

Iowa County Soil & Water Conservation District
435 N Highland St., Williamsburg, IA 52361
Tel 319-668-2359
Fax 855-233-1298

ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2017

Connecting Landowners with Resources for Conservation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

Iowa County Conservation	1
County Commissioners and USDA Staff/ Activities	2
District Financial Statements	3-4
Cost Share Funds	5
Price Creek Funds	6
Field Office Accomplishments	7
Annual Conservation Award Banquet	8-11
District Awarded State Water Quality Awards	12-13

Conservation in Iowa County

OUR HISTORY

Taken from the MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING between IOWA COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT and IOWA AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

'It is recognized that the basic purpose of a soil conservation district is the conservation of soil and water resources and the control and prevention of erosion as set forth in the State Soil Conservation Districts Law.

The Iowa Agriculture Extension Service and the Iowa County Soil Conservation District recognize that successful accomplishment can only be obtained through mutual helpfulness and that cooperation is chiefly a matter of working together to a common end.'

This was signed by the first Iowa County SWCD on August 16, 1945 and approved by the United States Department of Agriculture on November 27, 1945.

At that time Iowa County looked like this: 1944- there were 105,800 acres of cropped land according to the Assessors Records, with 6,400 of those acres in beans and 99,400 acres of corn. There were 6,070 acres of timber in the county. The latest census (1940) indicated there were 17,011 people living in Iowa County. On the 2,049 farms in the county the average size was 110 acres. The topography of Iowa County 'is such that serious soil erosion is inevitable unless a constructive system of soil conservation is employed. According to the Special Report No. 2, "Soil Erosion in Iowa", 82% of the land in the county has a slope of over 5%, while 58% has a slope of more than 10%. Only 20% has little or no erosion. Originally endowed with a fertile top soil of twelve inches or more, the acreage which has been cropped has now lost more than half this amount.' The three main streams: Iowa River, North English River and the Middle English River. Tributaries and other streams of some consequence agriculturally are Gritter Creek, Old Man's Creek, Big Bear Creek, Little Bear Creek, Devil's Run and Honey Creek.

OUR PRESENT

A profile of Iowa County now: According to the 2012 census there are 373,120 acres in Iowa County of which 336,084 acres are considered farm land with 275,246 acres of cropped land. There are 1,019 farms in the county. Crops make up 65% and livestock 35%. The average farm is now 330 acres. Of the cropped acres 65% are considered HEL. The population of Iowa County is 16,311. A part of Iowa County falls in the 'Iowa River Corridor'. Iowa County SWCD has approved applications and conservation plans that implemented the following practices in FY2017: water & sediment control basins, grassed waterways, contour buffer strips, native seeding, ag waste storage, soil health, timber stand improvement, windbreaks, wetlands, filter strips, pasture and hay seeding, urban conservation, channel control, controlled grazing, cover crops, watering facilities, piping.

'HAVING A POSITIVE IMPACT ON IOWA'S LAND AND PEOPLE'

IOWA COUNTY STAFF

COMMISSIONERS	OFFICE
Vanessa Spratt	Chair/ Co-Treasure
Dan Glandorf	Vice Chair
Bob Faber	
Larry Wetjen	
Stewart Maas	
Al Rudin- Assistant Commissioner	Co-Treasure
DISTRICT STAFF	
Rose Danaher	Price Creek Watershed Coordinator
Ted Oswald	District Technician
NRCS STAFF	
Kate Timmerman	District Conservationist
Eric Adam	Soil Conservationist
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE STAFF	
Rob Sproat	State Technician
Deb Conrad	State Secretary

FY2017 District Activities

July- Monthly Commissioners Mtg. Adjusted rates and policies for Cost Share. Achieved a new record for cover crops in Iowa County, 88. Toured the Amana Colonies Urban Conservation and Water Quality Education project.

August- Monthly Commissioners Mtg. Price Creek received 2 awards, Governor's Iowa Environmental Excellence & Outstanding Environmental Leadership & Innovation

September- Monthly Commissioners Mtg. Hosted an open house for 'Livestock Waste Storage' at David Dermody's. Helped with the annual Quad County Soil Judging. Approved Annual Audit and Annual Report.

October- Monthly Commissioners Mtg. Price Creek Watershed booth at the Amana Octoberfest. State Financial Monitoring Site Visit.

November- Held 2 Commissioners Mtgs. Iowa County SWCD Annual Awards Banquet was held at Lake Iowa. Attended the HUD English River Watershed meeting.

