

Mediapolis News

B SECTION

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Official Paper for Mediapolis, Des Moines County and Mediapolis Schools • Thursday February 29, 1996

It's the

Golden Anniversary

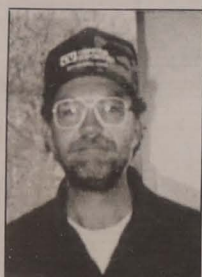
of the

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District

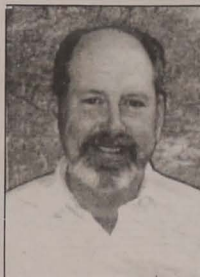
The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. Everyone is welcome to join the District Commissioners in celebration at an Open House on Friday, March 1 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the NRCS Office, located at 1104 Derek Lincoln Drive in West Burlington. There will be a short program at Noon. Refreshments will be served.



Meet the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners



Jeff Bergman



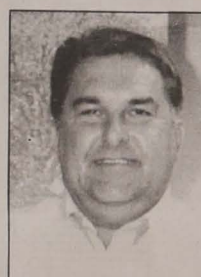
Don Lounsbury



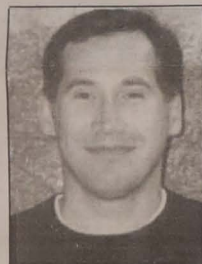
Frank Hedges



Tom Birkenstock



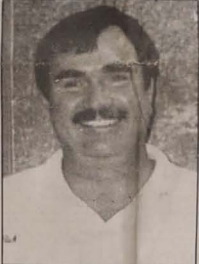
Arlyn Musselman



Michael W. Schwenker



Sherman Smith



Rick Querna



Laura Wagner-Ertz



Brad Weiss

Jeff Bergman was elected District Commissioner in November 1992. He was an Assistant Commissioner from 1988-1992. Jeff is currently Chairperson, Treasurer and REAP Representative. Jeff is the Director of the Des Moines County Conservation Department. He also is a taxidermist and operates a tree farm. Jeff and his wife Jan have two children.

Don Lounsbury was elected District Commissioner in November 1994 to begin his six-year term in 1995. Don farms approximately 750 acres in Pleasant Grove Township, owning 570 acres and renting 180 acres. Don and his wife Darlene have two children.

Frank Hedges, better known as Sandy, was elected a District Commissioner in November 1992. Sandy also worked for the District in the late 1960's as advertising manager. Sandy and his wife Karen farm in Huron Township and have three children.

Tom Birkenstock was appointed a District Commissioner in November 1994 to fulfill a vacant position. Tom farms 460 acres and is a District Sales Manager for Kruger Seed Company. Tom is also very active in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Dodgeville. Tom and his wife Sue have three children. Tom is currently on the Education Committee for the District.

Sherman Smith was elected District Commissioner in November 1994. Sherm was an Assistant Commissioner from 1980-1984. Sherm has been representative to the RC&D Executive Council for 10 years. He is the vice chairperson and has held the offices of chair and vice several times. He is a retired engineer. Sherm and his wife Mary have three children.

Michael W. Schwenker was appointed an Assistant Commissioner in March 1995. Mike works in the insurance and investment related services in Burlington. He is currently on the Education Committee for the District.

Rick Querna was appointed an Assistant Commissioner in March 1995. Rick is owner of Querna Seed Company and farms 470 acres. He is president of the Des Moines County Corn Grower's Association and director of the Iowa Corn Grower's Association. Rick is also busy with many other organizations.

Laura Wagner-Ertz was appointed an Assistant Commissioner in October 1995. She is currently on the Education Committee for the District. Laura is part-owner of L&G Forestry and Prairie Grass Unlimited.

Brad Weiss was appointed an Assistant Commissioner in August 1995. Brad is the operations supervisor at Yellow Freight System. Brad also owns 42 acres with cattle and pasture. Brad and his wife Juli have one daughter.

Arlyn Musselman was appointed an Assistant Commissioner in 1986. Arlyn is Southeastern Community College Ag Programs Supervisor and farms 70 acres for SCC. Arlyn and his wife Carol have three children.

"Congratulations on 50 years of Soil & Water Conservation"

Geode RC&D, Inc.

3002A Winegard Drive
Burlington, IA 52601

319-752-6395 319-752-0106

Consulting Foresters • Forest Management Services • Tree
Planting • Timber Sales & Appraisals • Wetlands Restoration
• Forestry Supplies

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners will celebrate their **50th Anniversary**

with an
OPEN HOUSE

Friday, March 1
10:30 am - 1:30 pm
at the NRCS Office
1104 Derek Lincoln Drive
West Burlington

*Short Program at Noon
*Refreshments served

Commissioners of Years Past



1963- Front row: Theodore Berning and Eugene Schulte. Back row: James Hodges, Arthur Corman and Horace Sutton.



1968- Front row: Mildred Kleinkopf and Ralph Dewey. Back row: Sandy Hedges and Harry Bryant.



1977- Oren Champ, SCS Technician, and Winston Cooper, IAAP Agronomist.



1968- Harold Linder, Henry Dockendorff, Harold Yohe, Rex Troute, Horace Sutton.



1975- Harold Linder, Jack Jacobs, Clyde Scherer, Susan Baldwin, Bill Vierling, Ray Pilling, Barbara Bonnett, Dwight Stucker, Joe Beckman, Horace Sutton.



1992- Front row: John Horan, Leonard Lane, Arlyn Musselman, Jeff Bergman. Back row: Dorothy Davis, Terry Cosby, Bill Walker, John Fruehling, Doug Ensminger, Lloyd Schmeiser, Sherman Smith, Charles Nealey, Darrell Belzer.

SOIL We salute
the Soil &
Water
Conservation Dis-
trict for their 50
years of achievement!



NPK Soil Services, Inc. • P.O. Box 153 • Sperry, Iowa 52650

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY!



HAPPY 50th!

Congratulations to the Des
Moines County Soil & Water
Conservation District on
their 50th Anniversary!

