, loose, and vulnerable to erosion. Gullies usually form.

However, if the watercourses are shaped into a parabolic form and seeded to a grass cover, the grass will lay down like a carpet as water flows over it. The soil is undisturbed, and cleaner water is delivered to our streams and lakes.

DISTRICT GOVERNING BODY

Office Address:
2718 17th Street
Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360
(712) 336-2604

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS:

(Elected for a 6-year term at general elections)

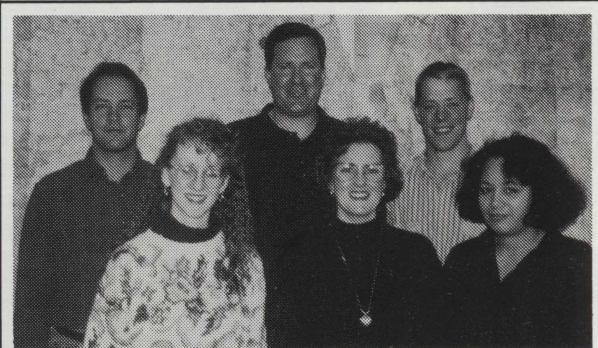
Mark Ingwersen Superior Township
Chris Hoffman, CHAIRMAN Lakeville Township
Tim Hemphill, SECRETARY Okoboji Township
Orville Berg Center Grove Township
Jared Herbert Silver Lake Township
Maurice Dougal (ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER) Westport Township
Keith Van Kleek (ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER) Lloyd Township



SEATED FRONT (left to right): Mark Ingwersen, Keith Van Kleek, Chris Hoffman.
STANDING BACK (left to right): Jared Herbert, Orville Berg, Maurice Dougal, Tim Hemphill.

SPIRIT LAKE FIELD OFFICE STAFF:

Leo J. Preston SCS District Conservationist
David L. Kohlhaase SCS Technician
John Wills Environmental Specialist
Damarys Mortenson SCS Soil Conservationist
Ann Northey (AUGUST 1994 - PRESENT) District Secretary
Jo Groves (UNTIL MARCH 1994) District Secretary
Deirdre Braband WAE
Clarence Call EARTH TEAM Volunteer



STANDING (left to right): Ann Northey, Deirdre Braband, Damarys Mortenson.
STANDING BACK (left to right): Leo Preston, Dave Kohlhaase, John Wills.

DICKINSON COUNTY TREE PROGRAM

Each year the District Commissioners present each 6th grader in Dickinson County with a green ash tree. This program has been going on for over 15 years and many parents have reminders of their child's 6th grade and of this program in their front yards or windbreaks.

Cost-Share money is available for co-operators who receive technical assistance in planning their windbreaks. The trees and shrubs can be purchased from any source the applicant chooses, but the amount that can be reimbursed per tree/shrub is limited.

The Dickinson County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners conducted another very successful tree program again this year. The Commissioners will again be offering trees at low prices for Spring 1995.

Stop in at the SCS office in Spirit Lake to place your order early.

DICKINSON COUNTY SWCD FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 1994 — 1M Budget-District (93-94)

Expenditures of funds provided by the State of Iowa for District Commissioner's Mileage, Meals and Hotel Expenses, Office Supplies and Equipment.

Allocation from State	\$ 2,500.00
Supplemental Allocation	1,245.00
Commissioner Expenses	2,014.81
Office Supplies and Expenses	1,220.88
Printing	502.03
Released to DSC	7.28

3M BUDGET - Iowa Financial Incentives Program

The 3M Budget provides cost-share assistance to landowners for installing permanent soil and water conservation practices.

