

DELAWARE COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MANCHESTER, IOWA

DISTRICT WORK PLAN

Work Plan
of the
Delaware County Soil Conservation District

The Commissioners of the Delaware County Soil Conservation District have prepared this Work Plan to show the procedure and action to be taken in carrying out the objectives of the District Program.

This plan will serve as a guide to the farmers, leaders, agencies and organizations so that sound land use and conservation practices can be attained in Delaware County in the shortest period of time and in a coordinated manner.

The Work Plan will be divided into two parts: (1) a narrative description of the work to be done and (2) an appendix containing the more detailed information and recommendations.

Work Projects

The work to be carried on by the District will be divided into six projects as follows:

1. Administration
2. Education
3. Farm Planning
4. Field application of Conservation Plans
5. Research and Observation Studies
6. Cooperative Enterprises

Each of these projects are described more fully in the appendix and paragraphs which follow:

Administration

The Commissioners of the District will meet regularly each month to transact any business which may be necessary in the carrying out of the District Program and Work Plan.

The District Commissioners will appoint one or more assistant commissioners in each of the four problem areas of the district. The duties and responsibilities of the assistant commissioners will be set forth and special training will be given to assist these men in carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

Accurate records of all meetings, transactions and work accomplished will be maintained and a report made to the cooperating agencies and farmers of the district once each year.

It will be the policy of the Commissioners to review the work plan during January of each year and to make the necessary revisions at that time. Suggestions from farmers and other interested parties will be welcomed.

Education

The district commissioners will conduct an extensive educational program to acquaint land owners and operators with present soil conditions, the extent and cause of erosion damage, proper land use, and the use and application of single soil conservation practices.

Leader training meetings will be held for farm leaders and assistant soil commissioners.

Farm Planning

It will be the responsibility of each individual farmer to prepare a conservation plan for his farm. The district will furnish the necessary information and technical assistance to enable the farmer to plan a sound land use program and appropriate conservation practices for his land.

Applications for district assistance will be made in writing and presented to any one of the following: Commissioners, County Extension Director, Farm Forester, or Farm planner. Application blanks will be prepared to facilitate this procedure.

Applications received each month will be reviewed by the Commissioners at their regular meeting.

Approval and priority of assistance will be made after reviewing the applications received. Establishment of priority will be based upon the best distribution over the county as a whole rather than upon the order in which applications are received.

Group assistance is preferred to individual assistance in preparing farm plans. Before making application for assistance each farmer should interest other farmers in his neighborhood in making application. When a group of neighboring farmers make application at one time, groups can be established and technical assistance can be used to the best advantage.

No technical assistance will be granted in any part of the district until every effort has been made to formulate a group of interested farmers within the neighborhood.

A limited amount of individual farm planning assistance may be necessary in some localities where it is desirable to establish isolated demonstrations.

After the applications are approved by the commissioners, a conservation survey showing slope, soil type and erosion conditions, will be prepared for the farm or farms.

Technical assistance to the farmer for the preparation of erosion control plans will be given at group meetings. As a rule three or four group meetings are required to develop the plan.

A description of land classes and recommendations for land treatment according to use capabilities are given in the appendix.

Field Application of Conservation Plans

It will be the responsibility of each farmer cooperating with the district to put his farm plan into effect. The district will furnish as much technical help as possible to assist farmers in establishing the plan.

Research and Observation Studies

Problems arising which require extensive study and research will be presented to the Iowa State College Experiment Station for consideration.

Items listed in the Calendar of Work will be reviewed with the experiment station for their approval before any steps are taken to carry out any part of this work.

The Commissioners, technicians, leaders, and farmers will observe the effectiveness of the various erosion control measures in use on the farms and recommend changes or improvements when necessary.

Cooperative Enterprises

There are many individuals and organizations within the district such as the County Board of Supervisors, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Vocational Agricultural teachers, County Superintendent

of Schools, Farm Bureau, Churches, Conservation officer, Farm Forester, Grange, Conservation League, County Engineer, and contractors who can give fine support to the cause of soil conservation. The Commissioners hope and expect to cooperate with these groups as problems develop which require joint action to find the appropriate solution. Details of such cooperation will be worked out which are mutually satisfactory as the occasion arises.

Acknowledgement of Assistance

The Commissioners wish to acknowledge the assistance of the representatives of the Iowa Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Farm Bureau, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Farm Forester, Vocational Agricultural Teachers, County Board of Supervisors, and local farmers in formulating the program and work plan of the District.

Delaware County Soil Conservation District

By _____
Chairman, District Governing Body

Date: January 13 1945

"The signing of this District Work Plan was authorized by a resolution of the District Governing Body adopted at a meeting held on January 13 1945."