Chuck Allgood

Bulldozer and Backhoe Work
Winfield, IA 319-257-3137

50 Years and
Growing...
We wish you
many more
successful
years!

When you bank with us, you invest in Burlington
(319) 753-9100

BBT BURLINGTON
Bank and Trust



222 North Main Street • P.O. Box 728 • Burlington, Iowa 52601

Employees of the District

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has had quite a few employees come and go throughout 50 years. These jobs were full time, part time, and seasonal. To the best of our knowledge and records, this is a compilation of office personnel in order they were here:

F.S. Yetter	District Conservationist	1946-1952
Raymond H. Audsley	Work Unit Conservationist	1947-1964
Arthur Grant Stevenson	SC Aide	1948-1952
Jack Jacobs	SC Aide/Technician	1953-1966
Larry Kelley	Technical Aide	1954-1955
Isabelle Fuller	District Clerk	1954-1957
David Asby	SC Aide/State Aide	1955-1960
Mildred Kleinkopf	District Clerk	1957-1972
Gail Parks	SC Aide/State Aide	1959-1961
Martin Gerling	State Technical Aide	1959
Marvin Miller	State Technical Aide	1959
Daniel T. Scully	SC Aide/State Aide	1960
John E. Erickson	SC Aide/State Aide	1960
Alvin Black Jr.	State Aide	1960
Dean Bergquist	SC Aide/State Aide	1961
Everett Erickson	SC Aide/State Aide	1961
Doyle Moyers	State Aide	1961
Walter Brown	SC Aide/State Aide	1962-1964
William Boust Jr.	Work Unit Conservationist	1964
John T. Baker	Work Unit Conservationist	1965-1969
LaVerne Lucas	SC Aide	1965-1966
Charles Ertzinger	Summer Trainee	1965
Harry Bryant	Technician	1966-1971
Sandy Hedges	SC Aide/District Ad manager	1966-1971
Shelia Ferguson	Summer Youth Corps Program	1966
Charlie Dodds	Planner Aide	1968
Terry Benz	Planner Aide	1968
Earl Cosby	Student Trainee	1968
Ralph Dewey	District Conservationist	1969-1976
Ed Wright	Student Trainee	1969
Oren Champ	Technician	1970-1976
Winston Cooper	Soil Conservationist	1971-1973
Richard Brown	Part-time Technician	1971-1972
Dennis Stucker	Student Trainee	1971
Dorothy Davis	District Clerk	1972-1994
Larry Hunt	Soil Conservationist	1974-1975
Mark Simmons	SC Aide	1974-1975
Debra Brus	Soil Conservationist	1975-1976
Melvin Brown	Soil Scientist	1975-1980
Bennie Clarks Jr.	Soil Scientist	1975-1980
Howard Bright	District Conservationist	1976-1987
Jeffrey Krieger	Summer Engineering trainee	1976
Rodney E. Lee	SC Aide	1976
Ron Williams	Conservation Trainee	1977
Harold Parke	CETA	1977
Sid Mais	Soil Conservationist	1978
William Baugh	Technician	1979-1981
Richard Lensch	Soil Scientist	1979-1980
Jesse A. Twillie	SC Aide/Technician	1980-1983
Tom Brantmeier	Soil Scientist	1980
David Davis	SC Aide	1981
Mark Fehseke	Technician	1982-1988
Diane Reed	Soil Conservationist	1982-1986
Thomas F. McIntyre	SC Aide	1984-1986
Dana Kellogg	Student Trainee	1984
Rick Shafer	Soil Conservationist	1985-1986
Terry Cosby	District Conservationist	1987-1992
Joe Skourup	SC Aide	1987-1989
Lisa Koch Niedermayer	SC Aide/Soil Conservationist	1987-1990
Kathy Baughman	SC Aide/Technician	1987-1990
Sally Mehaffy	SC Aide	1988-1990
John Fruehling	SC Aide	1989-1993
Doug Ensminger	Technician	1990-1992
John Horan	SC Aide/Technician	1990
Julie Musselman	SC Aide	1991-1992
Shirace Wimley	SC Aide	1991
Drew DeLang	SC Aide	1992
Larry Jones	District Conservationist	1992-1994
Audrey Ellis	Data Transcriber	1993

Bernard Carter
Dean Shaw
Mike Lewitke
Jamie Fair
Pat Koller
Tyler Messer

Volunteer/JTPA
Volunteer/JTPA/WAE
District Conservationist
State/District Secretary
SC Aide
SC Aide

1993-1994
1993-1994
1994-
1995-
1995-
1995-

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS 1946-PRESENT

Noah Schrock	1946-1947
Edwin Cling	1946-1948
John L. Blaul	1946-1950
Howard Gieselman	1947-1952
Kenneth Redfern	1947-1954
Hugh Jamison	1950-1956
Homer G. Woodward	1952-1958
Walter B. Eyre	1954-1960
C.E. Pilling	1956-1962
Theodore Berning	1958-1964
Eugene Schulte	1960-1966
Arthur Corman	1962-1968
Harold Yohe	1964-1970
Henry Dockendorff	1966-1972
Rex H. Trout	1968-1974
Albert Schulz	1970-1972
S.S. Barton	1970-1972
William Vierling	1970-1976
Carl Shumaker	1972-1974
Dwight Stucker	1972-1978
Ray W. Pilling	1973-1980
Joseph T. Beckman	1974-1980
Jack Jacobs	1974-1976
Clyde Scherer	1976-1978
Rex H. Trout	1976-1982
James S. Jennison	1979-1985
Douglas L. Cling	1979-1983
Leonard L. Lane	1981-1992
Wayne L. Ertzinger	1983-1986
Donald W. Mathews	1983-1984
William C. Walker	1985-
Sherman A. Smith	1985-1991
Keith B. Renner	1985-1991
Lloyd F. Schmeiser	1987-1992
Charles T. Nealey	1988-1994
Gary Wagner	1991-1994
Jeff S. Bergman	1993-
Frank C. Hedges	1993-
Tom Birkenstock	1994-
Don Lounsbury	1995-

