

**IDA COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

***1994
Annual Report***

104 Taylor Street
Ida Grove, Iowa 51445

Phone: 712-364-2124

PERSONNEL

Commissioners

Alan Van Houten,
Chairperson, Battle Creek
Rodney Jensen,
Vice-Chairperson, Ida Grove
Robert Croxell, Holstein
Lloyd Rickers, Kiron
Everett Still, Cushing

Staff

Neil Stockfleth,
District Conservationist
Jerry Sindt,
Soil Conservationist
Randy Sohm,
Soil Conservation Technician
Carl Lee,
State Soil Conservation Technician
Carol Thomson,
Soil Conservation Technician
Arlis Bahnsen,
State Secretary
Barbara Knudsen, W.A.E.
Ron Winterhof, W.A.E.

As Commissioners of your Soil and Water Conservation District, we are pleased to present this 1994 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

1994 Soil Conservation Awards Program Winners

Soil Conservation Awards Program for Iowa
Owner-Operator: Roger & Linda Hanson

Landlord-Tenant: Edna Dittmer
Loren & Audrey Dittmer
Kent Dittmer, Operator

Quad States Conservation Awards

Progress Award:
Walter Hammerstrom Trust
Helen Hammerstrom
Larry & Joann Dose, Operator

District Conservation Award:
Ray & Gloria Ellerbusch
Luane & Cheryl Todd, Operators

Take Pride In America Award
Alan & Pat Siebrecht, David Jensen,
Barbara Martin, Beverly Jensen

Sandra Thorborg, Mark Thorborg
David Thorborg

Farm Management Conservation Award
Landowner/Farm Manager: Edith Kerr Estate
Mary Helen Scully, Katherine H. Kramer
Richard Hagemeier, Farm Manager
Brent Bower, Operator

Isaac Walton Windbreak Award
Farmstead
Wendell & Elaine Rohlf

Ida County SWCD Scholarship Award
Tricia Wittrock

Ida County

SWCD Conservation Poster Contest

Morgan Hanson:
District, Regional & State Winner

Meghan Thomson:
District & Regional Winner

Colin Lee:
District & Regional Winner

Lisa Peters:
District Winner

Judd Thomson:
District Winner

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.

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DISTRICT ACTIVITIES - 1994

The Ida County SWCD (Soil & Water Conservation District) Commissioners meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the district office. All meetings are open to the public. (Open Meeting Law.)

JULY: District agreed to co-sponsor a Contractor Equipment Field Day. Commissioners filled out a survey on the 1995 Farm Bill. District sponsored a booth at the Ida County Fair and held drawings for five adult sweat-shirts and five children t-shirts.

AUGUST: Commissioners Rickers and Van Houten attended the Iowa State Fair and manned the Iowa Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioner booth for an afternoon. District received \$8,640 for the Organic Nutrient Waste Management Program.

SEPTEMBER: Commissioners Still, Van Houten and Croxell attended the Fall Regional Meeting in LeMars. Still was selected

"Outstanding Commissioner" in Region 1. District sent a letter to legislators supporting the proposed reorganization of USDA, encouraging that Soil Conservation Service be kept as a separate Natural Resources Agency.

OCTOBER: Commissioners approved a motion to allow REAP-Practices Funds to be utilized for Waste Management Systems throughout the county, as well as for terraces in the Soldier Township Watershed. Watershed repairs on two sites were completed.

NOVEMBER: Still, Croxell, and Van Houten attended the Quad States Conservation Awards Banquet in South Sioux City. Still, Croxell, and Rickers attended the Farm Expo 2000 and Annual Commissioners' Meeting in Ames.

DECEMBER: Commissioners held a special meeting to approve three farm plans. Staff attended the Area Meeting in Cherokee. Ida County Field Office received a Superior Accomplishment Award for Fiscal Year 1993 for conservation practices installed. Don Kauffman announced his retirement effective January 3rd. Sindt will be Acting District Conservationist. Mary Jane Olney, State Field Representative, completed evaluation of State Employees in the Field Office.

JANUARY: A special organizational meeting was held. Van Houten was elected Chairperson; Rod Jensen was elected Vice-Chairperson; and Arlis Bahnsen was named District Secretary/Treasurer. Ida County District, along with four other counties and ag businesses co-sponsored the Tri-State Residue Management Expo in Sioux City. An Open House was hosted by the District honoring Don Kauffman for 26 years of service. Summer cost-share incentive of 65% for Little Sioux Funds and 60% for State Funds was approved. A special meeting was held to approve average costs for terraces. The Annual Meeting was held.

