

**IDA COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

**1999
Annual Report
7-1-98 - 6-30-99**

5973 State Highway 175
P.O. Box 237
Ida Grove, Iowa 51445

Phone: 712-364-2124

PERSONNEL

COMMISSIONERS

Wally Johnson, Washta
Chairperson

Dennis Lindgren, Ida Grove
Vice-Chairperson

Marc Johnson, Battle Creek
Lloyd Rickers, Kiron

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Joyce Johnson, Washta

STAFF

Lorne Miller
District Conservationist

Randy Sohm
Soil Conservation Technician

Carl Lee
State Soil Conservation Technician

Arlis Bahnsen, *State Secretary*

Carol Thomson
Soil Conservation Technician

Lorraine Johnson
Soil Conservation Technician

Darwin Henke
Soil Conservation Technician

Jerry Jensen
Watershed Inspector

BATTLE CREEK WATERSHED GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROJECT

Chris Jennings
Environmental Specialist
Peg Peters, *Information Specialist*

VOLUNTEERS

La Vonne Murray, Ida Grove
Myrle Nielsen, Battle Creek

As commissioners of your Soil and Water Conservation District, we are pleased to present this 1999 Annual Report of conservation accomplishments. It reflects the efforts of many individuals and groups working together to improve our environment through conservation programs.

IDA COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 1999 AWARD WINNERS

Izaak Walton League Windbreak Award

Roger & Timi Wunschel, Ida Grove

Ida County SWCD Scholarship Award

Cami Conover, Holstein

Ida County SWCD Poster Contest Winners

Grades K-1: Michael Hofmann

Grades 2-3: *Eric Hanson,
Luke Griffith, Peter Hofmann
*First Place State Winner

Grades 4-6: Morgan Hanson,
Tom Hofmann, Jenny Bergman

Grades 7-9: McKenzie Hofmann,
Nikki Griffith

Grades 10-12: Marty Hofmann,
Amybeth Hofmann, Sarah Burk

COOPERATORS

A District Cooperator is a landowner who has entered into a cooperative agreement with the district for the purpose of planning, applying, and maintaining the necessary soil and water conservation practices on his/her land.

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES - FY 99

(July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999)

The Ida County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Commissioners meet monthly at the district office. All meetings are open to the public. (Open Meeting Law)

JULY 1998

The first Fiscal Year 1999 supplement to the project agreement between the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) / Division of Soil Conservation (DSC), the Ida County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with respect to the Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project was approved by commissioners.

AUGUST

The District sponsored a booth at the Ida County Fair. Distribution meetings for the Ida County Soil Survey were hosted throughout the county. Commissioners approved increasing cost-share on a number of components required for Rotational Grazing Systems. The 1-M Budget and Spending Plan was approved. 1999 Poster contest winners were selected by volunteers.

SEPTEMBER

Commissioners attended the Annual Conference in Des Moines. Commissioner Lloyd Rickers was selected Outstanding Commissioner in Region One. The Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project conducted Nutrient/Pest Management Classes. The Project has obtained a hand held Global Positioning Receiver, a Personal Digital Assistant, and a Digital Camera. District commissioners approved an agreement with the Ida County Conservation Board to provide trees and planting assistance to landowners for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Riparian Buffer Strips in Ida County.

OCTOBER

The 19th CRP Continuous sign-up started October 1st. The 18th CRP General sign-up started October 26th and will continue through December 11th. The District obtained a nursery license from the State of Iowa and will order approximately 15,625 trees for Riparian plantings next spring.

NOVEMBER

The second Fiscal Year 1999 supplement to the project agreement between IDALS/DSC, the Ida County SWCD, and NRCS, with respect to the Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project was approved by commissioners.

DECEMBER

Commissioners attended the Fall Regional meeting in Ida Grove. Commissioner Lloyd Rickers attended the Iowa Watershed Annual Meeting.

