

**IDA COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

**2002
Annual Report
7-1-01 - 6-30-02**

5973 State Highway 175
P.O. Box 237
Ida Grove, Iowa 51445

Phone: 712-364-2124

PERSONNEL

COMMISSIONERS

Wally Johnson, Washta
Chairperson

Lloyd Rickers, Kiron
Vice-Chairperson
Representative,

Sioux Rivers RC & D Board
Marc Johnson, Battle Creek
Representative,
Little Sioux Works Committee

Tom Odgaard, Ida Grove
Lynn Hare, Ida Grove

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Joyce Johnson, Washta

STAFF

Lorne Miller
District Conservationist

Jerry Sindt
Soil Conservationist

Randy Sohm
Soil Conservation Technician

Carl Lee
State Soil Conservation Technician

Arlis Bahnsen, *State Secretary*

Lorraine Johnson
Soil Conservation Technician

Darwin Henke
Soil Conservation Technician

Jerry Jensen
Watershed Inspector

BATTLE CREEK WATERSHED GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROJECT

Peg Peters, *Information Specialist*

VOLUNTEERS

La Vonne Murray, Ida Grove
Myrle Nielsen, Battle Creek

As commissioners of your Soil and Water Conservation District, we are pleased to present this 2002 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 2002 AWARD WINNERS

Scholarship Award

J. R. Miller

Izaak Walton Windbreak Award

John Konrady

District Poster Contest Division 2 (Grades 2 & 3)

1st Place – Anne Ellis

2nd Place – Levi Schug

3rd Place – Nicole Patera

Division 3 (Grades 4 – 6)

1st Place – Adrienne Burk

2nd Place – Dallas Lansink

3rd Place – Mary Ellis

Division 4 (Grades 7 – 9)

1st Place – Jeffrey Ellis

2nd Place – Claire Ellis

3rd Place – Andrew Ellis

Regional, State & National Winner

Division 3 (Grades 4 – 6)

1st Place

Adrienne Burk

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.

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES – FY 2002 (July 1, 2001– June 30, 2002)

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

JULY 2001

The District sponsored a booth at the Ida County Fair. \$51,597.00 was received for conservation practices through the Iowa Financial Incentives Program for the 2001-2002 Fiscal Year. Commissioners performed the annual audit of District books and found them to be in order. The District signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Food & Agriculture Council for a postage

meter. Odgaard attended a pasture walk at the Tom German farm. District newsletters will be discontinued due to lack of funds. W. & J. Johnson were interviewed by Jolene Stevens, Extension Service Medial Specialist regarding the Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project.

AUGUST

CRP Continuous signup is underway. John Paulin, NRCS Landscape Architect from the State Office in Des Moines, was a guest at the meeting. M. Johnson attended a meeting in Cherokee on environmental issues with a follow-up meeting to be held in September. Odgaard, Rickers, and W. & J. Johnson attended a meeting in Peterson featuring Jeff Vonk, Chief of the Iowa DNR. Commissioners and Miller attended the Fall Regional in Rock Rapids. W. Johnson was elected Conservation Districts of Iowa Region 1 Director. Commissioners, County Supervisor Robert Paulsrud, and staff spent a day touring conservation practices in Ida County. Staff served dinner after the tour. Rickers attended the Sioux Rivers RC & D board meeting.

SEPTEMBER

A special meeting was held to discuss rehabilitation of structure J1-4550 located in the Pleasant Valley Watershed on the Al Schreiber farm utilizing funds from the Small Watersheds Amendment of 2000. The final meeting of the Project Advisory Board and the Annual Review of the Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project was held. Rickers and W. Johnson attended. Commissioners approved an ending survey for the Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project. The District was approved to receive \$8,000.00 from the Buffer Initiative Program with the District providing an additional \$4,000.00 in matching funds to promote CRP Buffers. Numerous conservation projects are scheduled for fall construction.

OCTOBER

Survey for several Erosion Control Structures was completed. Preliminary survey is scheduled for the Westside Watershed Grade Stabilization Structure Site 3-2. Dennis Pate, Assistant State Conservationist, visited W. & J. Johnson. Commissioner development surveys were completed and forwarded to Conservation Districts of Iowa. A request to

extend the Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project through December was approved.

NOVEMBER

Fall conservation practice construction is still underway. Alan Vandehaar, Extension Community Development Specialist, was invited to the meeting to assist the District in developing a plan in conjunction with surrounding counties to find funding for a multi-county information specialist. The District entered an agreement with National and Local Chapters of Pheasants Forever to obtain funding to promote CRP Buffers with matching District funds.

DECEMBER

Commissioners and staff held their Annual Meeting and Christmas dinner. Commissioners attended the Annual Conference in Marshalltown. The Battle Creek Groundwater Protection Project officially ended on December 31, 2001. Odgaard & Rickers attended the Hungry Canyons Alliance quarterly meeting in Onawa.