COMMISSIONERS

Jeff S. Bergman
Sherman A. Smith
Thomas R. Birkenstock
Frank C. Hedges
W. Donald Lounsbury

Chairperson, Treasurer
Vice-Chairperson

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

Arlin L. Musselman
Michael W. Schwenker (started February)
Richard A. Querna (started February)
Bradley J. Weiss (started April)
Laura S. Wagner-Ertz (started October)

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS 1946-PRESENT

Horace Sutton	1949-1995
Keith Renner	1956-1958
Lloyd Schmeiser	1956-1965
Everett Anderson	1956-1959
Martin Beckman	1956-1959
Dwight Stucker	1956-1958
Ralph Anderson	1956-1959
Eugene Schulte	1956-1959
Edward Breuer	1956-1959
Curtis Darbyshire	1956-1962
Walter Swank	1956-1959
Carl Anderson	1956-1959
John Henry	1956-1958
Roy Anderson	1961
Harold Linder	1962-1980
Richard Charbonneau	1963-1965
Susan Baldwin Henry	1975-1982
Jo Rabe	1975-1976
Barbara Bonnett	1976-1987
Sherman Smith	1980-1984
William Dowell	1982
Keith Renner	1983-1984
James Jennison	1985-1987
William Walker	1985-1991
Roger Gay	1985-1987
Martin Culk	1985
Arlin Musselman	1986
Elizabeth Christiansen	1987
Jeff Bergman	1988-1992
Gary Wagner	1989-1990
Leonard Lane	1993
Michael Schwenker	1995-
Rick Querna	1995-
Brad Weiss	1995-
Laura Wagner-Ertz	1995-

SECRETARY/TREASURER 1946-PRESENT

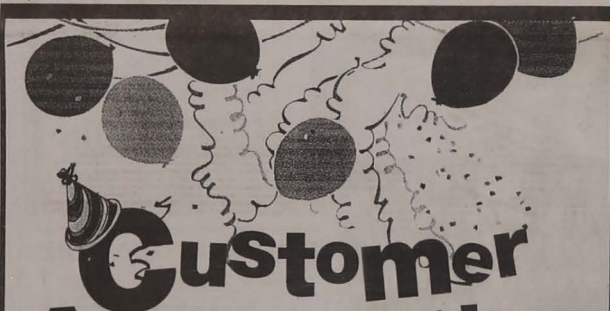
Walter Eyre	Secretary	1946-1951
Horace Sutton	Treasurer	1949-1993
James Hodges	Secretary	1951-1964
Harold Yohe	Secretary	1964
Harold Linder	Secretary	1964-1980
Dorothy Davis	Secretary	1981-1994
Jeff Bergman	Treasurer	1994-
Jamie Fair	Secretary	1995-

OFFICE STAFF

Michael F. Lewitke, District Conservationist
John J. Horan, Soil Conservation Technician
Drew F. DeLang, Soil Conservation Aide (started August)
Tyler W. Messer, Soil Conservation Aide (started August)
Jamie L. Fair, State & District Secretary

AREA OFFICE STAFF

Bruce W. Trautman, Area Conservationist
Lonnie R. Miller, Acting Area Resource Conservationist
Mark R. LaVan, Area Resource Soil Scientist
Douglas D. Morningstar, Civil Engineer
Sue M. Long, Civil Engineer
Thomas H. Boos, Civil Engineering Technician
Ron P. Wilson, Civil Engineering Technician
Kerry K. Richards, Computer Specialist
Suzette D. Betts, Area Administrative Coordinator
Darlene G. Lauder, Area Secretary



Customer Appreciation Days!

PLEASE BE OUR GUEST
J.J. NICHTING CO., INC.
Customer Appreciation Days

What's most important to our dealership? You!
To show our appreciation, we invite you to attend our Customer Appreciation Days Events.

We will have entertaining video presentations, lots of Case IH equipment, and door prizes including: Case IH Jackets, Sweaters, and Caps.
Join us and find out how it feels to be appreciated!

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAYS

Mt. Pleasant Store
Thursday, February 29, 1996
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Lunch Served 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Pilot Grove Store
Saturday, March 2, 1996
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Lunch Served 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Join us early for coffee and donuts • Register for door prizes

SPECIAL PRICING ON ALL IN STOCK PARTS
February 26th thru March 2nd

Come in and see our display of the latest in planting and seeding equipment, plus the new line of Case IH combines, the magnum and maximum tractors, and much more new equipment.

J.J. NICHTING CO., INC.
Building on the tradition which our founder, Joe Nitching, started 76 years ago!
1920 - 1996
PILOT GROVE, IOWA
319-469-4461

J.J. NICHTING CO., INC.
Building on the tradition which our founder, Joe Nitching, started 76 years ago!
1920 - 1996
MT. PLEASANT, IOWA
319-385-3314

CASE III



CONSERVE OUR RESOURCES

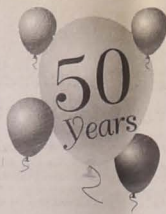
Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District
has achieved much in their "Golden Years". We would like to recognize their outstanding accomplishments and achievements during the 50 years of their diligent and caring service.

Springsteen Tiling, Inc.

Field Tiling, Backhoe, Bulldozing
Drainage Ditches, Waterways, Terracing,
Basements, Leach Fields, Supplier of Pipe
Serving Southeast Iowa Since 1949
Morning Sun, IA 52640 319-868-7912



1995 NRCS office staff: Front row- John Horan and Mike Lewitke. Back row: Jamie Fair and Drew DeLang. Not pictured- Tyler Messer.



Then & Now

In 1967, 26 farm ponds were built in Des Moines County. In the picture, Chuck Allgood, contractor from Winfield, Iowa is shown stripping the dam site for a large pond built by William Gerdes in Tama Township. About a mile of tile inlet terraces were built in this field at the same time.

