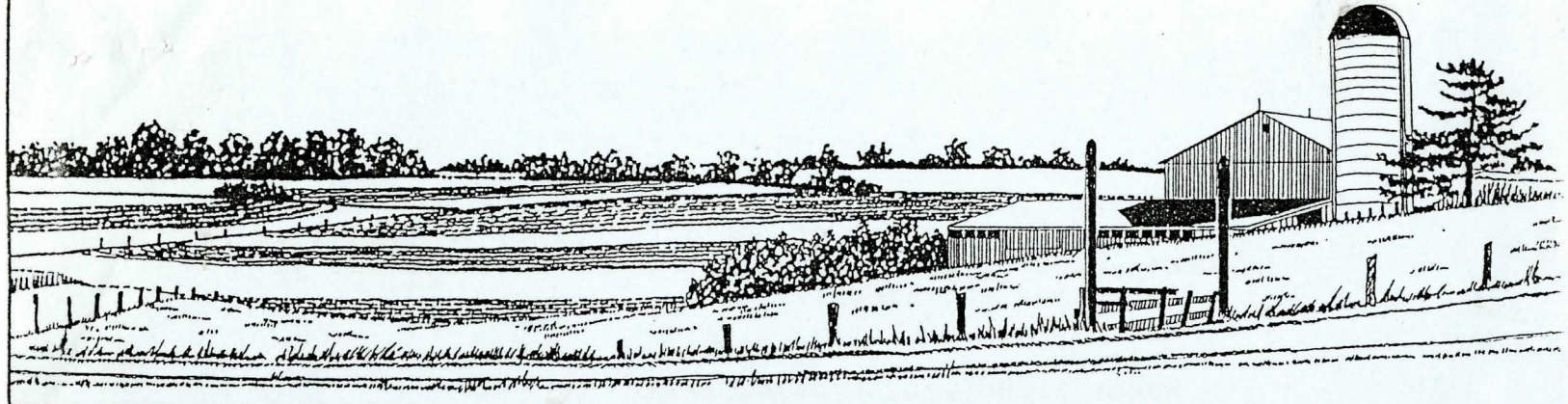




Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District
1104 Derek Lincoln Drive
West Burlington, IA 52655
319-753-6221

Jeff Bergman Sherman Smith Frank Hedges Don Lounsbury Tom Birkenstock
Arlyn Musselman Mike Schwenker Rick Querna Brad Weiss Laura Wagner-Ertz

Financial and Technical Assistance Available

Financial assistance is available from the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District to cost-share on certain erosion control practices.

IOWA FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM (IFIP) funds are allocated to the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District every August.

The 1996 priority list for approving IFIP applications received by the District is:

I. Temporary & Tillage Practices (5-year performance agreement unless noted - these are incentive payments)

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| - No-till | \$10/acre - 60 acres maximum
3-yr performance agreement |
| - Ridge-till | \$10/acre |
| - Strip-till | \$10/acre |
| - Contouring | \$ 6/acre |
| - Stripcropping | \$15/acre |

II. Permanent Practices that aren't structures (Cost-share rate is 50% of the actual or estimated cost, whichever is less - not to exceed District limit of \$3500; 20 yr maintenance agreement)

- Critical Area Planting
- Grass Strip
- Grassed Waterway
- Pasture & Hayland Planting

III. Permanent Practices that are structures (Cost-share rate is 50% of the actual or estimated cost, whichever is less - not to exceed District limit of \$3500; 20 yr maintenance agreement)

- Terrace
- Water & Sediment Control Basin
- Grade Stabilization Structure
- Underground Outlet
- Diversion

10% of funds are reserved for Priority I applications. April 1 is the deadline for applications for this priority. After April 1, these funds may be used for Priority II and III applications.

RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION (REAP) funds are also available on a limited basis from the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District. The 1996 priority list for approving REAP applications (in descending order) is:

- Conservation Cover
- Timber Stand Improvement
- Tree Planting
- Windbreaks

Cost-share rates for REAP vary per program with limitations on acres.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE is available for planning, surveying, designing and flagging conservation practices on private land without charge. This assistance is provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service office staff. Requests will be prioritized according to seasonal needs and staffing availability.

