

ANNUAL WORK PLAN
MONROE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
JULY 1, 2018 through JUNE 30, 2019

**Monroe County Soil and Water
Conservation District Commissioners**

1. Mervin McDanel, Chair
2. Don Niebuhr, Vice Chair/Treasurer
3. Bob Scott, Co-Treasurer
4. Marvin Wirtjes
5. Joe Pyle, Co-Treasurer

Assistant Commissioners

1. Colleen Putnam
2. Jim Nelson

Field Office Staff

Brooke Bodkins, CTA/Farm Bill
Linda Shumate, Watershed Coordinator

Division of Soil Conservation and Water Quality Staff

Ronald Peterson, Soil Conservation Technician
Diana Williams, Conservation Assistant

Pheasants Forever Office Staff

Shane Weinberg, Biologist

Natural Resources Conservation Service Staff

Margaret Cope, District Conservationist
Hannah Grimm, Soil Conservationist
Michael Gibbs, Soil Conservation Technician
Mary Yager, Elyon Contract Staff

Reviewed and Approved by:

Mervin McDanel 6-11-18
Commissioner Date

Donal P. Niebuhr 6-11-18
Commissioner Date

Mar Wirtjes 6-11-18
Commissioner Date

Bob Scott 6-11-18
Commissioner Date

Joe Pyle 6-11-18
Commissioner Date

OBJECTIVE 1

SOIL RESOURCE OBJECTIVE: *Protect and conserve soil resources for future generations.*

A. Protect and conserve soil resources on rural land.

ACTION ITEMS	GOAL	WHO	WHEN
1. Apply conservation tillage to working agricultural land.	1,500 ac.	Staff	On-going
2. Construct grass waterways to reduce gully erosion and sediment delivery	10 ac.	Staff	On-going
3. Construct water and sediment control basins to reduce gully erosion.	3 no.	Staff	On-going
4. Review Conservation Plans developed by staff.	3,000 ac.	Commissioners	On-going
5. Apply conservation practices to reduce erosion.	2,000 ac.	Staff	On-going
6. Assist with annual contractors' meeting.	1 meeting	NRCS Technician	Month
7. Promote and enroll working land in CRP.	10 contracts	Staff	On-going
8. Assist Soap Creek Watershed with Monroe County conservation projects and provide a District representative on Soap Creek WMA Board.	-	-	On-going
9. Act on soil loss complaints as needed.	As needed	Staff	On-going
10. Provide program information to agricultural and acreage owners.	1 article	Staff	Month
11. Conduct locally led meeting in conjunction with Izaak Walton Iowa Outdoor Expo, to gather input from Monroe County residents and agencies and organizations on resource concerns.	1 meeting	Commissioners/ Staff	Month

B. Control soil loss on urban land

ACTION ITEMS	GOAL	WHO	WHEN
1. Conduct urban plat reviews on new developments and send letter to cities offering plat review services.	10 reviews	D.C./ Urban Conservationist	As needed
2. Assist with erosion control on urban sites.	10 customers	Urban Conservationist	As needed

ACTION ITEMS	GOAL	WHO	WHEN
3. Conduct education and program information seminars and workshops for the public.	As needed	D.C./Commissioners Urban Conservationist	As needed
4. Identify and pursue new local/state/federal funding sources for urban conservation work.	1 new source	Commissioners/ Urban Conservationist	On-going
5. Utilize REAP and Project funds for storm-water practice implementation.	5 customers	Commissioners/D.C. Urban Conservationist	On-going

OBJECTIVE II

WATER RESOURCES OBJECTIVE: *Protect the quality of ground and surface waters in Monroe County:*

ACTION ITEMS	GOAL	WHO	WHEN
1. Promote and apply nutrient management to improve water quality.	500 ac.	Staff	On-going
2. Obtain funding from CDI/DSCWQ to continue district employee assistance in conservation planning and implementation of Farm Bill programs, if funding is available.	\$5,000	Commissioners/ District Employee	Month
3. Follow up with buffer program contracts to promote and apply conservation buffers.	40 ac.	District Employee	On-going
4. Provide information on the CREP to targeted landowners.	1 contact	Staff	On-going
5. Create, restore, or enhance wetlands through WRP and CRP.	10 ac.	Staff	On-going
6. Meet with partners and advisory committee to review and update Monroe wetland restoration and master plan.	2 meetings	D.C./ Commissioners	Month
7. Conduct a final Miller Creek wrap up meeting to thank the participants for their work and project success.	1 meeting	Commissioners/ Staff	Month
8. Send out news release to inform the public and policy makers of the Miller Creek Project successful implementation.	1 article	Staff	Month

