

Clarke Co. Soil & Water Conservation District

FORWARD

We, the Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners of the Clarke County Soil & Water Conservation District, want to thank the people of the district for their part in carrying the best program for the betterment of our people, both rural and urban.

With the ever increasing need to protect our natural resources for future generations while we keep our environment clean, we wish to thank all agencies and organizations for the part they play in our District.

I feel that everyone is becoming aware that conservation of all our natural resources must be a necessity for present and future generations to survive.

The passing of recent legislation covering soil loss limits and factory wastes, recognize public pressures.

Also, with the formation of a local Youth Board consisting of members for seventh through eleventh grades indicate that young people are much concerned about their environmental future.

The majority of local people are showing interest and practicing conservation but greater strides could be taken if all interested parties would take some time to check on all conservation practices and technological assistance available to them.

Richard Gonseth, Commissioner

With the ever increasing demand for food, shelter, and material things that go to make up our standard of living, it is more apparent that the priority of conservation must be established and maintained.

In keeping conservation practices ever before the people, we can keep pace with the demand and not deplete our greatest resource, "our soil".

Let us work together as producer and consumer, with the cooperation of all the people of the District.

Adrian Fuller

District Activities

We, the District Commissioners would like to summarize some of the highlights of the past year, so that you may better understand the activities of the district.

JULY

Chuck Jackson of Murray won the regional Soil Conservation speech contest.

AUGUST

The District constructed a booth at the county fair. A rock was placed on display and prizes given for guessing the exact weight.

The District received word that the White Breast watershed has been approved for planning.

SEPTEMBER

Conservation work books were distributed to the fifth grade pupils in the schools of the District.

Richard Gonseth, Adrian Fuller, Doyce Miller, Merrill McCarty and Keith Ticknor attended the annual conference at Des Moines. Chuck Jackson won first place in the State Soil Conservation speech contest at the conference.

OCTOBER

Earl Mateer was presented the Goodyear award for winning second place in the southern division.

Conservation booklets, "Plants-How They Improve Our Environment" were distributed to all schools.

The District commissioners sponsored three teachers who attended the Fall Conservation Teachers workshop at the state 4-H camp near Luther, October 1 and 2.

DECEMBER

Marion Siglin, State Representative, attended our December meeting and discussed up-coming legislation affecting conservation activities.

The Regional Catholic Community held a workshop December 5 on Standard Soil Surveys and Rural Water Systems. The District provided assistance on the program preparation.

JANUARY

The annual short course was attended by Doyce Miller, Adrian Fuller, and Richard Gonseth.

John Webb was named outstanding cooperator of 1971 for the conservation work he has done on his farm. His farm was entered in the annual Goodyear contest.

January 17, 1972 the Department of Soil Conservation announced that the

application for watershed assistance in the Long Creek watershed had been approved.

FEBRUARY

Mr. and Mrs. Doyce Miller attended the NACD conference in Washington, D.C.

MARCH

The slide set "Consider the Soil First" was purchased for use in an information program on standard soil survey.

APRIL

Leland Dolecheck and Jon Weber, Vo-ag instructors and six boys met with the commissioners to discuss starting a Youth Conservation Board. It was agreed that a youth board is needed and plans will be made to organize it.

MAY

The District received Soil Stewardship booklets and 1000 place mats which were distributed by Adrian Fuller to all churches in the District.

JUNE

Soil loss limits were tentatively adapted for Clarke County and submitted to the State Department of Soil Conservation for approval.

Mark Chamberlain won the local conservation speech contest held in June. He will advance to the regional competition to be held in July.