1993 - 1994 Allocation	\$12,528.00
Amount Obligated or Spent	11,197.13
Unobligated Amount	1,330.87

REAP (Resource Enhancement & Protection Practices)

1993 - 1994 Allocation	\$22,935.00
Amount Obligated or Spent	— 0 —
Unobligated Amount	22,935.00

REAP (Forestry/Native Grasses)

1993 - 1994 Allocation	\$ 5,586.00
Amount Obligated or Spent	4,828.40
Unobligated Amount	757.60

ORGANIC NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

1993 - 1994 Allocation	\$ 8,640.00
Amount Obligated or Spent	— 0 —
Unobligated Amount	8,640.00

WATER PROTECTION FUND

1993 - 1994 Allocation	\$53,400.00
Amount Obligated or Spent	39,478.69
Unobligated Amount	13,921.31

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM



The annual sixth grade outdoor classroom held September 23rd had 200-plus participants. Each year, during the fall, the Dickinson County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Soil Conservation Service sponsor the outdoor classroom. The classroom is held at the Kettleson-Hogsback area, north of Spirit Lake. This area provides facilities for indoor classrooms and a variety of outdoor settings. The location and excellent volunteers are what makes the annual event such a success.

The instructors included volunteers, paid speakers, District staff and Department of Natural Resources employees. The 1993 program included presentations by Linda Hinshaw, *Orphan and Injured Wildlife*; Orville Berg, *Soil Conservation*; Jim Hass, *Indian Lore*. Hands on adventures included a Nature Trail with leaders Tim Waltz and Marty Muhm; Upland Wildlife, Wildlife Birds and Hunting Dogs with instructors Marty Loos and Clarence Call; Jim Christianson, Fish and Fisheries; Doug Harr, Wild Geese; and John Wills on the Iowa Great Lakes water quality.

The Soil and Water Conservation District recognizes the importance of educating youth about the environment and makes information available to the Counties' Schools. If you would like more information about what information is available please contact our office for a listing.

1993 - 1994 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

515	Individuals & Groups Assisted
109	Individuals & Groups Applying Practices
5723 Acres	Resource Management Systems Planned
6213 Acres	Conservation Systems Applied
7818	Cropland Acres treated
39,148	Tons of Soil saved
30	Grassed Waterways installed (47 Acres)
11	Farmstead Windbreaks installed
7	Wetlands Restored (43 Acres)
3	Conservation Easements entered (62.7 Acres)

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

JULY 1993

- Commissioner's Summer Picnic at Cutty's Resort
- Clean Water Alliance meeting

AUGUST 1993

- Clean Water Project Annual Review

SEPTEMBER 1993

- Annual Outdoor Classroom at Kettleson-Hogsback area
- Fall Regional Meeting in Pocahontas attended by Orville Berg, Mark Ingwersen-elected Regional Director
- Recording of the Dickinson County Conservation Plan at the Courthouse
- Commissioners participate at the Clay County Fair
- 1994 1M Budget was presented for approval and signing

OCTOBER 1993

- Clean Water Alliance meeting
- Contract signed to continue funding for Clean Water Project

NOVEMBER 1993

- Farm Expo 2000 attended by Mark Ingwersen, Tim Hemphill, Maurice Dougal, and Orville Berg
- NACD Urban & Conservation Symposium attended by Orville Berg

DECEMBER 1993

- Commissioner's Winter Banquet at Mr. G's in Milford

JANUARY 1994

- Election of Officers; Chris Hoffman, Chairman; Jared Herbert, Vice-Chairman; Tim Hemphill, Secretary; Orville Berg, Treasurer; Maurice Dougal, Assistant Commissioner
- Clean Water Alliance meeting

FEBRUARY 1994

- NACD National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona attended by Orville Berg
- REAP Assembly meeting attended by Mark Ingwersen and John Wills
- Northwest Iowa Tillage Expo attended by Damarys Mortenson and John Wills
- Keith Van Kleek appointed Assistant Commissioner

MARCH 1994

- Spring Regional Meeting at Everly attended by Keith Van Kleek, Mark Ingwersen, and Leo Preston
- IASWDCD Scholarship Applications Submitted
- Five County Contractor's meeting held in Spencer

APRIL 1994

- Soil & Stewardship Week — materials donated to churches, libraries and schools
- District Trees Distributed to Co-operators
- Dickinson County 6th Grade Students receive trees
- Clean Water Alliance meeting