In 1995, the emphasis has switched from farm ponds to tillage practices and terraces. In the picture, 750 feet of broadbase terraces were built by Arthur Kershner in Franklin Township.



Charles Nealey represented the Des Moines SWCD in regional competition in the ISC Award Program. Nealey was selected Region 9 winner. Nealey is standing in one of his many food plots.

Nealey Regional Winner

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District selected two local producers in 1995 as District winners for the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

Charles Nealey of Danville was selected as winner in Division I. Nealey was also selected to represent the District in Region 9 competition.

Nealey's conservation plan and a scorecard were mailed on for Regional competition against 13 other counties. The District was notified in June that Nealey had won Regional competition and that the conservation plan and scorecard were being sent on for state competition.

The areas of judging for Regional competition were land adequately treated, conservation practices accomplished, community service, and general farm husbandry.

Carol Staff, New London, was chosen in Division III for becoming a new district cooperator after January 1, 1994. Carol built a solid waste stacking structure for cattle with organic nutrient management cost-share funds.



Jeff Burgus, right, treasurer for the Tri-State Agricultural Education Foundation, presents a \$500 scholarship to Robert Mohr.

Mohr Receives Scholarship

by Arlyn Musselman, Assistant Commissioner

Robert Mohr of West Burlington is the 1995 recipient of a \$500 scholarship given by the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District. The money was given to the Tri-State Agricultural Education Foundation which helps promote agriculture in the three state area.

Mohr was selected by the Foundation when he enrolled in the Agriculture Production Program at Southeastern Community College. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Mohr of West Burlington.

1996 students enrolling in the SCC Ag Programs are encouraged to apply for a scholarship. They can enroll in Agriculture Production, Agriculture Supplies and Services, or Swine Confinement Management.

Des Moines County has
been in
"GOOD HANDS" for
50 years!

Thanks!

H & S Farm Supply, Inc.
202 S. Curve St.
Mediapolis, IA
319-394-3560

**Congratulations on your
50th Anniversary!**

Accent • Basis • Extrazine • Assure
• Concert • Synchrony STS

**DuPont Agricultural
Products**
Dennis Massner
21595 160th Avenue
Mediapolis, Iowa
(319) 394-9299

Preserve
the Land

Des Moines County
Soil & Water
Conservation
District

**Happy 50th
Anniversary &
thanks for your
efforts on our
behalf!**

Hewitt Earth Work
• Dragline and Dozer Work
• Excavating •
Morning Sun, IA 319-868-7897

**MAIN STREET TIRE
FACTORY OUTLET**

4 blocks east of flashing yellow light on Hwy 61 in Mediapolis

EE DORADO

WITH ANY
FREE NEW
TIRE PURCHASE

- TIRE REPAIR
- MOUNTING
- BALANCING
- VALVE STEMS

Some Competitors Charge Up To
\$10 Extra Per Tire For This Benefit
WE GIVE IT TO YOU FREE!

(319) 394-9261

520 Main St.
Mediapolis, IA

**CONGRATULATIONS
Des Moines County
Soil & Water
Conservation District!**

50
YEARS

J.J. NICHING CO., INC.
Building on the tradition which our founder,
Joe Niching, started 50 years ago! 1925-1996

PILOT GROVE, IOWA
(319) 469-4461

MT. PLEASANT, IOWA
(319) 385-3314

CASE II

Des Moines County Soil &
Water Conservation District

**Congratulations
on your 50th
Anniversary!**

DELZELL BROS.

"Under The Water Tower"

Morning Sun, IA • 1-800-238-7396

SEE KIRK, PHIL, OR KENT DELZELL OR
KEVIN EDWARDS.

SEE GARY CRILL in Winfield

HOURS: Monday thru Friday
8:00 am - 5:30 pm.
Evenings By Appointment

We appreciate your
50 years of
continued service
and support!

**Happy
Anniversary
Des Moines
County Soil and Water
Conservation District.**

If you're thinking about buying a new home or refinancing
your present home, now is the time to give us a call
Midwest Federal Savings helps build for your future.

**CONSERVE
YOUR LAND**

**MIDWEST FEDERAL
SAVINGS**
Building for the future

EDIC
INSURED

BURINGTON
101 S. 1st & 1st St. 253-1020
200 S. 1st & 1st St. 253-1020

FL. MADISON, 026 Ave. 112-0001
REOP. 112 Main St. 323-5800
WALFORD, 112 Main St. 323-5800

Congratulations!

**Protect
the Natural Resources**

Des Moines County Soil & Water
Conservation District is celebrating
50 years!

Prinsco Tile • Hickmanbottom Risers • P.V.C. Pipe
H & H AG & LAWN

22643 220th Ave. Mt. Union, IA 52644
at the former Hazen Supply location

Top Air Sprayers • Sprayer Parts • Pump Service
Dixon • Snapper • Lawnboy



Wetland Possibilities

By Michael Schwenker, Assistant Commissioner

There are many currently tilled acres in the southeastern portion of the state that are prone to standing water at different times of the year. These areas certainly can place a physical and economic burden on the landowner when trying to grow and harvest a crop. If you have a trouble spot on your acreage and tile or other solutions are not viable, you may want to research the possibility of putting this portion of ground in one of the federal, state or local wetland programs. Most certainly this is a way of exercising risk avoidance as opposed to risk acceptance.

The primary values range from providing needed habitat for wildlife, better water quality by removing agricultural chemicals and nutrients, elimination of the risk and expense of farming an area that could flood, and curbing soil erosion by slowing the overland flow of water, thus reducing erosion downstream from the wetland.

For more information on programs available that can benefit you and the environment, feel free to stop in or call the Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

No-Till Attributes

by Don Lounsbury, Commissioner

As we look at farming by using no-till methods, one can see problems or opportunities. Most of the problems can be overcome with different management techniques.