Secretary, District Governing Body

DELAWARE COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MANCHESTER, IOWA

APPENDIX
DISTRICT WORK PLAN

CALENDAR OF WORK

Delaware County Soil Conservation District

January 1, 1945 to January 1, 1946

ADMINISTRATION

WHAT	HOW	WHEN	WHO	WHERE	GOAL FOR 1945	OBJECTIVE
Regular Meetings	Meeting	2nd Sat. of month	Commissioners Agencies	Farm Bureau Office	12	12 each year
Reports	Progress - Problems & Report from records	December 1945	Commissioners	To Coop. Agencies & Farmers	One	At least one each year
Assistant Commissioner	Appointment by Problem areas	Winter	District Commissioner	Regular Meeting	15 or more	Appoint every two years
Revision of the Work Plan	Meeting	January 1946	Commissioners Agencies Farm Leaders	District Office		Revised each year 1st Jan. meeting

EDUCATION

WHAT	HOW	WHEN	WHO	WHERE	GOAL FOR 1945	OBJECTIVE
Contouring	Demonstration	Spring Fall	Co. Director SCS - Agric. Teacher - Leaders	As approved	16 demonstrations 80 farms	241,000 acres
Terraces	Demonstration	Spring Fall	Co. Director SCS - Farmer Leaders	As approved	2 demonstrations	100,000 acres
Waterway Development	Demonstration	Fall	Co. Director SCS - Farmer Leaders	As approved	4 demonstrations	Grassed waterway on every farm
Exhibits	Window displays & at fair	Winter Spring	Co. Director SCS - Farm Forester	11 towns in district & Co. Fair	12	72 or more
News Stories	Local stories	2 per month	Co. Director SCS - Farm Forester	District	24	24 per year
Contouring	Schools	Winter	Commissioners Co. Director SCS - Farmer Leaders	Neighborhood Groups - F. B. Township meetings	15	15
Leader Training Soils & Fertilizers	Schools	Winter	Commissioners Co. Director Specialist	Manchester	1	20

EDUCATION

WHAT	HOW	WHEN	WHO	WHERE	GOAL FOR 1945	OBJECTIVE
Tree Planting	Demonstration	Spring	Agric. classes Co. Director - SCS - Farm Forester - Conservation Officer	District	1 Woodland 1 Wildlife 1 Windbreak	1430 acres
Training - Drainage	Farmer training school	Winter	Co. Director Specialists Farmers - Tilers	Manchester	1	1 or more
Liming	Publicity Meetings	Fall Spring	Co. Director Leaders Agencies	District	20,000	72,300 tons per year
Timber Management	Demonstration Areas	Summer Fall	Cooperator Farm Forester Co. Director SCS	District	3	3
Grass Plantings	Establish Plots	Spring	Co. Director SCS - Cooperator	Along Highway in District	1	1
Timber Management	Farm Forestry Plans Farmer District Plan	Spring Summer Winter	Farm Forester SCS - Cooperators	District	1,000 acres	20,000 acres

PLANNING

WHAT	HOW	WHEN	WHO	WHERE	GOAL FOR 1945	OBJECTIVE
Conservation Surveys	Field Surveys	Spring Summer Fall	SCS soil surveyor	Farms approved	6280 acres	281,600 acres
Group Planning for Erosion control and Drainage	Group Meeting	Winter Summer	Commissioners SCS - Farm Forester	Lake Watershed As approved	20 farms	1700 farms
Planning	Individual	Winter Summer	SCS - Farm Forester	As approved	6 farms	60 farms
Farmer Request for Planning Assistance	Written Application	During Year	Co. Director SCS, AAA, Farm Leaders, Comm. Farm Forester	District	50	1760

APPLICATION

WHAT	HOW	WHEN	WHO	WHERE	GOAL FOR 1945	OBJECTIVE
Layout	Field	Spring Fall	Farmers - SCS - Farm Forester	District Cooperators Farms	14 farms	1760 farms

RESEARCH & OBSERVATION STUDIES

WHAT	HOW	WHEN	WHO	WHERE	GOAL FOR 1945	OBJECTIVE
Contour yield plots vs. Up-Down-hill	Field plots Carrington Soil	Spring Fall	Exp. Station Extension Service SCS Coop.	District	6	6 each year
Fertilizer Plots	Field plots	Spring	Exp. Station Extension Service - Farmer	District	1	4
Value of timber for pasture	Woodland pasture Check on Returns	Spring	Farm Forester SCS - Co. Director - Comm. Cooperators	District	1	1
Fertilizer - Live stock production	Pasture plots	As soon as co-operator can be located	Exp. Station Extension Service - Co. Director Cooperator	District		1
Tillage Plot	Field plots Listing vs. surface planting	Spring	Exp. Station Extension Service - SCS - Farmer	District	1	1 or more
Delaware Co. Exp. Farm	Stock Co.	1945	Exp. Station Farmer Stock holders Commissioners Conservation Club - Farm Bureau - Extension Service	District	1	1

COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES

WHAT	HOW	WHEN	WHO	WHERE	GOAL FOR 1945	OBJECTIVE
Wildlife	Meeting	Winter	Conservation Officer - District Comm.	Office	Agreement on Wildlife Management	
Highway - Erosion & Drainage Problem	Meeting & Tour	Summer	Supervisors Co. Engr. Dist. Comm.	District	Understanding of problem	
Contractors	Meeting	Summer	Contractors - Drainage - Heavy equipment - Dist. Comm.	District Office	Understanding price & specifications	

Definitions of Land Classes
According to Use Capabilities

5-16-42

Class I

Land colored green on the conservation survey map includes level or nearly level highly productive soils, well drained naturally or artificially. They are free from stones, rock outcrops, and other impediments to cultivation and subject to little or no erosion.