If you have any questions/concerns about cost-share assistance, please stop into the Natural Resources Conservation Service or talk to any of the Commissioners.

No-Till Incentive Payments Available

If you are interested in trying no-till for the first time, the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has IFIP funds available as incentive payments. The one-time payment is \$10/acre for a 60 acre maximum area. You will then be required to complete the performance agreement by continuing the practice for the following two years. The deadline to sign up is April 1. If you would like more details, call the NRCS office.

1946 - Year in Review

Do you remember 1946? Here's some trivia:

Sports

- The St. Louis Cardinals defeated the Boston Red Sox for the World Series.
- Philadelphia beat Chicago for the NBA Championship.
- George Robinson won Indy 500 averaging 114 mph.

News

- A report found that half of U.S. yearly incomes are under \$2,000.
- Ford resumed postwar production in style with the release of the Lincoln.
- The U.S. Senate killed the Equal Rights Amendment.
- **The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District was organized.**

Inventions & Facts

- The electric blanket with a thermostat switch.
- The pilot ejector seat.
- A U.S. built rocket is first to leave the earth's atmosphere.

Births of Noted Personalities

- Bill Clinton, President of United States
- Reggie Jackson, baseball star
- Sylvester Stallone, actor
- Sally Field, actress
- Dolly Parton, singer

50 Year Accomplishments

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has accomplished quite a bit during 50 years. Here are the figures:

Construction Figures

(District/NRCS Figures Only - Does Not Include FSA)

Terraces	1,793,509 ft.
Waterways	8,201 ac.
Ponds/Grade Stabilization Structures	699 no.
Tree Planting	1,146 ac.
Diversions	117,721 ft.
Timber Stand Improvement	1,185 ac.

Erosion Control Dams/Water & Sediment
Control Basins

776 no.

Resource Enhancement and Protection Funds (REAP)

program began 1990

Timber Stand Improvement	\$ 70,473.95
Tree Planting	\$ 93,441.31
Windbreak	\$ 2,479.39
Conservation Cover	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>

Total Allocation	\$169,394.65
------------------	--------------

Iowa Financial Incentive Program (IFIP)

program started in 1973

Terraces	\$492,501.25
Grade Stab Structures	\$ 49,982.54
Grassed Waterways	\$ 15,127.20
Diversions	\$ 600.00
Critical Area Planting	\$ 1,700.69
Tillage Practices	\$ 24,236.54
Pasture & Hayland Planting	\$ 4,630.40
Fencing	\$ 209.83
Water & Sediment Control Basins	<u>\$ 24,994.44</u>

Total Allocation	\$613,982.89
------------------	--------------

3M Special Lakes Funds

program during 1981 - 1989

Terraces	\$125,772.25
Grade Stab Structures	\$ 33,601.03
Grassed Waterways	\$ 1,800.00
Water & Sediment Control Basins	<u>\$ 13,622.05</u>

Total Allocation	\$174,795.33
------------------	--------------

Thank You

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners, and Office Staff would like to thank everyone who helped to make the last 50 years successful. Our sincere wish is that the next 50 years will be just as prosperous and that Des Moines County will become an even better place to live for future generations.

The Importance of Trees

It's not hard to appreciate the beauty of a tree - the soft rustle of the leaves, the cool shade and the amazement of how nature produces something so strong and big. Trees bring more to our lives than beauty, though. Of all the plants, trees are the most useful and valuable. Trees have many benefits, hidden and obvious.

Wildlife Habitat - Humans think of the outdoors as scenic or a great place to hunt or hike, but to animals it is their home for all seasons. Trees can provide food (seeds, berries, nuts, leaves), a living space, and protection from predators and weather elements.