When I look at no-till farming, I see a lot of opportunities:

1. Helping reduce soil erosion
 2. Helping soil structure
 3. Increasing water infiltration
 4. Raising the organic matter
 5. Saving more nutrients - n-p-k
 6. Requires less labor, machinery & fuel
 7. Become more efficient
 8. Cleaner air through less wind erosion
- I believe in the near future, farmers will be asked to store carbon on the soil surface, where it raises organic matter, rather than incorporating crop residue into the soil, which later turns into carbon-dioxide gas released from soil into the atmosphere.
- The new technologies are being developed and tested to help farmers improve their no-till skills.

Urban/Residential Conservation Education

by Jeff Bergman, Chairperson

During the fall of 1995, local conservation and natural resource management professionals met to discuss a mutual topic of concern - urban soil and water quality conservation. The consensus of the group was that to much time and money has been spent educating and working with the rural landowners. The emphasis needs to be shifted to urban/residential understanding of proper landuse.

The majority of the rural farmers are some of the best landuse managers there are. They have been educated and guided to co-exist with the land and practice good stewardship. Their long term livelihood depends on it. To the city dweller, soil erosion and poor water quality is conveniently blamed on the farmer. More herbicides and pesticides are used acre for acre in the city than on the farm and they continue to run off the city watersheds consisting of concrete and shingle runways. The statistics also show that acre for acre, there is more soil erosion from urban construction areas than from farmland.

The urban/residential conservation committee has established a mission statement - to protect and enhance the natural resources of the urban and residential areas of Des Moines County through programs of conservation and environmental awareness/education. The long term goal of the committee is to enhance understanding of and appreciation for the interdependencies among the urban and rural communities. Establishment of an urban/residential conservation planning position to work with developers, cities, contractors, and the general public is one of the committee's objectives.

During 1996, the committee will be expanding its members and setting some shorter term goals. We will also be working on some long term sources of funding.

Land Disturbing Activities

by Mike Lewitke - District Conservator

Land disturbing activities are on the rise in Des Moines County. Defined here as construction/development projects where extensive earth-moving takes place, it's hard to go anywhere and not see it. Cities and towns are expanding outward, for industrial, commercial, and residential development. Highways are being widened to four lanes and by-passing towns. Subdivisions are going up in rural areas. With the activity comes extensive earth-moving to shape the land to fit these needs. One of the concerns of all this earth-moving is the impact on the environment and the existing infrastructure (sewers, roads, etc.).

When soil is disturbed, it is vulnerable to the elements of wind and rain. A construction area can be the source of tons of soil washing into a nearby stream or filling a road ditch or clogging a sewer. Not only can this impair fisheries and wildlife habitat, it can cause our taxes to go up as a result of municipalities having to do more maintenance and cleanup.

Fortunately, lessons from the past have prompted state and local governments to pass legislation that address these concerns. An example of recent action is the Subdivision Ordinance adopted by Des Moines County. Among other things the ordinance requires that the developer of a subdivision submit their plans for controlling soil erosion during and after construction. It also allows for personnel from the Natural Resources Conservation Service to review soil erosion control activities on-site during construction and to advise of any needed corrections.

As parts of our county become more urban, and we find ourselves in closer proximity to our neighbors, what we do to our property impacts others. Being sensitive to that fact will make for better neighbors, whether we're talking about a two lot subdivision or a new shopping mall.

Agricultural Waste Management

By John Horan, Technician

There has been a lot of attention given lately to ag waste, both pro and con. This article is being written to help land users understand what is available for them, both in the capture and storage plus the utilization of ag waste.

The State of Iowa has a cost-share program for ag waste called Organic Nutrient Management Program (ONMP). ONMP is available to help interested individuals construct ag waste systems and better utilize ag waste.

By capturing the waste and applying it in an appropriate manner, the waste is better utilized by crops and prevents the contamination of both surface and underground water supplies.

There are many types of structures that can be used to accomplish this. It may be as extensive as a pond or lagoon type structure used to store waste or as simple as a settling basin at the lower end of a lot area to prevent the solids from entering a stream. A dry stacking facility is another structure which may be used or a combination of the above mentioned structures.

The availability of nutrients (nitrogen, phosphate, and potash) in ag waste can also be calculated. This is known as an ag waste utilization plan. These calculations prevent the over-application of ag waste to the soil. As mentioned before, this makes it possible for plants to better utilize the nutrients because they have been applied in the proper amounts for productivity. It also prevents the excess nutrients from being washed into a stream or leached into your underground water supply.

Anyone interested in signing up for ONMP funds or having a problem with ag waste management, may contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office for more information.

Dean Christensen Construction

Tiling • Terracing • Dragline
• Backhoe Work

We offer our Congratulations to
the Des Moines County Soil &
Water Conservation District
on reaching their
**GOLDEN
ANNIVERSARY!**

Dean Christensen Construction
New London, Iowa 52645
(319) 367-2720

Congratulations

to the Des Moines County
Soil & Water Conservation
District on 50 years of
service!



**Darwin Campbell
Excavating**

Mediapolis, IA
313-937-5701



Wildlife Food Plots

By Tom Birkenstock, District Commissioner

I think wildlife food plots are very important as a major food source for wild animals.

I usually put in three or four plots of less than one acre apiece. One or two plots are usually corn and one each of soybeans and sorghum. The sorghum plots seem to hold more game birds such as pheasants and quail. The corn plots help the deer and turkeys.

Equally important, though, are good nesting sites next to the food plots. I try to plan these plots on CRP ground along or next to the timber lines. Having a good source of water also helps maintain the wildlife population.

Over the last six years, I have noticed a substantial increase in the pheasant population, whereas the quail has recovered somewhat slower. Turkeys seem to be more plentiful and the deer population is about the same.

Anyone interested in planting food plots can contact any Pheasants Forever member and they can provide you with free seed along with prairie grasses for nesting.

Congratulations...

**DES MOINES COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

on your
50th Anniversary!