JANUARY 1999

A District organizational meeting was held to elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson and to appoint the District secretary/treasurer. The commissioner oath of office was administered to Marc Johnson of Battle Creek. Lloyd Rickers was appointed District Representative on the Little Sioux Works Committee. The cost-share rate for some Little Sioux Fund practices was raised from 65% to 75% through all construction seasons. Average costs of some practices were increased to reflect actual costs. Rickers was appointed District Representative on the Sioux Rivers RC & D Board. The District committed matching funds with Pheasants Forever to promote the Continuous CRP. Funds were also committed to support the intermittent soil conservation technician program.

FEBRUARY

A copy of the 1998 District Annual Report was presented for approval. State and National dues were approved for payment.

MARCH

Cami Conover of Holstein was selected as the recipient of the District scholarship and her application was forwarded for regional competition. Miller and commissioners attended the Spring Regional meeting in LeMars.

APRIL

All fifth graders in Ida County received a tree. Miller and Extension Director Bret Warnke demonstrated planting techniques at each school in the county. The program was sponsored by Ida County Pheasants Forever. The District and Conservation Board completed eight Riparian Buffer tree plantings involving approximately 16,000 trees. Commissioners attended the Annual Iowa Watersheds Spring Tour. The Carbon Project packet was completed.

MAY

The annual 6th Grade Outdoor Classroom was held at Moorehead Park for all Ida County 6th graders. Volunteers participating were Kristen Leu, Ida County Naturalist; Richard Madsen, Ida County Sanitarian; Nancy Rydberg, Environmental Technician; Harold Woolridge, Ida County Historical Society; Chris Jennings and Peg Peters of the Battle Creek Groundwater Protection Project; Lorne Miller, Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Bret Warnke, Ida County Extension Service. Roger & Timi Wunschel were selected to receive the Izaak Walton Windbreak award for 1999.

JUNE

Lorraine Johnson was hired as intermittent Soil Conservation Technician. Joyce Johnson was appointed Assistant Commissioner for Ida County.

Ida County Soil & Water Conservation District and Natural Resources Conservation Service Accomplishments

Fiscal Year 1999

October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Individuals Assisted	1780
Conservation Systems Fully Applied (acres)	3,768
Farmstead Windbreaks	5
Terraces (feet)	115,065
Waterways (acres)	34.1
Land Benefited (acres)	4,090
Grade Stabilization Structures	4
Water & Sediment Control Structures	8
CRP 18th & 19th Sign-up Applications ..	84
CRP 18 (General) Contracts Approved (773 acres)	13
CRP 19 (Continuous) Contracts Approved (475.7 acres)	62
Riparian Buffer Strips	8
Shelter Belts	9
Planning Grazing Systems	1
Nutrient Management Applied .	2,267 acres

EEO STATEMENT

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communications at 202-720-5881 (voice) or 202-720-7808 (TDD).

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call 202-720-7327 (voice) or 202-720-1127 (TDD).

USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT

(July 1, 1998 - June 30, 1999)

1-M	\$ 5,075.00
Expenses: Printing,	
Office, Commissioner	<u>5,055.66</u>
Balance released to state	\$ 19.34

3-M Cost-Share Funds (98-99)	\$ 44,723.00
Obligated & spent	<u>37,095.10</u>
Balance in fund	\$ 7,627.90

REAP - Practices Funds (99)	\$ 7,026.00
Spent	<u>6,876.12</u>
Balance released to state	\$ 149.88

REAP - Forestry/Native Grasses (99)	\$ 1,811.00
Spent	<u>1,612.93</u>
Balance released to state	\$ 198.07

Little Sioux River Flood Prevention Project Funds (99)	
Obligated or spent	\$ 284,256.25

Watershed Maintenance Funds	
Checking 7/01/98	\$ 2,213.28
Income	3,521.88
Expenses	<u>1,137.98</u>
Balance 6/30/99	\$ 4,597.18

Watershed Funds CD's	\$ 106,444.75
----------------------	---------------

General Funds	
Checking 7/01/98	\$ 538.17
Income	44,714.09
Expenses	<u>28,571.59</u>
Balance 6/30/99	\$ 16,680.67

General Funds CD's	\$ 25,000.00
--------------------	--------------