Cooling Effects - One tree has the cooling effect of five air conditioners. Every city of good size creates a "heat island" where the center of the city is around 3-10 degrees hotter than the surrounding countryside. Urban tree plantings can help decrease the "heat island" effect.

Oxygen - One acre of trees provide fresh, clean oxygen for 7 people and will scrub clean the air polluted by 8 cars operated for 12 hours.

Carbon Dioxide - Trees can reduce the threat of global warming. Trees take carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere, storing the carbon in their wood. In return, trees release life-giving oxygen back into the atmosphere.

Sound Barriers - Leaves, branches and twigs all absorb and diffuse sounds. Many sounds are absorbed by the vibration of the tree parts and heavier branches and trunks deflect sounds.

Health - Research has shown that hospital patients recuperating in a room with a view of trees will heal faster, use less pain-killing drugs, and complain less about post-operative ailments than their counterparts recuperating in a room with only an inside view.

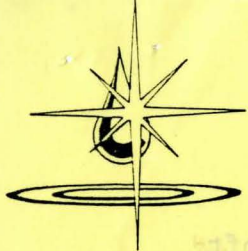
Redwoods - The average adult California redwood, living in a foggy, rainy climate, releases around five hundred gallons of water a day back into the atmosphere. An amazing feature of redwoods is that they can grow to be 350 feet tall!

Erosion - Leaves stop the fall of rain and let it fall gently to the ground. Layers of leaves, twigs, and brush also help erosion. Trees planted along streams can provide erosion control.

This list is just a small sample of the ways trees impact our lives everyday. The next time you look at a tree, it will appear even more beautiful now that you know how much they give to us!

*The tree which moves some to tears of joy
is in the eyes of others only a green thing
which stands in the way.* William Blake





Interesting Water Facts

Are you thirsty? Water is probably the most common natural resource that is taken for granted. Everyone assumes that water will always come out of the faucet. Benjamin Franklin once said, "When the well's dry, we know the worth of water." The average American uses nearly 180 gallons of water a day. Here are some figures on how much water is consumed:

- The all-American fast food meal (burger, fries, drink) requires enough water to fill a small swimming pool - about 1500 gallons.
- To manufacture one car, including the tires, requires 39,000 gallons of water.
- To produce one Sunday paper takes 47,674 gallons.
- Household chores:
 - clothes washing 35-50 gallons/load
 - dishwashing (by hand) 10 gallons/meal
 - dishwashing (dishwasher) 60 gallons/load
 - cooking 10 gallons/meal
 - yard watering 5-10 gallons/minute
- Daily needs:
 - bathing 36-45 gallons/bath
 - showering 5-6 gallons/minute
 - brushing teeth (water running) 2-4 gallons
 - brushing teeth (water off) 1 gallon
 - flushing toilet 6 gallons/flush
 - washing hands 2 gallons
 - drinking 1 gallon/person/day

As you can see, water is a very important part of everyone's daily life and should not be considered "common". Let's all do our part to conserve water.