FEBRUARY: A luncheon for MAX participants was hosted by the District. Ida County was the top county in the state for the number of participants in MAX. Area Conservationist, Dave Beck, attended District Meeting. District hosted a Contractors' Meeting.

MARCH: Ida County District hosted the Spring Regional Meeting in Holstein. District purchased a Xerox Copier for the office. Tricia Wittrock was selected as recipient of the District Scholarship of \$75 and her application was forwarded for regional competition. Poster contest winners were Morgan Hanson, Meghan Thomson, Colin Lee, Judd Thomson and Lisa Peters. Brian Wolterman was submitted by the District for the Hagie Heritage Award for outstanding service to the environment. District set a policy to cost-share on sodbusted land at the rate of 25%.

APRIL: Neil Stockfleth reported to Ida County as District Conservationist. Soil Conservation Service offered a buy-out to employees. Eight employees in Area I retired due to the buy-out. A Cooperative Agreement with the Federal Government was approved to supply funding for Engineering for seven Waste Management and Utilization Systems and layout assistance for 81,000 feet of terraces. Ella Droegmiller was recruited as a volunteer. The Supplemental Memo Of Understanding on Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights was reviewed.

MAY: District sponsored a high residue soybean planting demonstration on the Glenn Goodenow Farm. Stockfleth met with 5th grade students throughout the county to demonstrate tree planting. Each student in the county received a small tree. Watershed inspection in the county was completed. 84,000 feet of terraces were completed in the county this spring. District furnished Stewardship Materials to area churches.

JUNE: Iowa Financial Incentive Voluntary Funds allocation for 94-95 was \$49,718; 1-M Funds, \$2,500. REAP Funds will be substantially cut. District set a policy allowing

No-Interest Loan Funds to be used for waterway construction only from June 15th to September 15th. Planning is underway to celebrate the District's 50th Anniversary in 1995. Conservation Award recipients were selected. District wrote a letter to legislators encouraging support for the Little Sioux Flood Prevention Program.

Ida County Soil and Water Conservation District and Soil Conservation Service Accomplishments

**Fiscal Year 1993-94
October 1, 1993 - September 30, 1994**

Individuals Assisted (tracts)	526
Individuals Applying Practices (tracts)	220
Conservation Systems	
Fully Applied (acres)	9,618
Conservation Tillage (acres)	8,965
Contour Farming (acres)	6,514
Farmstead Windbreaks (acres)	22
Field Borders (feet)	419,700
Terraces (feet)	753,805
Cropland Treated (acres)	19,925

DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT

(July 1, 1993 - June 30, 1994)

1-M	\$4,170.00
Expenses: Printing,	
Office, Commissioners	<u>4,170.00</u>
Balance Released to State	\$.00
3-M Cost-Share Funds (93-94)	\$115,643.00
(For Conservation Practices)	
Obligated & Spent	<u>\$115,643.00</u>
Balance Released to State	\$.00
REAP - Practices Funds	\$ 22,935.00
Obligated & Spent	<u>22,935.00</u>
Balance Released to State	\$.00
REAP - Forestry/Native Grasses Funds	\$5,586.00
Obligated & Spent	<u>4,438.75</u>
Balance Released to State	\$1,147.25
Organic Nutrient Management Funds	\$8,640.00
Obligated	<u>8,640.00</u>
Cancelled & Released to State	\$8,640.00
(Due to Engineering Assistance Shortfall)	
Watershed Maintenance (Savings)	\$10,100.23
Income	\$2,243.79
Expense	<u>4,600.00</u>
Balance 6/30/94	\$7,744.02
Watershed Maintenance (Checking)	\$2,317.89
Income	\$8,247.23
Expense	<u>9,284.93</u>
Balance 6/30/94	\$1,280.19
Watershed CD's	\$81,000.00
General Fund (Savings)	\$2,293.44
Income	\$ 25.75
Expense	<u>2,000.00</u>
Balance 6/30/94	\$ 319.19
General Fund (Checking)	\$ 292.08
Income	\$33,838.32
Expense	<u>34,116.34</u>
Balance 6/30/94	\$ 14.06
General Fund CDs	\$31,300.00