

**IDA COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

**2000
Annual Report
7-1-99 - 6-30-00**

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

Phone: 712-364-2124

PERSONNEL

COMMISSIONERS

Wally Johnson, Washta
Chairperson

Lloyd Rickers, Kiron
Vice-Chairperson
Representative,

Sioux Rivers RC & D Board
Marc Johnson, Battle Creek
Representative,
Little Sioux Works Committee

Dennis Lindgren, Ida Grove
Ramon Johnson, Holstein

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 2000 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 2000 AWARD WINNERS

Izaak Walton League Windbreak District & State Award

Steve & Nancy Schug, Ida Grove

Conservation Farm Family Conservation Milestones At the Millennium Program Farm Progress Show

William Ullrich Family

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 2000 (July 1, 1999-June 30, 2000)

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 1999

NRCS Staff completed 1999 Conservation Plan and Conservation Reserve Program Status Reviews. Wally & Joyce Johnson attended the National Association of Conservation Districts North Central Regional Meeting in Cedar Rapids. The District Annual Plan of Work was presented and approved. District commissioners performed the annual audit of District books and found them to be in order. Commissioners and staff manned a booth at the Ida County Fair.

Denim shirts embroidered with the Ida County SWCD emblem were purchased for commissioners and staff.

AUGUST

Commissioners and staff attended the Little Sioux River Flood Prevention Program 50th Anniversary in Anthon. Commissioners approved cost-sharing on the renovation of existing septic systems using limited available funds from the Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project. Alan Van Houten resigned his term as commissioner.

SEPTEMBER

Commissioners attended the Annual Conference in Des Moines. The District hired Jerry Jensen as Ida County Watershed Inspector after the resignation of Larry Kielhorn. The William Ullrich family represented Ida County as Conservation Farm Family for the Conservation Milestones at the Millennium Program at the Farm Progress Show. The following mission statement was presented and adopted by the District, "To take available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of soil, water, and related resources".

OCTOBER

Commissioners set an upper limit for cost-share on septic system renovation using Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project funds. Ida County submitted watershed structure information to assist the Sioux Rivers RC & D in requesting a Watershed Protection Development Grant.

NOVEMBER

The District shared the purchase of a tree planter with the Ida County Conservation Board. The second FY2000 Supplement to the Project Agreement between the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land

Stewardship (IDALS)/Department of Soil Conservation (DSC), the Ida County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) with respect to the Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project was approved.

DECEMBER

Commissioners attended the Fall Regional meeting in Cherokee. The District Annual Meeting was held at the Fireside Restaurant in Anthon. Wally & Joyce Johnson attended the National Summit meeting in Ames. The District submitted an application for a Nursery Dealer Certificate.

JANUARY 2000

Wally Johnson was elected District Chairperson and Lloyd Rickers was elected District Vice-Chairperson. Joyce Johnson was appointed Assistant Commissioner. Arlis Bahnsen was appointed District Secretary/Treasurer. Lloyd Rickers was appointed as District Representative to the Sioux Rivers RC & D Board and Marc Johnson was appointed to the Little Sioux Works Committee. A new General Signup for Conservation Reserve Program began January 18th and ran through February 11th. The 1999 District Annual Report was presented for approval. Ramon Johnson of Holstein was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Alan Van Houten.

FEBRUARY

The Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project held an Advisory Committee Meeting. Marc Johnson attended. Wally Johnson attended Leadership for Locally Led Conservation in Storm Lake. Marc Johnson attended a pasture management demonstration. The District co-hosted a Contractor's Meeting with Cherokee County SWCD in Cherokee. Lloyd Rickers attended. Commissioners made terraces a cost-share priority in Ida County and established the Little Sioux

Average Cost list based on actual construction costs. The District entered into a Habitat Agreement with Ida County Pheasants Forever, IDALS, and NRCS for matching funds for payrolling intermittent employees. The District paid National Association of Conservation Districts and Conservation Districts of Iowa dues for 2000. The District wrote a letter of support for the governor's water initiative.

MARCH

Lloyd Rickers and Wally & Joyce Johnson attended the Spring Regional Meeting held in conjunction with Agriculture and the Environment Conference in Ames. Commissioners met with Farm Service Agency County Committee. Ida County SWCD financially supported the Envirothon held in Cherokee and Joyce Johnson attended. Commissioners reviewed a handout outlining the position of District Commissioner as delineated in Iowa Code Chapter 161A. Commissioners met with Ida County Board of Supervisors. The Ida County SWCD forwarded an application for the 2000 Goodyear Conservation Award. Commissioners attended the Iowa Watersheds Spring Tour in Decorah.

APRIL

Approximately 20,000 trees were planted in Ida County in riparian buffer strips, shelterbelts, and windbreaks. Wally Johnson and Lloyd Rickers attended the Iowa Year 2000 presentation designed to enhance public awareness of our environment. Jerry Jensen inspected watershed structures in Ida County.

MAY

All but one application from Ida County (966.6 acres) for the 20th General Conservation Reserve Program signup were approved. Steve & Nancy Schug were selected as recipients of the 2000 Izaak Walton Windbreak Award for Ida County.

JUNE

Astor Boozer was appointed Area 1 Area Conservationist for Natural Resources Conservation Service. Commissioners attended the Sioux Rivers RC & D Annual Meeting/Picnic in Correctionville.

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

Fiscal Year 2000 October 1, 1999 - September 30, 2000

Individuals Assisted	3,291
Cropland Protected Against Excessive Erosion (acres)	11,805
Acres Treated with Erosion Control Measures	18,067
Farmstead Windbreaks	9
Terraces (feet)	82,295
Waterways (acres)	53.6
Grade Stabilization Structures	5
Water & Sediment Control Basins	13
CRP 20th, 21st & 22nd Signup Applications	130
CRP 20th Contracts Approved (966.6 acres)	29
CRP 21st & 22nd Continuous Contracts Approved (905.1 acres)	100
Riparian Buffer Strips	5
Shelter Belts	8
Nutrient Management Applied (acres)	4,464
Wetland Restoration Enhancement/Creation	1

EEO STATEMENT

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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).

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DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT

(July 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000)

1-M	\$ 5,202.27
Expenses: Printing,	
Office, Commissioner	<u>5,202.27</u>
Balance released to state	\$.00

3-M Cost-Share Funds	
(99-00)	\$ 51,602.00
Obligated & spent	<u>51,602.00</u>
Balance in fund	\$.00

REAP - Practices Funds	
(2000)	\$ 7,455.00
Spent	<u>7,455.00</u>
Balance released to state	\$.00

REAP - Forestry/Native	
Grasses (2000)	\$ 1,892.00
Spent	<u>1,804.09</u>
Balance released to state	\$ 87.91

Little Sioux River Flood	
Prevention Project Funds (2000)	
Obligated or spent	\$ 445,985.219

Watershed Maintenance Funds	
Checking 7/01/99	\$ 4,597.18
Income	4,305.42
Expenses	<u>3,996.76</u>
Balance 6/30/99	\$ 4,905.84

Watershed Funds CD's	\$ 112,024.35
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General Funds	
Checking 7/01/99	\$ 16,680.67
Income	33,859.45
Expenses	<u>40,598.18</u>
Balance 6/30/00	\$ 9,941.94

General Funds CD's	\$ 27,000.00
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