

MILLS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR '74

FIRST - We would like to take this opportunity to say "THANK YOU" to the Department of Soil Conservation, Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service, County Extension, Schools, Service Clubs, Banks, Churches, Newspapers and all the many other groups who helped us carry out a successful Soil and Water Conservation Program. And a very special "THANK YOU" goes to the more than 110 individuals in Mills County who sent donations to help further our program.

An "OUTDOOR CLASSROOM" has been started at the Malvern Community High School. More than 40 varieties of grass and legume plants are planned. Both warm and cool season grasses are planned in the project. Each grass plot is 210 square feet. Ten plants of each species of trees and shrubs, totaling over 50 varieties were planned for this classroom. To date, many of the grass plots and tree and shrub plantings are finished and looking good. Today, School programs often provide the only opportunity for many young and old citizens to learn how they depend on natural resources and how man's use and care of soil, water and air affect our environment. Much can be learned from textbooks, lectures and discussions. But, in an outdoor classroom, children can learn directly from the natural environment as well as about it.

On May 22, 1974, The Supreme Court reversed the decision of the trial court and upheld the joint decision of the Mills and Fremont Counties Soil Conservation Districts establishing the Waubonsie Subdistrict. Land rights maps and easements are now being prepared. Hopefully a contract can be let in the spring of 1975 for the first structure.

In Pony Creek Watershed -- To date, all but one of the 22 grade stabilization structures have been completed. The one left to be done is the road structure where the 4.3 miles of channel will begin. This is expected to be started in 1975.

REMEMBER: POLLUTION IS A CONVENIENCE -- NOT A NECESSITY!

NEW OFFICE PERSONNEL

We have two new faces in our office since our last annual report. Richard Maaske was hired in November, by the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation as a full-time State Conservation Aide in Mills County.

Mr. Maaske graduated from Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson in 1965 and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Northwest Missouri State University early in 1973.

He worked with the Iowa State Highway Commission in 1967 and the summer and fall of 1973. Rich served in the U.S. Army from 1967-1970 and did tours of duty in both Vietnam and Korea.

He and his wife presently reside in Red Oak where Mrs. Maaske is employed at Ted Sparr Accounting.

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Pat Pisarik was assigned in February, by the Iowa State University Experiment Station as a member of the Mills County Standard Soil Survey Party. In June, Pat became a Federal employee with the Soil Conservation Service.

He will work with John Nixon, Party Leader and Willie Bragg, Soil Scientist.

Pat is from Mt. Vernon, Iowa and was graduated from Iowa State with a B.S. in Forestry and a B.S. in Soil Science. He worked previously for the Forest Service.

Pat and his wife Sue are residing in Hastings, Iowa where she is employed by Botna Valley Grain.

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WHAT ELSE IS NEW?

State cost-sharing is something different than we have had before. To our knowledge, Iowa is the only state to appropriate money to cost-share with the farmers on erosion control practices. The program has been well received and the money went very fast. Thirty-eight farmers received cost-share money from state funds in fiscal year 1974.

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Alice Washburn was the first place winner in the oil painting contest sponsored by the Mills County Soil Conservation District. The oranges and browns of her wildlife, sunset scene are really very beautiful.

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Commissioner election was held during the Mills County Fair. Harold Tackett and Roger Jackson were elected to serve six year terms as Conservation Commissioners. Albert Washburn is now serving his 17th year as Chairman of the commissioners and Harold Tackett is serving his second year as vice-chairman.

EXPENDITURES OF STATE FUNDS

1-M BUDGET

Allocation \$1400.00

Commissioners Expense \$324.39

Office Supplies 379.09

Printing 167.60

Prizes for Contests 120.00

Materials for Demonstrations 11.30

Office Expense 315.84

Meeting Expense 43.84

TOTAL EXPENSES \$1362.06

Balance released \$37.94

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II-M BUDGET

Allocation \$11111.00

Salaries - State Clerk & State Aide \$9814.50

Mileage 67.92

F.I.C.A. 574.14

I.P.E.R.S. 343.51

Health Insurance 285.00

Life Insurance 57.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$11142.07

Balance - 31.07

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DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

	Number	Amount
District Cooperators	22	1,069 ac.

Conservation Plans and Revisions	155/	4,132 ac.
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Services to single land units	860	
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Landowners receiving technical assistance	247	
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Level Terraces		15,875 ft.
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Parallel Terraces		154,575 ft.
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Basin Terraces		3,215 ft.
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Detailed Soil Survey		60,416.5 ac.
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This report is respectfully submitted by: Albert Washburn, Chairman;

Harold Tackett, Vice-chairman; William Stacy, Glen Sell and Roger Jackson

Commissioners of the Mills County Soil Conservation District.

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION FOR CITY OF GLENWOOD

14 square miles - or - 8960 acre area of the City of Glenwood and surrounding area is the basis for the I & E. Used as base maps are 2 plain aerial photos and 2 soils maps. Map scale is 8" = 1 mile.

Color coded acetate overlays were prepared for the following land uses: cropland; embankments, dikes & levees; foundations for low buildings; golf fairways; grassland; intensive campsites; intensive play areas and playgrounds; light industrial sites; local roads and streets; paths and trails; picnic areas; pond reservoir areas; road fill material; septic tank disposal fields; sewage lagoons; shallow excavations; terraces and diversions; underground utilities; woodland suitabilities.

An 84 page book was printed to explain the color code, definition of limitations; mapping units; explanation of mapping symbols; map signs and symbols and explanation of erosion groups. Also there are pages for definition, soil properties and soil limitations for each of the 22 land uses.

Included in the book are Iowa -2's for each soil mapped in the inventory area. This form contains a description of the soil, yield prediction for the major crops grown in this area, woodland suitability, engineering information and suitability of soil as resource material.

With larger areas of soil being devoted to housing, factories, highways, etc., there is an increasing danger of costly mistakes in locating structures on soil unsuited to the particular purpose. In many communities, experience has focused attention on the importance of matching soil characteristics to the requirements for a specific use. Regional and community planners, as well as soil scientists, are aware of this need and are joining forces to deal with problems ranging in scope from broad regional land use planning to specifications for individual structure sites.

The purpose of these soil interpretations are to point out types and degree of limitations which might make use of certain soils for any given purpose better than other soils. Limitations shown as slight, moderate and severe, do not mean these soils cannot be used for any certain purpose, but are meant to point out the type of limitations which need to be overcome.

These interpretations are based on a study of the upper five feet of the soil profile. These evaluations do not replace the need for detailed on-site investigations by qualified engineers, soil scientists or geologists. They do, however, recognize areas that may require alternate management and design to alleviate future problems.