MAY 1994

- Outdoor Classroom for Okoboji Grades 3 & 4

JUNE 1994

- State Committee & State Association Meeting attended by Mark Ingwersen, Chris Hoffman and Orville Berg
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Tour
- Clean Water Project Review

TIME TO RECOGNIZE CONSERVATION PROGRESS

by Leroy Brown, State Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service

The evidence is clear. Iowa's farmers are making exceptional progress in caring for natural resources, particularly soil and water resources. The changes are evident as you drive across the state. There are more acres seeded to grass, more crop residue, more trees, more wetlands, more wildlife and wildlife habitat, more water quality improvement practices — more of about every aspect of resource improvement than in past years. Iowa farmers have accepted conservation challenges issued by Congress in the 1985 and 1990 farm bills, and the result is record progress in resource protection. The state's farmers have also embraced new wetland restoration and land protection programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to reverse earlier long-term trends of wetlands and woodlands losses. Consider the record: Soil erosion on Iowa cropland was cut 35 percent from 1982 to 1992, according to the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) National Resources Inventory. The rate of wind and water erosion was cut from 10.8 tons an acre in 1982 to 7 tons on Iowa row crops in 1994. That acreage is 7 times what it was in 1984. More than one in every five acres of corn and soybeans was planted no till in 1994; additionally three of every four acres of cropland, 2.1 million acres of the most severely eroding was enrolled in the 10-year Conservation Reserve Program. Land enrolled in the CRP was converted from eroding cropland to non-eroding grasslands and woodlands for a 10-year period. More Iowa farmers enrolled in the CRP than farmers from any other state.

Thousands of Iowa farmers have stopped draining wetlands to farm them, and in fact hundreds of farmers are restoring wetlands instead. Grassed waterways and grass and legume field borders have been established in recent years on farmlands at rates from 9 to 35 times the traditional rates. Farmers in more than half Iowa's counties are voluntarily participating in water quality improvement programs. The number of projects is growing.

Nitrogen used by Iowa farmers dropped from an average high of 90 pounds an acre in 1985 to an average of 77 pounds an acre in 1993. Since 1985, the average use per year has been 80 pounds an acre, well below the Midwest Average.

The effort farmers have made in soil conservation haven't gone unnoticed. A survey last March by Iowa State University showed that 95 percent of farmers interviewed and 76 percent of non-farmers believe farmers are doing much better or better at soil saving than they were 10 years ago. Many farmers would like to see their conservation accomplishments recognized by the non-farm public. In fact, a statewide program was organized to do just that. Called the **"Conservation Farmer Appreciation Program,"** it asks the non-farm community to help in saying thank you to thousands of Iowa farmers for their conservation work.

A conservation farmer appreciation week has been declared by the governor of Iowa, and many local soil and water conservation districts are organizing, or have already held, appreciation events. Our state's conservation farmers, and they number in the thousands, have made sincere efforts to improve our resources; they deserve a sincere thank you from the rest of us.

I ask any Iowan interested in the long term production capability of our soil and the quality of our water, wildlife and other resources to join me in showing appreciation to the stewards of our great land in Iowa.

DNR

Farmer Cooperation at High Level in County

by Doug Harr, DNR Wildlife Biologist

In light of the Dickinson County SWCD's **"Farmer Appreciation"** Recognition and the agency's long service to agricultural conservation, it's appropriate that the Iowa Department of Natural Resources also take note of local accomplishments. Working in close cooperation with Dickinson SWCD, Iowa DNR has been able to foster improved relationships with and service to area farmers. This has allowed improved respect by the agency for agriculture's needs, and by farmers for the cooperative role DNR can play with the SWCD in seeing that on-farm conservation needs are met.