Gabeline Trucking

Dan & Dave
Gabeline
RR 1 Box 239 Yarmouth, Iowa (319) 865-7121
Morning Sun, Ia 52640 (319) 868-7990

Seed - Grain Buyers - Hauling

FULLERTON BUILDING CENTER YOUR COMPLETE LUMBER AND BUILDING SUPPLY CENTER

• Lumber • Windows
• Insulation • Paint
• Kitchens • Plywood
• Doors • Roofing
• Electrical • Plumbing
• Paneling • Remodeling

Fullerton Building Center

Congratulations on your Golden
Anniversary Des Moines County Soil
& Water Conservation District!

201 E. Agency Road
West Burlington, IA
319-754-7521

Carhartt



We carry one of the largest stocks of
Carhartt Clothing in the **MIDWEST**
Work, hunting, western and casual clothing -
Sizes 18 months to size 60.

MESLER SUPPLY, INC.

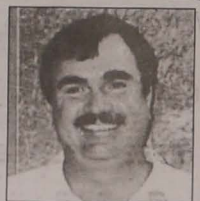
202-212 BROADWAY ST. P.O. BOX 375
WEST BURLINGTON, IA 52655
PHONE: 319-752-9515

**HAPPY GOLDEN
ANNIVERSARY!**
Des Moines County
Soil and Water
Conservation District

Your **TOTAL** Window & Siding
Headquarters! Check our
prices before
you buy -

**SCHROCK
LUMBER CO.**

One Stop
Building Service
Mediapolis, IA
394-3964



Congratulations Des Moines
County Soil & Water
Conservation District on your
50th Anniversary!

*We Salute the World's Most Efficient
& Responsible dealers!*
Big Results in a Small Company

Querna Seed Company
21783 Hwy 34 Danville, IA
319-392-8383





Earth Team Volunteers

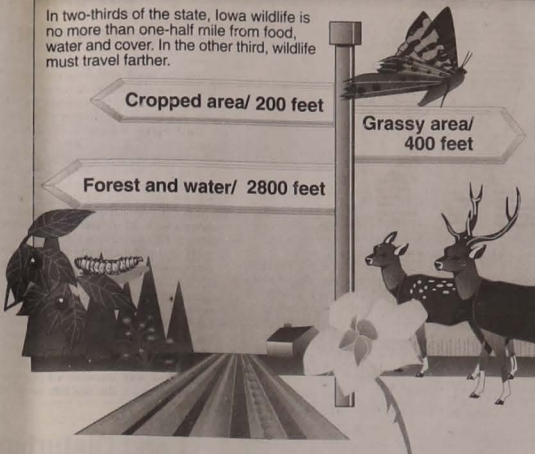
The Earth Team is a program that allows a volunteer to work side by side with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service professionals who are committed to helping people protect and conserve the Earth's natural resources.

The duties of an Earth Team Volunteer can vary from computer entry to field survey to teaching children about our natural resources. An ET volunteer can work full or part time.

According to our records, volunteers who have served the Des Moines County SWCD and the NRCS office during 1946-1996 are Cindy Anderson, Donald Andrews, Robert Barnes Jr., Craig Bartlett, Darrel Belzer, John Bibby, Francene Caryl, Elizabeth Christiansen, Robert Darby, Wayne Davis, Jamie Dehner, Karen Devilbiss, Sherry Dickenson, Richard Douglas, Kara Ewinger, Norma Ford, Jeff Gehring, Pierce Giffin, Max Hopkins, Tim Hoschek, Bryan Humphrey, Susan Johnson, Neil Knobloch, Cynthia Mathews, Kevin Michaels, Doyle Moyers, Cara Musselman, Larry Nuss, Jeff Pate, Malcolm Patterson, Linda Pfau, Tim Rich, Don Roelfs, Grayline Ross, John J. Skourup, Ronald Slaughter, Robert Sogard, Lisa Taylor, Karen Titus, Steve Waldorf, Corrine Wallman, Penny Williams, and James Wilson.

Wildlife cover

In two-thirds of the state, Iowa wildlife is no more than one-half mile from food, water and cover. In the other third, wildlife must travel farther.



Source: National Resources Inventory, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. NRI data cover the 48 contiguous states, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, but not Alaska.

Farmers and Wildlife

A survey conducted by the Utah State University shows that farmers are good to wildlife and go out of their way to nurture wild animals. United Press International reported survey results that show 51 percent of farmers said they purposely provide habitat, 50 percent leave crop residue for wildlife and 39 percent provide cover for wildlife near their fields. The survey also showed that 41 percent of farmers provide water sources and 15 percent purposely leave some crops unharvested for wild animals. Combined, the survey indicated that the nation's 2 million farmers spend about 25 million hours and more than \$300 million to care for wildlife.



Happy Golden Anniversary!
We offer our **Congratulations** on the **50 years of service** provided by the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District.

CONSERVE THE LAND

MARK LARSON CONSTRUCTION CO.
86334 30TH AVE.
DANVILLE, IA 52846
(319) 768-3303

TERRACE CLEARING PONDS
ALL TYPES OF EARTHWORK

All your ag financing needs from a single source!

Complete ag credit

- A line of credit for operating expenses.
- Installment financing or leasing for machinery, equipment, and other capital purchases.
- Long-term financing for real estate.
- An organized plan balances these credit needs with regard to terms, interest rates, and payment schedules.



Farm Credit Services
Production Credit Association
Federal Land Credit Association
1010 East Washington
Mt. Pleasant, Iowa 52641
1-800-235-1728

'GOOD DEALS'

Breeze on in for our 'Big Blowout Parts Sale'

You'll be blown away by all the great savings on 'GOOD Deals' parts from John Deere.

Light Utility Battery

U1 12-volt, dry, 165 CCA, 23-minute reserve capacity. For John Deere and other brands of lawn and garden tractors, riding mowers. 24-month warranty. Reg. \$27.14.



\$18⁹⁵

Sale ends April 15.

Penetrating Oil

Loosens the toughest locked up and rusted parts. Stops binding and squeaking. 12-oz. spray. Reg. \$3.59.

\$2⁵⁹

Sale ends April 15.