Water Quality

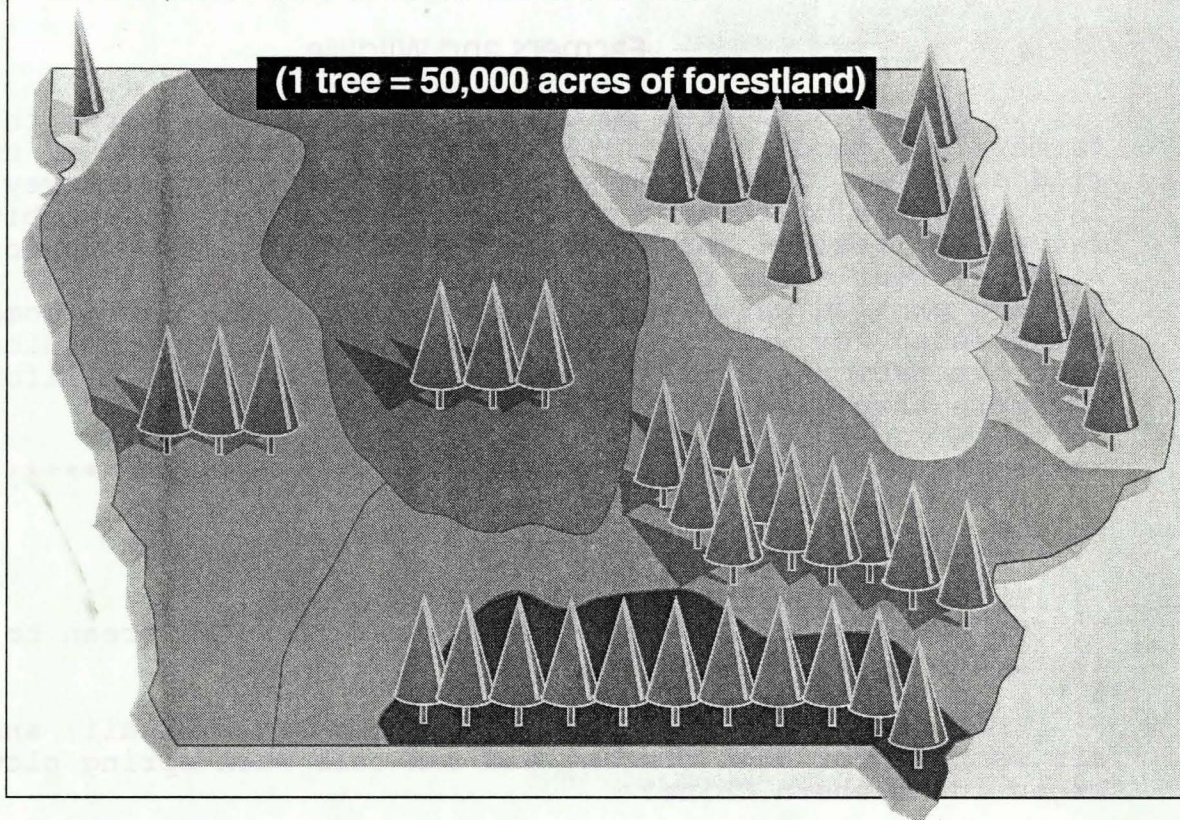
Water quality is a concern that should go hand-in-hand with water abundance. Only 1 percent of the Earth's water is suitable for drinking. The pollution of water cannot be blamed on one single person or group, everybody generates nonpoint source pollution.

Some ways to improve water quality are to properly dispose of household wastes and waste oil, check underground fuel tanks for leaks, have your septic tank pumped every 3-5 years, proper management through the use of less chemicals, plant trees and ground covers to prevent erosion, keeping our water bodies free of trash. These are just a few examples.

Water is the earth's most abundant resource. The solution to water quality falls into the hands of everyone.

Where are the trees?