Especially over the past decade, DNR has come to rely upon expertise of the local SWCD staff in order to pursue DNR's goals of improved habitat for fish and wildlife. This has resulted in Wildlife Bureau staff being put in touch with farmers who have interests in natural resource conservation, and finding means by which the landowner and agency can find solutions to common problems. Wetland restoration may be the most recent and best example of what can be accomplished when the SWCD, DNR and farmers work together. On-farm restored wetlands can help the landowner meet requirements of the National Food Security Act (the "Farm Bill"), protect water resources in the Iowa Great Lakes, Little Sioux and Des Moines Rivers, and concurrently provide excellent habitat for ducks, shorebirds, muskrats, pheasants and other wildlife.

Relatively new programs offered through the Clean Water Program and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service take these benefits even further. Now, easements often can be placed upon restored or natural wetlands and surrounding grasslands, in order to even better serve water and wildlife resources. Easements are simply devices by which the rights to certain land use (such as draining or filling wetlands) are purchased, while the owner retains title and most other rights to the property. In return, the owner receives a one-time cash payment based upon a percentage of the property's appraised value. Through such devices, it is now possible for a landowner to take troublesome areas out of production, solve conservation problems and be paid for it.

This and other programs are forging new relationships between agriculture and conservation interests in Dickinson County, a record which is setting an example for the rest of Iowa to follow. It is also a record for which local farmers and other residents may be justly proud. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources salutes Dickinson County SWCD and hard-working farmers for their willingness to put behind the outdated perceptions and move forward to create a better environment for everyone. DNR looks forward to continuing this new cooperative venture.

ASCS REPORT

by Larry D. Lago • County Executive Director

Conservation of our Nation's topsoil and water quality has been a cornerstone of USDA policy and programs from its inception, particularly since the dust bowl days of the 1930's. With terracing, waterways, tree planting, stripcropping, contour farming, conservation tillage and wetland restorations, remarkable improvements in farming methods have been made in recent years. Conservation and water quality work will continue to be ongoing. Benefits from these programs extend to the farm and beyond. A productive agriculture, dependent upon good farmland properly cared for, is essential not only to the well being of all farmers but also to local rural communities. Your local Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) Office is responsible for administering many of the programs designed to address the conservation needs of the county in providing financial incentives and educational assistance to individual program participants. Please contact the ASCS for more details on Federal cost-share assistance.

NEW NAME...SAME PARTNERSHIP

by Leo Preston • District Conservationist

In this 50th Anniversary year of the Dickinson Soil & Water Conservation District it seems appropriate to celebrate the partnerships that have made the program successful. The District's accomplishments would not have been as many without the working relationships and cooperation with landowners, farm operators, organizations, agribusiness, units of government, and agencies.

One very close partner with the District is the USDA Soil Conservation Service, recently renamed and now known as the **Natural Resources Conservation Service**. The new agency was authorized as part of USDA's reorganization in October by Secretary Mike Espy.

On February 4, 1944 the Dickinson Soil and Water Conservation District was officially organized. At that time the USDA Soil Conservation Service entered into a memorandum of understanding with the new District to provide technical assistance to the District Board in carrying out its program and to District Cooperators in putting soil conservation practices on the land.

Will the USDA Reorganization and newly named Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) change this relationship?

Probably not. More than two-thirds of the land in this country is privately owned. Those private landowners are the key to our environmental well-being. The unique and effective working relationship established between the federal government and those landowners, as well as the partnership with the conservation district will continue.

The new name does more accurately identify the work being done. While the agency has focused on soil conservation for the past 60 years, it has also been the key federal agency to offer technical help on private lands for improvements to water, wildlife habitat, woodlands, grasslands, and other resources connected to the land.

The new Natural Resources Conservation Service will continue to have responsibilities for all programs of the former Soil Conservation Service, in addition, several other programs have been transferred to the new agency.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service in partnership with the Dickinson SWCD will increasingly look to the wise use of all resources as the team helps private landowners on a voluntary basis.

FARMING WITH RESIDUE

by Damarys Mortenson
Soil Conservationist

What is residue? Residue is ground cover and it varies depending upon the type of residue, weather conditions, soil type, tillage speed, and the number and type of tillage operations.