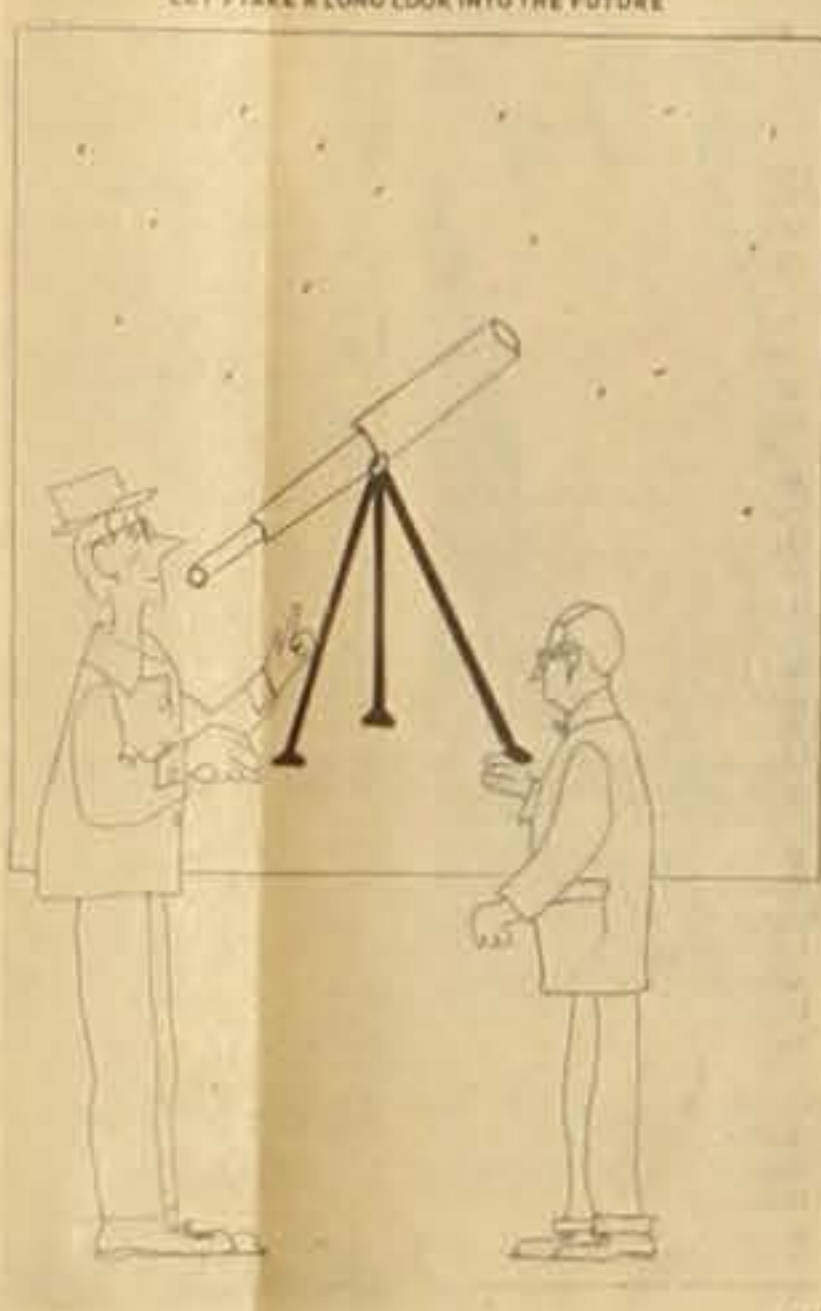
Adrian Fuller was appointed district commissioner to fill the unexpired term of Jerry Kelly, who resigned due to poor health.

The District is looking forward to the next year with much enthusiasm and hoping to bring to the district much information and a better program of involvement.



STRIPCROPPING an inexpensive and efficient way of controlling erosion as well as adding beauty to the landscape. These strips are on the Bill McCoy farm west of Woodburn.

LET'S TAKE A LONG LOOK INTO THE FUTURE



SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSIGNED

Soil Conservation Service Personnel Assigned
Keith A. Ticknor District Conservationist
T. J. Laing Conservation Technician
Corvus M. Cooper (Intermittent) Soil Conservation Aide
Bruce C. Wight (Summer) Student Trainee
Mrs. Arlene Garner District Clerk
Dale L. Chidester Conservation Aide

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

District Commissioners
Richard Gonseth Chairman
Doyce Miller Member
Jack Ames Member
Merrill McCarty Member
Adrian Fuller Member

ASSISTING THE COMMISSIONERS

Assisting the Commissioners
Lowell Moran (deceased) Ass't Commissioner
Milan Welker Ass't Commissioner
Fred Wood Ass't Commissioner

Bruce Berven and Bill Sirowy County Extension Director

ASCS Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP)

January, 1971 to December, 1971	
Conservation Practice	Amount of Cost-sharing
Establishment of Vegetative Cover	\$38,396.00
Limestone	2,197.00
Trees and Shrubs	24.00
Trees (Windbreaks)	931.00
Improving Pasture	2,444.00
Shrub Control	454.00
Well for Livestock	2,124.00
Springs or Seeps	100.00
Water Impoundment Reservoirs	12,475.00
Pipelines	748.00
Permanent Vegetative Cover	78.00
Terraces	65.00
Underground Drainage System	1,329.00
Wildlife Pond	400.00
Strudices	17,300.00
Waterways and Terraces	6,408.00
Total	\$85,985.00

District Accomplishments FARM PLANNING AND SERVICING

Activity	Unit	Fiscal 1972
District Cooperators	No.	46
Landowners or operators assisted	No.	507
Landowners or operators applying practices	No.	394
Conservation plans prepared	No.	30
Conservation Plans Revised	No.	10
Inventories & Evaluations prepared	No.	21
Group Plans	No.	4
ASCS REAP Referrals Serviced	No.	187
Office Calls	No.	1025
Telephone Calls	No.	846