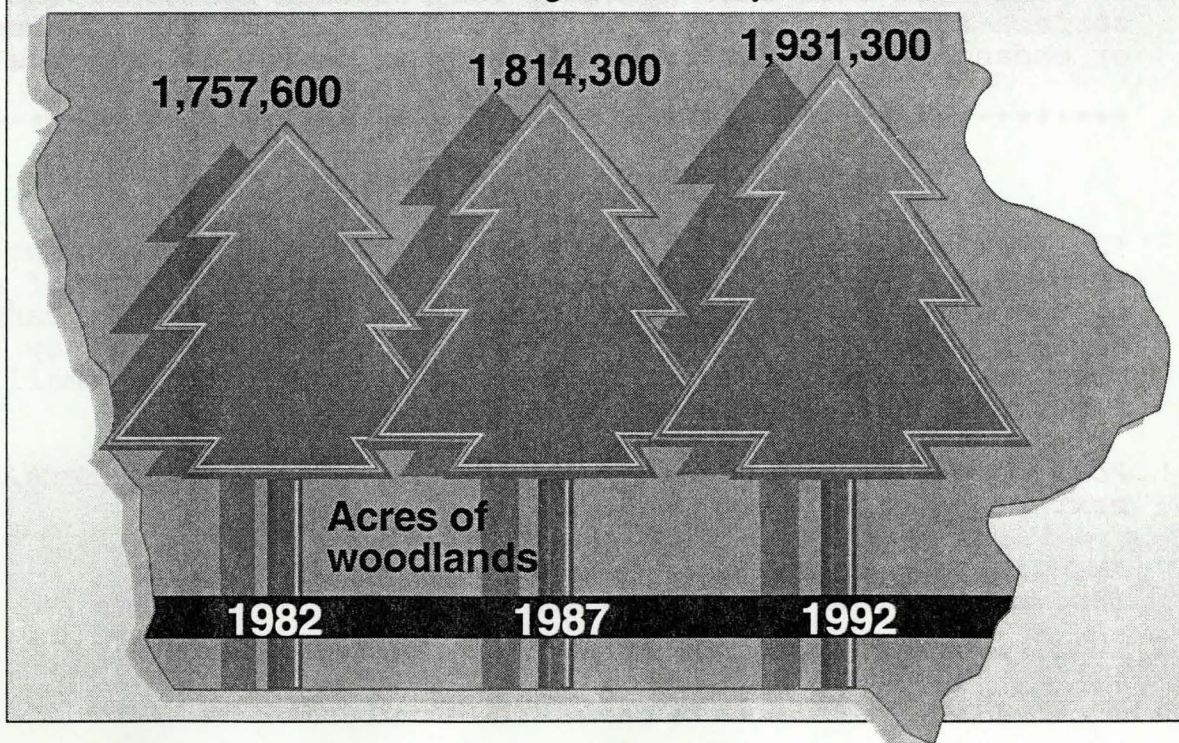
In 1992, forestland covered 5% of the total land area in Iowa.



Source: National Resources Inventory, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, NRI, 1992.

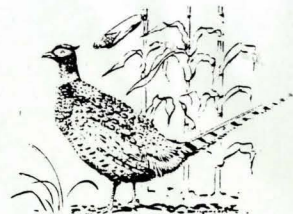
Woodland acres increase

Between 1982 and 1992, there was a 10% increase in woodlands in Iowa. These new woodlands would cover an area of 173,700 acres, more than half the average size county in Iowa.



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 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% of farmers said they purposely provide habitat, 50% leave crop residue for wildlife, and 39% provide cover for wildlife near their fields. The survey also showed that 41% of farmers provide water sources and 15% 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.

Did You Know?

Did you know the heat of the sun moves 10,296,000,000,000,000 gallons of water from the ocean to the land each year?

Did you know that researchers in Monaloe, Hawaii, analyze air samples for dust content and can tell when spring plowing began in Northern China?

Did you know that satellite photographs show enormous dust clouds that come from Africa across the Atlantic? Most of this is deposited in the Atlantic Ocean.

Did you know that Washington D.C. has developed a four-degree heat island? People pay an additional cost of \$40,000 an hour for hundreds of hours every summer.

Did you know that wetlands only account for 5% of the surface area of the lower 48 states, but almost 35% of threatened or endangered species either live in or depend on wetlands?

Final Words of Thought

"Soil is not usually lost in slabs or heaps of magnificent tonnage. It is lost a little at a time, over millions of acres, by the acts or carelessness of millions of people. It cannot be saved by heroic feats of gigantic technology, but only by millions of small acts and restraints conditioned by small fidelities and desires." - Wendell Berry

Politicians think of the next election. Conservationists, of the next generation. - Anonymous

"Man is incomprehensible without Nature. Nature is incomprehensible apart from man." - Hamilton Wright Mable



*Thank you for attending our 50th
Anniversary Open House.
We couldn't have done it without you!*

Facts and Figures were provided by:

Natural Resources Inventory, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
National Association of Conservation Districts
Natural Resources Conservation Service
The National Arbor Day Foundation
NRCS This Week

All programs and services of the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.