

Prepared by
Todd Meyer

SOIL STEWARDSHIP WEEK

APRIL 30TH — MAY 6TH

United States Department of Agriculture

Soil Conservation Service

514 Isett, Wapello, Iowa 52653



The Soil Conservation Service was formed in 1933 as the Soil Erosion Service. Throughout the last 56 years, SCS has provided technical assistance to thousands of landowners. In 1947 the Louisa County Soil and Water Conservation District was formed. The district consists of 5 local landowners who volunteer their time and energies to promote soil and water conservation in Louisa County. They set priorities and direct SCS in application of both structural and cultural practices. They are responsible for educational efforts throughout the county, reaching both youth groups as well as adults.

The SCS's primary goal at this time is to assist every landowner in the county in the development of a conservation plan for their operations. By developing this plan, landowners will remain eligible for all government subsidy programs, including ASCS payments, CCC loans, Federal Crop Insurance, and many other types of financial assistance.

There are many other types of assistance that your local conservation district can provide to you. Assistance in both technical and financial areas are available on such practices as terracing, construction of ponds; cultural practices including contouring, no-till, and strip cropping, construction of windbreaks, and controlling wind erosion along major roadways.

The commissioners have developed a tillage advisory board to assist local users of conservation tillage in answering questions and demonstrating practices to save valuable topsoil. They also have an education committee to assist area teachers in promoting and educating our students on resource conservation. They hold monthly meetings, open to the public, where they discuss soil and water conservation priorities in Louisa County.

The district is also looking for qualified candidates, both male and female, to serve as assistant commissioners. These persons would assist the local commissioners in implementing local programs designed to promote resource conservation. If you would be interested in serving in this capacity, please contact the office at 523-6411. Any time you could contribute would help the commissioners in their mission of promoting good land stewardship.