Is it important to know the amount of residue on the field in order to help you to plan field operations and manage residue for erosion control. There are three methods that will help you to estimate percent of residue. They are as follows:

Line-transect method-the only equipment needed is a 50'-100' tape line.

1. Find areas that are representative of the whole field.
2. Stretch line diagonally across crop rows.
3. Check residue cover by (using 100' tape) counting each foot mark that is over a piece of residue.
4. The number of marks counted with residue below is the percentage of cover when using a 100' line.
5. Repeat procedure in at least three other areas of the field to get a good representation.

Photo comparison method is another way to look at known residue cover percentages and estimate your cover.

Calculation method estimates the residue cover remaining after decomposition due to weathering and individual field operation.

Remember, residue is important not only to control soil erosion, but for the soil structure too. More information about residue and technical support is available by contacting your Natural Resource Conservation Service, formerly Soil Conservation Service.



IOWA GREAT LAKES CLEAN WATER PROJECT

by John H. Wills • IGL Clean Water Project Coordinator

Once again this year, the Iowa Great Lakes Clean Water Project has been active in improving the water management practices in the Iowa Great Lakes. We have continued to offer our assistance to watershed farmers, landowners, and urban citizens.

The Water Quality Incentive Project (WQIP) has now been ongoing for 1 year. The WQIP is a terrific demonstration project. The WQIP is a program where we can pay up to \$3,500 per year to a farmer who protects his farm ground from erosion, excessive nutrient and pesticide use, and animal waste application and storage. The farmers involved in the WQIP include: Ray Braband, Mike Wittrock, Roger Earl, Kelvin Sawyer, Everett Johnson, Joe Estes, Brian Goodell, Norvin Johnson, and Jim Warburton. If you have questions about this project ask these farmers or call the ASCS office or SCS office.

Conservation has been very important this year to a number of farmers as can be seen by the large number of requests that we have had for technical assistance this year. There is a large number of waterways that will be built this fall or next spring. Many waterways were built last spring. Sediment basins will also be built this fall. This year may turn out to be a record construction year for conservation practices within the watershed.

Education has been the largest part of the Clean Water Project this year and in the past. We have given many presentations and ideas to farmers, landowners, and urban people. Among the most popular presentations include: the 6th grade outdoor classroom, Kiwanis, and several lakes protective association meetings. I would be willing to make a presentation to any group that is interested in water quality and would like to hear how to protect our Iowa Great Lakes.

The Project has had many distinguished visitors over the last year. Firstly, Senator Charles Grassely visited the area in June. The Senator was here to see the project and answer questions on the farm bill, which will come up for a vote next year. The Senator was very interested in the many components of the project. Of special concern was CRP and our conservation easement program.

In July, we had the State Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts visit the project. The association held their annual meeting here. There were Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners, as well as many State and Federal Officials from across the State that visited with the Association.

In November, the Chief of the Soil Conservation Service, Paul Johnson will visit the project. Chief Johnson will visit the area on a fact finding tour to determine the best way to handle wetlands. The Chief is particularly interested in our conservation easement program.

Our conservation easement program has been very successful this year. In fact, we have protected 70 acres of wetland and upland with our easements this year alone. The land stays in private ownership and the landowner controls the land. We are mostly interested in small areas that have a lot of water that flows through them. However, we have larger easements as well. During the next few months there are many more areas that we hope to protect with an easement.

We are also offering the opportunity for people to restore or enhance wetlands on their land without the conservation easement. We offer this opportunity through partial payment of restoration costs and technical assistance. We had several wetlands in the watershed this year built with this option.

As you can see, we are beginning to achieve state and national recognition with the many things that we are doing. We will continue to work to be the best project in the State of Iowa. To do this, we need your help and assistance. This is your project to protect the lakes.

Some of our goals for the future include; to make the urban pollution education more important in the next year, to improve farmer relations with the project, and to involve the project more to protect the lakes.

Every year this project becomes better and better. If you have questions about the project, or would like to know how we can help you with our farm, lawn, or wetland call John Wills at 712-336-2604.

DICKINSON COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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