

**IDA COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

**2004-2005
ANNUAL REPORT
7/1/04 – 6/30/05
10/1/04 – 9/30/05
(NRCS)**

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

Phone: 712-364-2124

**PERSONNEL
COMMISSIONER**

Wally Johnson, Washta
Chairperson

Lloyd Rickers, Kiron
Vice-Chairperson

Alan Bennett, Galva

Marc Johnson, Battle Creek
*Representative, Sioux Rivers
RC & D Board*

*Representative, Little Sioux
Works Committee*

Tom Odgaard, Ida Grove

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Joyce Johnson, Washta

FIELD OFFICE STAFF

Lorne Miller
District Conservationist

Ann Byers
Soil Conservationist

Randy Sohm
Soil Conservation Technician

Carl Lee
State Soil Conservation Technician

Arlis Bahnsen, *State Secretary*

Darwin Henke
Soil Conservation Technician

Dawn Laufenberg
Soil Conservation Technician

Jerry Jensen
Watershed Inspector

As commissioners of your Soil and Water Conservation District, we are pleased to present this 2005 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
2005 AWARD WINNERS**

Scholarship Award

Eric Conover

Izaak Walton Windbreak Award

Don Jensen

**District Conservation Poster Contest
Winners**

Division IV (Grades 7 - 9)

1st Place – *Alex Warnke*

**Region 1 Conservation Poster Contest
Winners**

Division IV (Grades 7 - 9)

1st Place – *Alex Warnke*

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 2005
(July 1, 2004– June 30, 2005)**

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 2004

The District, in conjunction with Ida County Farm Bureau, sponsored conservation tours originating at the Ida County Fair grounds utilizing the Gomaco Trolley. The District also sponsored a booth at the Ida County Fair and disseminated conservation information. Wayne Brincks, U.S. Congressman Steve King's representative was a guest during the regular meeting.

AUGUST

Commissioners performed the annual audit of District books and found them to be in order. Commissioners and staff toured conservation practices in the county. Commissioners attended the Fall Regional meeting at Lake Pahoja in Lyon County. The District received the 2004-2005 REAP Funds allocation. Farm Bill Implementation Project III funds received.

SEPTEMBER

Locally led meeting was held to discuss prioritizing EQIP funds in the county. Priority will be given first to maintaining soil and water erosion and then to open feedlot waste management. Ida County will be featured on the Conservation Station website

OCTOBER

Ann Byers began her duties as the new Soil Conservationist. The EQIP program has been migrated to the NRCS. The District sent a letter in regards to planning assistance for developing water resources in Ida County to the State Conservationist with NRCS.

NOVEMBER

Commissioners attended the Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI) Annual Conference in Marshalltown. The District donated items to the CDI Auxiliary auction with proceeds to be used for agricultural scholarships statewide. Dawn Laufenberg was hired as a District employee. A letter was sent to Governor Vilsak in regards to 1-M Commissioner expenses.

DECEMBER

The commissioners received notification from Patty Judge and the State Soil Conservation Committee on expenses that would qualify for 1-M reimbursements.

JANUARY 2005

Staff and commissioner Annual Meeting was held at Boz Wellz. The District organizational meeting was held and officers were elected. Request for supplemental IFIP funds from the state was made. Commissioners approved Jerry Jensen, Watershed Inspector, to GPS all watershed structures.

FEBRUARY

Commissioners approved the 2005 average costs for terraces, increasing the average cost for C, D, and E slopes. The District applied for Farm Bill IV Project funds to accomplish conservation. The commissioners approved funding a Wildlife and Soil/Water Quality Coop Employee. The 5 year Ida County Road Work plan was requested from the county engineer's office. Wally and Joyce Johnson attended the Cherokee Ag Show.

MARCH

The commissioner attended the Spring Regional meeting in Cherokee. The District financially supported the Regional Envirothon in Cherokee. Marc Johnson attended the Sioux Rivers RC & D Board meeting. Steve Hummel, Ida County Naturalist and Rhett Leonard of the Ida County Conservation Board discussed educational programs. District scholarship winner was selected. 2004 District Annual Report was approved. Lloyd Rickers and Tom Odgaard attended the Hungry Canyons Spring meeting. The commissioners approved increasing the average cost for tiling on a state cost-shared waterway to \$1.50/ft for 5" and \$1.70/ft for 6" to coincide with the Little Sioux average cost. The District received supplemental funds from the state.

APRIL

Ida County approved \$279,000 in EQIP contracts. Poster contest winners were selected. Watershed inspections were completed by Jerry Jensen. An Ag Day for Ida County second graders was held at the fairgrounds.

MAY

The 2005 Izaak Walton Windbreak Award winner was selected. Marc Johnson attended the Sioux Rivers RC&D Board meeting. The commissioners received the Five Year Ida County Road Work Plan.

JUNE

Brian Lee, began his duties as the new Conservation Program Specialist. Wally & Joyce Johnson and Alan Bennett attended a conservation tour of Cherokee County.

Ida County Soil & Water Conservation District And Natural Resources Conservation Service Accomplishments

Fiscal Year 2005
October 1, 2004 – September 30, 2005

Individuals Assisted	1,153
Farmstead Windbreaks.....	7
Terraces (feet).....	215,914
Waterways (acres).....	71
Grade Stabilization Structures	2
Water & Sediment Control Basins..	23
CRP 30th and 31st Signup Applications Approved (219.6 Acres)	23
Shelter Belts.....	2
EQIP Applications (FY 05).....	10
EQIP Funded Contracts (FY 05) ...	10

EEO STATEMENT

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DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT

(July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005)

1-M	\$ 2,500.00
Expenses: Printing,	
Office, Commissioner	\$ 3,574.45
Balance paid by	
District	\$ (1,074.45)

**Iowa Financial Incentive Program Funds
(04-05) Beginning Allocation \$ 33,634.00**

Vouchers Spent	28,432.36
Allocated, not spent	4,915.72
Funds Recalled.....	\$ 285.92

**Iowa Financial Incentive Program Funds
(03-04) Beginning Allocation \$ 33,634.00**

Supplemental Funds	6,076.00
Vouchers Spent	34,285.88
Allocated, not spent	4,200.00
Funds Recalled.....	\$ 1,224.12

**REAP – Practices Funds
(2005)**

\$ 7,970.00	
Spent	7,970.00
Funds recalled	\$ 0.00

**REAP – Forestry/Native
Grasses (2005).....**

\$ 1,985.00	
Spent	1,708.00
Funds recalled	\$ 276.10

**Little Sioux River Flood
Prevention Project Funds (2005)**

Obligated or spent	\$ 354,722.00
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Watershed Maintenance Funds

Checking 7/01/04	\$ 83.92
Income	5,026.95
Expenses	992.45
Balance 6/30/05.....	\$ 4,118.42

Watershed Funds CD's \$118,311.08

General Funds

Checking 7/01/04	\$ 3,443.72
Income	7,333.64
Expenses	5,922.10
Balance, 6/30/05.....	\$ 4,855.26
General Fund CD's	\$ 30,417.65