December- Monthly Commissioners Mtg.

January- Annual Organizational and Training Mtg.

February- Monthly Commissioners Mtg. Attended Commissioners training.

March- Monthly Commissioners Mtg. Held Annual Contractors meeting. Hosted Area CDI Spring Mtg.

April- Monthly Commissioners Mtg. Trees for 5th graders and activity books were distributed to schools in the county. Local libraries also received the activity books and bookmarks for Earth Week.

May- Monthly Commissioners Mtg. 'Agronomy in the Field' classes started and will run through fall.

June- Monthly Commissioners Mtg. Was awarded State Water Quality Initiative Award

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

1M FUNDING

DESCRIPTION	REVENUE	EXPENSES	EARNINGS
Allocation	2,000.00		
CDI Dues		850.00	
Commissioner Expenses-monthly meetings		483.34	
Special Meetings-soil judging & contractors		117.66	
Regional Meetings- spring commissioners		137.72	
Postage		98.00	
Office Supplies		39.64	
Plaques/Awards		279.93	
Totals	2,000.00	2006.29	6.29

- 1M funds is deposited in the Revolving Account

REVOLVING FUNDS

DESCRIPTION	REVENUE	EXPENSES	RUNNING BALANCE
Beginning Balance 07/01/2016			1454.32
	30,829.39		
		30,199.34	
Ending Balance 06/30/2017			2084.27

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDS

DESCRIPTION	REVENUE	EXPENSES	RUNNING BALANCE
Beginning Balance 07/01/2016			11,356.00
	128,467.92		
		117,335.21	
Ending Balance 06/30/2017			22,488.71

SAVINGS

DESCRIPTION	BEGIN. BALANCE	EXPENSES	EARNINGS
Beginning Balance 07/01/2016	27,108.70		
Interest			4.65
Service Charge		10.00	
Refund Service Charge			10.00
Totals	27,108.70	10.00	14.65
Ending Balance 06/30/2017	27,113.35		

TIME CERTIFICATES

DESCRIPTION	BEGIN. BALANCE	INTEREST	END BALANCE
391	1000.00	1.50	1001.50
392	1000.00	1.50	1001.50
269	1065.40	1.07	1066.47
277	1065.40	1.07	1066.47
285	1811.17	1.82	1812.99
Revenue		6.96	

COST SHARE

IFIP COST SHARE

	OBLIGATED	SPENT
BEGINNING OBLIGATION	\$52,748.77	
ALLOCATION	\$86,500.00	
TOTAL EXPENDED		\$99,871.77
TOTAL OBLIGATED	\$39,377.00	
TOTAL RECALLED	0.00	
BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30,2017	0.00	

- 1M funds is deposited in the Revolving Account

REAP PRACTICES FUNDS

	OBLIGATED	SPENT
BEGINNING OBLIGATION	\$16,348.00	
ALLOCATION	\$34,300.00	
TOTAL EXPENDED		\$44,592.77
TOTAL OBLIGATED	\$6,055.23	
TOTAL RECALLED	0.00	
BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2017	0.00	

REAP FORESTRY / NATIVE GRASSES FUNDS

	OBLIGATED	SPENT
BEGINNING OBLIGATION	\$9,567.14	
ALLOCATION	\$15,851.30	
TOTAL EXPENDED		\$20,760.00
TOTAL OBLIGATED	\$4,658.44	
TOTAL RECALLED	0.00	
BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30,2017	0.00	

LOW INTEREST LOAN

OF LOANS APPROVED

1

PRICE CREEK WATERSHED

PRICE CREEK WS PROJECT - WIRB

	OBLIGATED	SPENT
BEGINNING OBLIGATION	\$37,210.25	
BEGINNING BALANCE	59.75	
ALLOCATIONS	0.00	
TOTAL EXPENDED		\$24,688.20
TOTAL OBLIGATED	0.00	
TOTAL UNOBLIGATED	(\$12,581.80)	
TOTAL RECALLED	0.00	

PRICE CREEK WQ PROJECT - 319

	OBLIGATED	SPENT
BEGINNING OBLIGATION	\$100,853.01	
ALLOCATIONS	\$112,172.00	
TOTAL EXPENDED		\$31,049.62
TOTAL OBLIGATED	\$19,884.01	
TOTAL RECALLED	\$162,091.38	

