

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCIES CONCERNED
WITH SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

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In the development and operation of a soil conservation district the following groups have duties and responsibilities which are herewith briefly stated:

- I. State Soil Conservation Advisory Committee (Director of Iowa Extension Service, Director of Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station and State Coordinator of Soil Conservation Service.)

The State Soil Conservation Advisory Committee will assist in formulating programs for all soil conservation work in the state, in coordinating various agencies concerned with soil conservation, in locating demonstrations and other projects, in encouraging the formation by farmers of soil conservation associations and in otherwise contributing to a unified plan of action. They serve not only to bring together all state and federal information on soil conservation but also to point out specific problems requiring research. A works committee of subject matter specialists assists the advisory committee.

- II. State Soil Conservation Committee (Consisting of three farmers appointed by the Governor, Director of Iowa Agricultural Extension Service and State Secretary of Agriculture, with State Coordinator of SCS as advisor.)

The duties and powers of the State Soil Conservation Committee are prescribed by law. In the main they are:

- A. To disseminate information concerning districts and to encourage the formation of districts where their organization is desirable.
- B. To assist in district organization and development.
- C. To coordinate programs of districts by advice and consultation.
- D. To assist in securing cooperation of federal, state and local agencies.

- III. District Governing Body. (Three residents of district elected by land owners and known as district commissioners.)

All operations or activities within the district in the development and the carrying out of the district program and of the district work plan are the responsibility of this governing body.

- IV. Iowa Agricultural Extension Service.

The Iowa Agricultural Extension Service is responsible for the agricultural educational program within the state. It will cooperate with the district governing body in carrying on the district educational program.

In order to avoid duplication of agricultural extension activities, educational work carried by a district must be in cooperation with the Extension Service and pursuant to a cooperative agreement entered into as prescribed by state law.

V. Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station.

The Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station is responsible for the agricultural research program carried on within the state. It will cooperate with the district governing body in research programs.

In order to avoid duplication of research activities, any research program carried on by districts must be in cooperation with the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station and pursuant to a cooperative agreement entered into as prescribed by state law.

VI. Soil Conservation Service.

By virtue of congressional action and administrative rulings, the major part of the SCS assistance is being made available to Soil Conservation Districts. Assistance of all types approved by the U. S. Department of Agriculture will be offered insofar as resources permit and appropriate arrangements may be worked out which are mutually satisfactory to the district and the Service.

VII. Other Agencies, Groups and Individuals.

County, state and federal agencies may be asked to give assistance to a district.

County - Farm organizations such as Farm Bureau, Farmers Union, Grange; planning committees; boards of supervisors, county agent; vocational agriculture instructors; superintendent of schools, etc..

State - State Department of Agriculture, State Conservation Commission, Highway Commission, etc.

Federal - Bureaus of U.S.D.A. such as Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Farm Security Administration, Forest Service, **Soil Conservation Service**, etc.

(See "A Statement by the Secretary of Agriculture Concerning Department Cooperation with Soil Conservation Districts." September 21, 1940).