

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES

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8 Times, Vinton, Iowa, February 6, 1978

News and Views



...from your

Soil Conservation District

Several landowners consulted with the District Forester, Bob Hibbs, about wildlife plantings when he was in the district office. It's not too late to order trees from the State Nursery at Ames. These trees are for wildlife plantings, Christmas tree production, etc., and can be purchased at a low price. Check at the district office for more information.

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YOU DON'T HAVE TO CONTOUR ALL YOUR SLOPING ACRES — ONLY THE ONES YOU WANT TO KEEP! Have you thought about contouring to save soil? By running your row pattern around the hill rather than up and down the hill, soil loss can be reduced by about 50 percent on sloping land. Staff from our office will be glad to help you lay out a contour line to follow. An added bonus is a \$4 per acre payment made from the federal cost share program on land that is being contoured for the first time. Come in and look at the soil and land use maps of your farm to check on the soil loss you are presently having and see how much it could be reduced. After all, do you

want that precious topsoil on your farm or at the mouth of the Mississippi?

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As the construction season approaches, don't forget the standard safety rules. If you have, or suspect you have, underground gas, electric or telephone lines on your property and are planning some type of construction work, remember to notify your contractor or others who might be operating machinery. This precaution could save you anything from a little inconvenience, or a small dollar expense, to something as important as human lives and thousands of dollars worth of machinery and property. If you aren't sure what might be buried under your land, check with the utility companies in your area.

"News and Views" is prepared by Floyd Peters and his staff at the district soil office in Vinton. Questions, comments or column ideas should be directed to Floyd Peters at his office in the agriculture building in Vinton.