



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

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## News Release

September 17, 2001

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### Webster County Soil Survey Kick-Off

**Fort Dodge**—A First-Acre Ceremony to start the Webster County Soil Survey update will take place at Webster County Fairgrounds September 18<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. The ceremony marks the beginning of a five-year, \$750,000 multi agency effort to catalog the different types of soils found in Webster County.

According to Mike Sucik, State Soil Scientist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, "We're using better technology to update and improve the soils data used in Webster County. With over 18,000 types of soils found in the United States, soils differ in suitability for various uses based on soil properties. The update will more than pay for itself by giving accurate information needed for citizens to make informed land use decisions."

Soil surveys are conducted to systematically identify what types of soils are found in various locations within an area. Farmers, developers, homebuyers, planners, engineers, and others use the results to match land use to specific soil properties. Conservationists, wildlife management, and pollution control experts use the survey to help them understand, protect and enhance the environment.

The Webster County soil survey update is sponsored by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Webster County Conference Board, Division of Soil Conservation-Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Webster County Board of Supervisors, Iowa State University, ISU Extension, and the Iowa Geological Survey.

Soil surveys are available at county NRCS field offices, extension offices, public libraries, and conservation district offices.

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