JANUARY 2002

The District organizational meeting was held and officers were elected and appointed. M. Johnson and W. Johnson were administered the Oath of Office for their second terms. Darrell Geib, Sioux Rivers RC & D Coordinator attended the meeting. The 2001 Annual Report was approved and mailed along with a final Project newsletter. W. & J. Johnson and Rickers attended "Caring For Our Natural Resources" Conference in Carroll. W. & J. Johnson attended the Iowa Watersheds Annual Conference in Osceola. NRCS participated in the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) and found that customers are very pleased with the conservation technical assistance they receive from NRCS. Odgaard and W. & J. Johnson attended a town meeting in Ida Grove hosted by Senator Harkin's representatives. Carol Heaverlo, Ida County Extension Service Director, presented information on the Iowa Rural Mental Health Initiative. Iowa Secretary of Agriculture named Bill Ehm as the new Director of the Division of Soil Conservation. District dues for NACD and CDI were paid. Rickers attended the Sioux Rivers RC & D Board meeting.

FEBRUARY

W. Johnson attended a legislator's luncheon.

MARCH

W. & J. Johnson attended the Ag And The Environment Conference in Ames. The District co-sponsored a Contractor's meeting with Woodbury County. J. Johnson and staff volunteered at the Envirothon in Cherokee. The District honored Andrew Ellis as a national winner in the CDI Auxiliary Poster Contest. A GPS Unit was purchased. Commissioners and staff attended the annual Ida County Pheasants Forever Banquet. The District sponsored a booth at the banquet. J. R. Miller was selected as recipient of the District scholarship and his application was forwarded for regional competition.

APRIL

Commissioners attended the Spring Regional meeting in Onawa. The District completed spring tree plantings with approximately 14,000 trees being planted in Ida County. Rickers attended the Sioux Rivers RC & D Board meeting in Sergeant Bluff. The first draft of the Final Report for the Battle Creek Watershed Groundwater Protection Project was submitted. Miller participated in the 5th Grade tree planting demonstrations. Yearly watershed structure inspections were completed.

MAY

The District sponsored the 6th Grade Outdoor Classroom for all sixth graders in the Ida County, with students from Odebolt-Arthur Middle School attending. Jim Warrender from Schoen Construction made a presentation about cleaning out/rebuilding old terraces. M. Johnson represented the District at the BCIG Awards Day and presented the District scholarship. District will sponsor Carol Heaverlo, Ida County Extension Director, to attend the state 4-H conference. Winning posters were selected and cash prizes were awarded. First place posters in each division were forwarded for regional competition. Rickers attended the Sioux Rivers RD & D Board meeting.

JUNE

Commissioners attended the Sioux Rivers RC & D Annual Meeting and Picnic. Odgaard and Rickers attended the quarterly Hungry Can-

yons Alliance meeting in Merville. The wind-break on the John Konrady farm was selected for the 2002 Izaak Walton Windbreak award. The District nominated Joyce Johnson for the Ruth Wagner Award. Regional training for the Farm*A*Syst Program was sponsored by the District and held at the Marc & Lorraine Johnson farm near Battle Creek.

**Ida County Soil & Water
Conservation District
and**

**Natural Resources Conservation
Service Accomplishments**

Fiscal Year 2002

October 1, 2001 - September 30, 2002

Individuals Assisted	1,344
Cropland Protected Against Excessive Erosion (acres)	8,237
Acres Treated with Erosion Control Measures	15,460
Farmstead Windbreaks.....	13
Terraces (feet)	164,955
Waterways (feet)	23,108
Grade Stabilization Structures	4
Water & Sediment Control Basins	17
CRP 23rd & 24th Signup Applications ..	49
CRP 23rd & 24th Signup Applications Approved (367.5 acres)	49
Riparian Buffer Strips	10
Shelter Belts	8
Solid Waste Settling Basin	1

EEO STATEMENT

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**DISTRICT FINANCIAL
REPORT**

(July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002)

1-M	\$ 2,420.00
Expenses: Printing,	
Office, Commissioner	<u>3,690.93</u>
Balance paid by District	\$ (1,270.93)
3-M Cost-Share Funds	
(01-02)	\$ 40,942.00
Obligated & spent	<u>40,510.65</u>
Balance in fund	\$ 431.35
REAP - Practices Funds	
(2002)	\$ 10,452.63
Spent	<u>9,440.20</u>
Balance released to state	\$ 1,012.43
REAP - Forestry/Native	
Grasses (2002)	\$ 1,727.00
Spent	<u>1,331.25</u>
Balance released to state	\$ 395.75
Little Sioux River Flood	
Prevention Project Funds (2002)	
Obligated or spent	\$ 333,810.28
Watershed Maintenance Funds	
Checking 7/01/01	\$ 4,830.16
Income	4,184.40
Expenses	<u>2,687.04</u>
Balance 6/30/02	\$ 6,327.52
Watershed Funds CD's	\$ 119,686.20
General Funds	
Checking 7/01/01	\$ 6,209.98
Income	53,143.97
Expenses	<u>47,927.35</u>
Balance 6/30/02	\$ 11,426.60
General Funds CD's	\$ 30,140.97