CONSERVATION PRACTICES APPLIED

Practice	Ac.	Fiscal 1972
Critical Area Planting	No.	308
Multi-Purpose Dam	No.	1
Ponds & Erosion Control Structures	No.	81
Diversion Terraces	Ft.	6158
Farmstead Windbreaks	Ac.	10
Grassed Waterway	Ac.	64
Pipeline	Ft.	14589
Open Drainage Ditch	Ft.	1600
Drain, Tile	Ft.	25585
Tree Planting	Ac.	14
Land Adequately Treated	Ac.	7417



COMMISSIONERS MEET: From the left are Arlene Garner, Richard Gonseth, Norma Anderson, Adrian Fuller, Ron Henry, Merrill McCarty, Darci Kent, Debbie Martley, Doyce Miller, Gerald Garner.

District Operates With 2 Budgets

The District operates with two budgets provided by the State Soil Conservation Committee from State Appropriations.

1-M BUDGET		
1971-72 Appropriation		\$ 700.00
Commissioners expenses (mileage, meals)	\$ 388.58	
Office Supplies	96.08	
Printing	143.80	
Prizes for Contests	4.00	
Material for Demonstration	3.69	
Office Expense	51.24	
Meeting Expense	12.60	
Total expended	\$ 700.00	
Balance	\$ 0.00	

2-M BUDGET		
1971-72 Allocation		\$13,500.00
Gross Salaries	\$11,970.00	
District's share - F.I.C.A.	622.47	
District's share - I.P.E.R.S.	418.98	
Health Insurance	268.00	
Life Insurance	10.68	
Travel	11.15	
Total expended	\$13,321.28	
Released	\$ 178.72	

The District fund is non-appropriated, therefore we must rely on donations from our local cooperators, businessmen and friends to supply this fund.

The District fund is used to pay State and National dues, which amounts to \$250.00, promotional activities such as local awards, contest prizes, conservation booklets for local schools and expenses which cannot be taken from the state budget.

The balance on hand July 1, 1971 was \$343.85. Donations received were \$674.00, expenditures were \$880.94, leaving a balance on hand June 30, 1972 of \$136.91.



TILE-OUT TERRACES temporarily hold the water back, allowing silt to settle out above the terrace. This terrace on the John Webb

farm has prevented the loss of many tons of topsoil and has carried the silt free water underground to a safe outlet.

RC & D Activities

The Clarke County RC & D board members, Bob Toland, Chairman, Clayton Scott, Vice-Chairman, Melvin Goeldner, Secretary-Treasurer, Elva Wolfe, Jack Jeffreys and Doyce Miller have been instrumental in bringing about many major changes in the Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Project during the past year. These changes have helped to put the organization in a position so that it can provide assistance on a wider range of projects.

In the fall of 1971, the State Conservation Commission assigned John Tibben District Forester to this seven county area. He is providing assistance on tree planting, timber sales and other forestry activities. He is also conducting an inventory of potential wood chip users so that a market can be developed for the timber in this area.

The organization amended their constitution and by-laws so that they could seek recognition from the Office of Planning and Programming as a regional planning group. They also incorporated as a non-profit corporation. Many government programs require that you be a part of regional planning group before you are eligible for receiving funds. By being recognized as a regional planning commission this seven county area will be in a position of high priority for receiving grant funds.

Plans were prepared for construction of an erosion control dam on the west side of the Clarke Community School property. This will control erosion in two large gullies and will be the nucleus for an outdoor classroom. This approximately \$6,000 project will be 100 percent funded by the RC & D. It is planned to build the dam in the spring of 1973.

Several other projects are in the planning stage that will have a significant impact on the economy of this area.

Watershed Activities

In August 1971, the White Breast watershed took a major step closer to becoming a reality when notice was received that Washington had approved our application for assistance in developing a Work Plan. Since that time, low level aerial photographs have been taken of the watershed and extensive survey work conducted in the watershed to obtain ground control information for the aerial photos.

The watershed directors have been gathering land use information so that the present status of the upland treatment can be determined. They also revised their organizational by-laws to establish membership, officers and terms of office.

The 18 member board consists of Richard Gonseth, Chairman, Bill Oehlert, Vice-Chairman, Lloyd Phillips, Secretary-treasurer, Charles Rodgers, George Nelson, Doyce Waller, Bill Danner, Jack Obermeier, Bill Boyd, Hugh Carroll, Don Dale, Louis King, Kenneth Johnson, Ernest Winters, Don Short, Harold Leonard, Gerald Allen and Arthur Anderson.