TY15970

We have good deals on all the parts you need for your John Deere and other equipment, too.

Stop in today! Sale ends April 15.

HASSENFRITZ & CO.



Mediapolis, IA

319-985-2173

Congratulations to the District on 50 years of service!



TILING AND GENERAL DRAIN INSTALLING
WILLIAMS EXCAVATION
ROUTE 2 DANVILLE, IA 319-392-4608



Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District
Thank you for 50 years of dedication

For all your fertilizer needs contact...



Mediapolis, Iowa
(319) 394-3731

One hard workin' partner

Cropmate COMPANY



Celebrating the Past, Preparing the Future

By Jim Gulliford, Director, Division of Soil Conservation
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

A hearty congratulations to the people of Des Moines County on the 50th anniversary of the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District.

As you look back over the last 50 years, you have much to be proud of. Your district has diligently addressed the soil conservation needs of your farmers and made many contributions to community needs, as well.

The agricultural landscape of Des Moines County provides vivid evidence of the conservation accomplishments of the district. Mile after mile of terrace systems, crop rows following the contour of the land, and hundreds of thousands of acres planted with crop residue on the surface, protect the soil from erosion and assure its long term productivity. These conservation practices are both beautiful to behold and effective erosion barriers.

Another important district contribution has been the conservation education provided for your children. Taking time to talk with children about conservation plants important seeds that will be harvested in the future.

In the final analysis, the real value of past conservation efforts will be realized in the future. The farmers of Iowa stand poised to enter a new generation of agriculture. We will be called on to feed more and more of the world's people from fewer and fewer acres of farmland. We will face new challenges of farming compatibly with the environment. And we will need to continue to sharpen our management skills to remain profitable and successful business people.

But when you look across the landscape of Des Moines County, and see the success that has been achieved by your farmers and your district, it is easy to face the future confidently. The efforts of the past have laid a solid foundation for the future, both on the land and in your children. That, more than anything else, is reason to celebrate the first fifty years of soil and water conservation in Des Moines County.

Teasel

By Brad Halterman, Des Moines County Roadside Biologist

Teasel, one little word, one big problem. Teasel has been and continues to be Des Moines County's number one noxious weed problem.

Teasel is a biennial weed that reproduces seed. The first year, the plant forms a rosette. The second year, you can find teasel with a stiff branched stem. It grows to a height of 3 to 10 feet tall. The leaves fuse together at the base to form a cup. The seed heads are cone shaped with each head producing hundreds of seeds. Teasel flowers in July and August.

Control for teasel can take in a couple different forms. One thing is for certain—destruction must take place before the plant produces seed.

Cultivation is one method of control. Cultivating is probably the most widely used method. It not only can destroy already existing plants, but can stir up other seeds in the soil that can germinate and then be destroyed. Badly infested fields should be plowed in autumn to destroy the teasel rosettes.

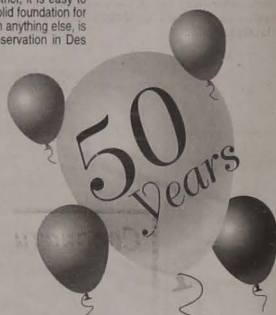
Mowing is another form of control for teasel. When teasel has been allowed to become large enough that cultivation won't destroy it, or when teasel is in a place where cultivation isn't practiced, the plant can be stopped from producing seed by mowing close to the ground. If only a single mowing can be made, the best time is when the plants begin to blossom. When mowed at this stage, the reserve food supply stored in the roots have been nearly depleted, and the new seeds have not been produced yet.

Smother crops is another way to control teasel. A thick stand of another crop that can out compete the weed would eradicate the problem. The use of native grasses is one of the best long term solutions I can offer. The native grasses develop vast root systems, not allowing the room needed for teasel roots. The native grasses also supply have above ground cover that doesn't allow the start of the teasel growth process.

The use of chemicals is the last way of control I'll offer up. Of course, the Iowa codes and laws concerning pesticide application need to be followed. A knowledge of the chemicals suited for the situation is also important. The one main point I would like to emphasize though, is that the chemical must be applied to teasel before seeds are produced. Chemicals work best on teasel while they are in the rosette stage.

Teasel is found in all areas of Des Moines County, both in the road right of way and on private ground. I, being Weed Commissioner for the county, have a job to do. That job is to eradicate as many noxious weeds from the county as I can. I do that in three main ways. I educate and help landowners in the best way to take care of their individual problem. I follow and use the control methods for noxious weeds in the road right of way. I also, if need arises, implement the law on private ground to control weeds. The last method doesn't need to take place if we all do our part.

It is up to all of us to make sure this county is better when we leave it than it was when we got here. Noxious weed control is a small part of that, but not a part to be underestimated. My Roadside Technician and I will be doing our part. I'll be checking on the private sector also, making sure that part is done. I'm just asking that we all do our part to start getting Des Moines County noxious weeds eliminated.



Southeastern Community College Preparing Tomorrow's Food Production Specialists



In these areas

- ♦ Agriculture Production
- ♦ Ag Supplies and Services
- ♦ Swine Confinement

Contact: Arlyn Musselman
Agriculture Programs Supervisor
1015 South Gear Avenue
319-752-2731 Ext. 153
800-828-7322 Ext. 153

The W.K. Kellogg foundation supports the Iowa Community College vision for food systems professions education (FSPE) which states: Iowa is a large successful family. Its greatest strength is in an ever-changing global community its family members, who are educated by a world class food systems profession education.

THANK YOU!

The Des Moines County Soybean Association would like to say THANKS to the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District for fifty years of outstanding service!

— And —

Would like to announce that The Des Moines County Soybean Association and Des Moines County Corn Growers will hold their joint county annual meeting TUESDAY MARCH 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the Parish Hall in Dodgeville. We hope that you can attend! DON'T MISS IT!



Congratulations to the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District on 50 years!

Mel & Cays Iowa Tavern
Fine Food and Drink
2103 Des Moines Ave.
Across from Case Co.
Burlington, IA 52601
319-753-2634

Congratulations to the District on their 50th!



Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District people are the experts!

BRT, Inc.

Burlington River Terminal
500 Cash St.
P.O. Box 884
Burlington, IA 52601

Congratulations on your 50th Anniversary Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District!



333 N. Roosevelt Burlington, Iowa
208 Wapello Mediapolis, Iowa

Congratulations!

Happy 50th Anniversary
Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District

YEARS
Mediapolis Savings Bank
"Your Community Bank"

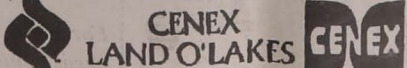
605 Main Mediapolis, Iowa 52637 (319) 394-3191
Member FDIC
M-T-W 8AM to 3PM
Thur. - Sat. 8AM to 12PM
Fri. 8AM to 5:30PM

Happy Anniversary

Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District!



FARMERS COOPERATIVE



NEW LONDON, IOWA 52645 (319) 387-2238
MT. UNION, IOWA 52644 (319) 865-5000
DANVILLE, IOWA 52623 (319) 392-4373
CENEX STATION, NEW LONDON (319) 387-2231
DENMARK, IOWA 52624 (319) 528-4407



We congratulate the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District on their outstanding service, their accomplishments and their golden anniversary. FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK & TRUST

Symbol of Financial Strength and Stability

Five locations to serve you

3rd & Jefferson (Main Bank) - Depts:
• Bookkeeping • 754-2260 • Loan • 754-2240 • Trust • 754-2250 •
General Information and Main Office • 752-3661
1600 Osborn • 4th & Valley (Drive-in) • Fairway Center • Oakville Bank 319-766-1151



District Activities during 1995

January
-Election of Officers for 1995 resulted as follows: Chairperson- Jeff Bergman; Vice Chairperson- Sherman Smith.
-Appointments for 1995 resulted as follows: Treasurer- Jeff Bergman; Secretary- Mike Lewitke; RC&D Executive Board- Sherman Smith; Education Committee- Tom Birkenstock; Assistant Commissioners- Arlyn Musselman and Horace Sulton.
-Jamie Fair started as State Secretary.

February
-Mike Schwenker and Rick Quema were appointed Assistant Commissioners.
-Jamie Fair was appointed District Secretary.
-NACD Dues were paid.

March
-Conservation Farmer Appreciation Program Banquet was held March 2 at Dodgeville. This banquet was in conjunction with the Soybean Producers and Corn Growers Association annual meetings.
-IASWCDC Dues were paid.
-Civil Rights Memo of Understanding was reviewed by the Commissioners.

April
-Brad Weiss was appointed Assistant Commissioner.
-A \$500 donation was given to Tri-State Agricultural Education Foundation for a scholarship.
-Natural Resources Conservation Month was observed.
-A Long Range Plan Committee was formed consisting of Smith, Schwenker, Birkenstock and Musselman.

May
-Mike Lewitke, DC, gave a presentation at the New London Elementary School campout.
-Soil & Water Stewardship Week was April 30-May 7.
-Carol Staff was nominated Division III New Cooperator winner and Charles Nealey was voted Division I Owner-Operator winner in the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards program. Nealey was also chosen as the overall winner to represent the District in regional competition.
-50th Anniversary Committee formed consisting of Hedges and Weiss.

June
-Bergman was appointed REAP County Committee Representative.

July
-The District was notified that Charles Nealey was selected as the Region 9 winner for the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

August
-A Strategic Planning meeting was held in Keosauqua on August 2 for Commissioners. Bergman, Smith and Lewitke attended.

September
-Annual Conference was held September 7-8 in Des Moines. Smith attended.
-The 13th CRP sign up was held September 11-22.

October
-Laura Wagner-Ertz was appointed Assistant Commissioner.
-An Urban Conservation Education committee was formed. Bergman and Lewitke are on this committee.

November
-A fund raising letter was mailed out November 30

December
-7 CRP bids were accepted into the 13th sign-up.

Happy Golden Anniversary!



Hertz
Farm Management, Inc.
Serving Agriculture Since 1946
Hertz Farm Management strongly supports soil and water conservation. We have received county, state and national recognition for our conservation efforts.
HERTZ FARM MANAGEMENT, Inc.
102 Palisades Road
Mt. Vernon, IA 52314
319-895-8858
Farm Management-Real Estate-Appraisals



Happy 50th!
We congratulate the District on their job well done for 50 years! Your efforts have been and continue to be needed!
Des Moines County Cattlemens Association



ROBERTS TIRE SERVICE
BILL ROBERTS - OWNER
AUTOS TRUCKS RV'S
DISTRIBUTORS
Multi-Mile
ALSO USED TIRES - TUBES
ASK ABOUT OUR LIFETIME GUARANTEE
COMPLETE ON THE FARM TIRE SERVICE
VISA MasterCard Discover
753-6586
1220 MT PLEASANT ST - BURLINGTON



We Congratulate and Thank the Des Moines County Conservation District!
HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY!
ASGROW.
DEAN TAEGER
Sperry, IA 319-985-2417

CONGRATULATIONS!

1995 Iowa Master Grain Growers Contest Winners in Des Moines County!



JoAnn Duke
Asgrow RX 770— 190.98 bushel corn/acre



Scott Taeger
Asgrow RX 770— 189.26 bushel corn/acre



Dennis Duke
Asgrow RX 770— 188.53 bushel corn/acre

Des Moines County people placing in District 12: JoAnn Duke- Winner, Scott Taeger-Runner-Up, Jerry Miller-Winner & Runner-Up



ASGROW®
DEAN TAEGER
Sperry, IA 319-985-2417



Dean Taeger
Asgrow RX 770— 188.53 bushel corn/acre



Jerry Miller
Asgrow RX 789— 178.66 bushel corn/acre
Asgrow A 3237 Beans— 59.9 /acre



Tom Heckenberg
No Till Asgrow RX 770— 145.53 bushel corn/acre