ACTION ITEMS	GOAL	WHO	WHEN
9. Develop work plan for Cedar Creek Project.	1 plan	Commissioners/ Watershed Coordinator	Month
10. Implement work plan for Cedar Creek plan	1 plan	Commissioners/ Watershed Coordinator	On-going
11. Develop a map of county watersheds and monitor and prioritize them for future water quality projects.	1 map	Commissioners/ D.C.	On-going
12. Assist in implementing 1040 water quality rain garden projects through radio spots and articles.	104 gardens	Urban Conservationist	On-going
13. Assist cities with developing stream buffer ordinances using Polk County and Warren County as examples.	2 ordinances	Urban Conservationist	Month
14. Implement Rain Barrel program.	1 program	Commissioners/ District Employee	On-going
15. Assist Waste Authority to implement a WQI grant in Cedar Creek to control gully erosion and secure buffer easement.	2 easements	Commissioners	Month

OBJECTIVE III

EDUCATION/AWARENESS OBJECTIVE: *Provide conservation education and awareness to the public:*

ACTION ITEMS	GOAL	WHO	WHEN
1. Publish newsletter with annual report and deliver to Monroe County landowners.	1 newsletter	Commissioner/ Staff	Month
2. Conduct information meeting for elected officials and policy makers, targeting the Board of Supervisors.	2 meetings	Commissioners/ D.C.	Month
3. Conduct Backyard Conservation workshop to inform public of soil and water resources and urban conservation practices.	1 workshop	Commissioners/ Staff/DMACC	Month
4. Promote conservation through the use of local media as needed. (Conservation tillage, CRP buffers)	3 press releases	Commissioners	On-going

ACTION ITEMS	GOAL	WHO	WHEN
5. Speak to local schools, colleges and organizations about soil and water resource issues and opportunities.	2 presentations	Commissioners/ Staff	Month
6. Assist customers with soils and photo information needed for urban environmental assessments.	10 customers	Staff	On-going
7. Educate and inform public about the SWCD and our services at annual Garden Show, County Fair and Iowa Outdoor Expo.	3 shows	Commissioners/ Staff	Month
8. Conduct tour with partners, policy makers and media to demonstrate resource concerns and conservation practices in rural and urban. (picture tour).	1 tour	Commissioners/ Urban Conservationist District Employee	Month
9. Keep Monroe SWCD website updated.	Monthly	Staff	On-going
10. Set up VIP electronic list including media to send out news updates via e-mail. (not reveal e-mail address).	30 contacts	Staff	Quarterly
11. Identify and promote new urban conservation techniques.	1 article or workshop	Urban Conservationist/ Commissioners	On-going
12. Partner with WHO to implement the 1040 water quality campaign.	1 article	Commissioners/ Urban Conservationist	On-going
13. Inform the public on the soil loss complaint process.	1 article	Commissioners	Month
14. Participate in CDI Legislative Day and REAP Day to promote conservation with local legislators.	2 meetings	Commissioners	Month
15. Contact City Parks and Recreation Department to explore conservation education partnering opportunities.	1 contact	Commissioners	Month
16. Promote local food production in urban and rural areas and assist other organizations.	1 meeting	Commissioners	Month
17. Work with RC&D to conduct a women landowner meeting to provide program information.	1 meeting	Commissioners/ Staff	Month

OBJECTIVE IV

ADMINISTRATIVE OBJECTIVE: *Continue to expand the District's internal operation and long-range program:*

A. Fulfill District responsibilities:

ACTION ITEMS	GOAL	WHO	WHEN
1. Answer all soil complaints	All requests	Commissioners	As requested
2. Review and certify "slough bill" applications and renewals.	All applications	Commissioners	Month
3. Prepare and review annual Work Plan for upcoming fiscal year.	1 plan	Commissioners	Month
4. Attend CDI Regional meetings and Annual Meeting and tour.	All members	Commissioners	Month
5. Consider for approval IFIP and REAP cost share requests.	All requests	Commissioners	As requested
6. Approve conservation plans for all programs.	Required approvals	Commissioners	As needed
7. Review appeals of wetlands.	As requested By D.C.	Commissioners	As needed
8. Review annual Work Plan at District meetings.	Monthly	Commissioners	Month
9. Review Resource Conservation Plan.	1 review	Commissioners	January
10. Explore fund raising opportunities.	On-going	Clark Commissioners	On-going
11. Participate in native plant sale with INL and Parks.	1 sale	Commissioners	Month

B. Fulfill District responsibilities and obligations to EEO/Civil Rights

ACTION ITEMS	GOAL	WHO	WHEN
1. Review Memorandum of Understanding & EEO/Civil rights Policies	1 meeting & on-going	Commissioners/ Staff	Month
2. Maintain up-to-date resource list of contacts for minorities & female landowners to inform them of new programs and opportunities to serve in the SWCD.	Updated list presented to Commissioners annually	D.C.	Month