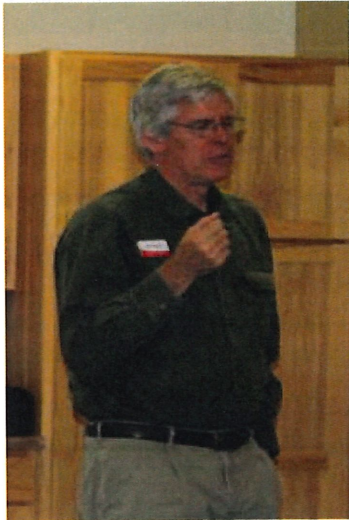
PRICE CREEK WQ PROJECT - WSPF

	OBLIGATED	SPENT
BEGINNING OBLIGATION	\$60,928.51	
ALLOCATIONS	\$126,975.00	
TOTAL EXPENDED		\$87,707.24
TOTAL OBLIGATED	\$23,539.46	
TOTAL RECALLED	\$76,656.81	

FIELD OFFICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PROGRAM	# OF CONTRACTS	ACRES BENEFITED	SOIL SAVINGS TON/YEAR
IFIP/COST SHARE		66.85	533.90
REAP/REAP F/NG		158	51.68
REAP/ REAP P		24.5	369.50
WQI		8640.88	34563.52
PR CREEK/WSPF/COVER CROP-3YRS.		120	120
PR. CREEK/WSPF/GRASSED W WAYS		16.8	86
PR. CREEK/WSPF/ BASINS		1	0
CRP/BUFFER INITIATIVE \$200 SIGN UP		3.08	15.4
CRP/BUFFER INITIATIVE CP42		28.1	533.9
EQIP	7	712.70	
CSP	4	1458.60	
CRP New and Re-Enroll	135	1470.72	
Individuals Applying Conservation Practices	278		

Con-ser-va-tion: (kon-ser-vey-shuh n) - Noun;
 1. Preservation, repair, and prevention of deterioration



2016 Iowa County SWCD Awards Banquet

Our guest speaker for the night was Greg Brenneman. Mr. Brenneman is ISU Ag Engineer Specialist. Mr. Brenneman gave a very interesting facts on ag waste and the history of flooding in the state.



Iowa Valley FFA received awards. They had two teams that placed at the Quad-County Soil Judging Contest held in September. Pictured along with the FFA teacher, Marcia Kilgard.

1st Place Jr. Team: India Hawkins, Breven Platt, Andrea Healey, Jenna Demmel. 2nd Place Jr. Team: Sidney Spence, Molly McMann, Jake Jordan, Bradie Roggentien.



Rob Sproat presented Ruth Beran (left) and Scott Schafbuch (right) with the Landlord/Tenant Award



Christopher Ganger (left) was presented the New Cooperator award from Eric Adam.



Commissioner Bob Faber presented the Owner/Operator award to Galen Yoder (right).



David (middle) and Colleen (right) Eckhart were presented the Wildlife management award by Commissioner Vanessa Spratt



Kate Timmerman presented the Conservation Education award to Jason Steele.



Mike Bode (right) received the Delmar Wetjen award from Larry Wetjen.

Iowa County Soil and Water Conservation District recognized for Exemplary Efforts Towards the Water Quality Initiative

The Iowa County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) received recognition for their leadership in the Water Quality Initiative (WQI) program efforts on July 17, 2017 at the 71st Annual Iowa Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners Annual Conference which was held in conjunction with the National Association of Conservation Districts Summer Forum and Tour at Prairie Meadows Conference Center in Altoona.

Iowa County was one of the leading counties in cover crop implementation last fall. The district worked with seventy-eight farmers to treat 8,640 acres with cover crops, providing \$154,000 of incentives. Cover crops are a key practice for water quality improvements and a statewide campaign is underway to get more farmers to adopt this practice. When planted in the fall, cover crops reduce soil erosion, limit nitrogen leaching and improve overall soil health.



Pictured above: Larry Wetjen, SWCD Commissioner; Dan Glandorf, SWCD Commissioner; Stewart Maas, SWCD Assistant Commissioner; Vanessa Spratt, SWCD Commissioner; Rob Sproat, State Soil Conservation Technician; Kate Timmerman, NRCS District Conservationist; Rose Danaher, District Watershed Coordinator; Deb Conrad, Conservation Assistant with Jim Gillespie, Director of the Division of Soil Conservation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Not pictured: Bob Faber, SWCD Commissioner; Al Rudin, SWCD Commissioner; Eric Adam, NRCS Soil Conservationist.



Price Creek received the Governor's Environmental Excellence Award for the work that farmers are doing to improve water quality. In addition, the project received a second award for Special Recognition in Water Quality.