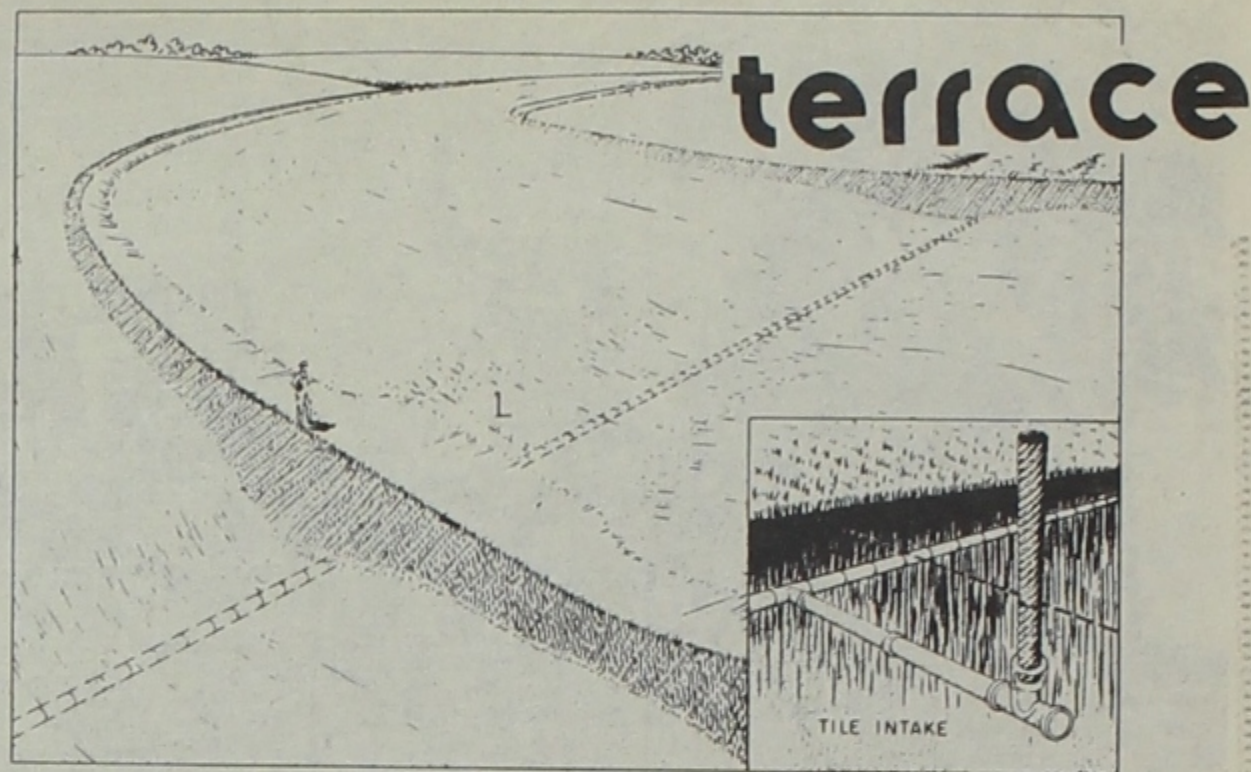
Conservation Reserve Update

To date in Louisa County, approximately 12,806 acres of land have been enrolled into the Conservation Reserve Program. This program is administered as a part of the 1985 Farm Bill to allow farmers to "rent" land to the government. Many types of land are eligible for CRP. These include lands that are classified Highly Erodible by SCS. This means that soil mapping units that are greater than 6% slope add up to more than 2/3 of the field. Also, lands that total 1/3 of a field and are committed to trees may be enrolled. Another criteria is if a field lies along a perennial stream or river, a strip of up to 100' wide along this watercourse may be enrolled. The newest criteria is to allow wetlands or lands scoured with erosion by out of bank flow from rivers and streams to be enrolled. These areas must encompass more than 1/3 of the field to become eligible. A requirement for all lands enrolled is that they must be cropped 2 years from the period from 1981 through 1985.

These enrolled lands can be retired to a variety of conservation covers including introduced grasses (brome, orchard, alfalfa), native grasses (switch, bluestem, Indian grasses), trees, and other types of permanent cover. These lands

provide many benefits to both man and the environment. The length of the program (10 years) allows for soils to rest and replenish. The various covers provide wildlife with a much needed habitat. These lands are also out of crop production, lending to improved markets.

If you are a landowner in Louisa County and are interested in CRP, contact the local SCS office at 514 Isett in Wapello.



PRACTICES INSTALLED IN 1988

Terraces	86,279 feet
Grade Stabilizations	8 number
Ponds	7 number
Contouring	1,451 acres
No-till/Reduced Tillage	1,919 acres



DON'T LOSE YOUR SOIL AND YOUR BENEFITS

Harbison Trucking

Hauling livestock and grain
868-4116

Harbison Livestock

Buying hogs for Excel Pork
Daily Hog Market
Morning Sun, Iowa 868-7731

The Wapello Republican

Hwy 61, Wapello
523-4631

Your Community Newspaper

Field Tiling and Terracing
Ponds and Waterways

Miller Welding & Tiling, Inc.

653-2553
Washington, Iowa
All Work Guaranteed

Schultz Construction

Ponds — Waterways
Terraces — Clearing
Phone 658-3271 Crawfordsville

Ball Bulldozing

Glen Ball
Morning Sun, Iowa
319-868-7807

WINFIELD CONTRACTORS, INC.

General Concrete Contractors
Sewer & Excavating & Water Construction
Foundations & Grain Storage
Bridges and Culverts
319-257-6855 Barry Ross 319-523-5623
Winfield, Iowa Owner Wapello, Iowa

Thomas Trucking

Morning Sun, Iowa
Phone 319-868-4259

Grain, Fertilizer,
Rock, Lime and Sand.
End Loader Work.

SPRINGSTEEN TILING, INC.

Morning Sun, Iowa
Phone 868-7912

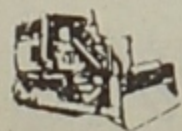
Field Tiling
Will Install Plastic Drain Tile
Small Dozing and Backhoe Work
Work Done to SCS Specifications

River Construction Company, Inc.

R.R. 1 Box 19A Wapello, Iowa 52653

Call Ron and Jordie Beeding for Free Estimates

319-523-5853



"over 23 years of experience"
Complete Excavating Service
Soil Conservation Work



Columbus Junction STATE BANK

Columbus Junction, Iowa 52738
Phone 728-2436

F.D.I.C. — Member F.R.S.

"Over 50 Years of Community Service"

Field - Drainage Tiling & Backhoe

Duayne Miller Tiling Co.

Phone 263-2652
Muscatine, Iowa

We sell & install plastic or clay tile.

We sell and service subsurface
irrigation systems.

Farmers Elevator and Exchange

Hwy 61, Wapello



Hewitt Excavating

Morning Sun, Iowa
Phone 319-868-7897

Tiling Machine Dragline
Laser Equipped Loader Work
Backhoe Work Trenching
Waterline and Footing
Dozer Work



MIDWESTERN CULVERT, LTD.

1-800-255-2255 Ext. 9640
397-0498

DELBERT R. ROTH

OFFICE

(515) 964-0497
1114 S. E. Lorenz Dr.
Ankeny, IA 50021

RESIDENCE

(319) 377-5252
1840 27th St.
Marion, IA 52302