In order to maintain or improve present productivity, these soils will require generally accepted practices (*) followed in a good soil management program. Supporting erosion control practices (**) generally will not be needed.

Class II

Land colored yellow on the conservation survey map includes nearly level moderately productive soils, and gently rolling moderate to highly productive soils, well to intermediately drained. These lands are free from stones, rock outcrops, and other impediments to cultivation, and are subject to slight to moderate erosion.

In order to maintain or improve present productivity, these soils will require the generally accepted practices (*) followed in a good management program, including a rotation having a legume grass mixture at least 25 per cent of the time. The soil management program will need to be supported by applicable erosion control practices (**).

Class III

Land colored red on the conservation survey map includes level low producing soils, gently rolling low to moderately productive soils, and rolling moderate to highly productive soils, well to poorly drained but capable of being drained. These are relatively free from stones, rock outcrops, and other impediments to cultivation, and are subject to from slight to severe erosion.

In order to maintain or improve the present productivity, these soils will require the generally accepted practices (*) followed in a good soil management program, including a rotation having a legume grass mixture at least 40 per cent of the time. The soil management program will need to be supported by a more intensive use of applicable erosion control practices (**).

Class IV

Land colored blue on the conservation survey map is suitable for occasional or limited cultivation. The physical factors included in this class may vary from nearly level, poorly drained valley land, soils of low moisture holding capacity, to steeply rolling lands subject to severe erosion if cultivated.

In order to maintain or improve present productivity, these soils will require the generally accepted practices (*) followed in a good soil management program, and will be used primarily for permanent hay or pasture. The soil management program will need to be supported by the intensive use of applicable erosion control practice (**), when in limited cultivation or when re-establishing vegetation.

Class VI

Land colored orange on the conservation survey map includes land not suitable for cultivation because of one or more physical factors, such as impracticability of drainage, low moisture holding capacity, steeply rolling topography, or severe erosion. This class may also include soils having special problems such as stoniness, rock outcrops, or other factors. These conditions require moderate restrictions in use.

These soils will be used for permanent vegetation, either pasture or woodland, and will require special management practices.

Class VII

Lands colored brown (terra cotta) on the conservation survey map include lands not suitable for cultivation because of one or more physical factors enumerated in class VI of such intensity or combination that require severe restrictions in use.

These soils will be used for permanent vegetation, woodland or pasture, and may require more practices or practices must be more intensively applied than in class VI.

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* Generally accepted practices followed in a good soil management program are: (1) Cultivation, (2) Liming, (3) Return of organic matter, (4) Commercial fertilizers.

** Supporting erosion control practices are:

A. Vegetation

1. Contour strip cropping
2. Contour buffer strips
3. Grassed waterways
4. Cover crops
5. Reforestation

B. Mechanical

1. Contour tillage
2. Terracing
3. Contour furrowing
4. Gully control
5. Basin listing

Note - The disposal of overflow water has been considered as a drainage problem.

Delaware County

District

Date

December 15, 1944

Recommendations for Land Treatment According to Use Capability

Class, Color and Land Use	Class Descriptions	Maximum Rotations	Supporting Practices
I Green Cropland	a. Level to nearly level and highly productive b. Subject to little or no erosion c. Well drained d. Free from obstacles to cultivation	C-C-G-M	None
II Yellow Cropland	a. Gently rolling, moderately to highly productive or level, moderately productive b. Subject to slight to moderate erosion c. Well to intermediately drained d. Free from obstacles to cultivation	C-C-G-M C-G-M C-G-M-M C-G-M C-G-M-M-M	Terraces Contour Strip Crop Contour None 0-2% 2-9%
III Red Cropland	a. Rolling, moderately to highly productive or level, low productivity b. Subject to slight to severe erosion c. Well to poorly drained, but capable of being well drained d. Free from obstacles to cultivation	C-G-M C-G-M-M C-G-M-M-M C-G-M-M-M Permanent Hay	Terraces Contour Strip Crop. Contour None 0-5 5
IV Blue Hay or Pasture	a. Rolling to strongly rolling or level sandy b. Subject to slight to severe erosion c. Relatively free from obstacles to cultivation	Permanent Hay Pasture	Renew in contour strips Improve by renovation
VI Orange	a. Steeply rolling or sloping and sandy b. Subject to severe erosion c. Stones, rock outcrops, etc.	Pasture Timber	Control grazing Seed bare areas Protect from fire and grazing Cut selectively
VII Brown	Similar characteristics to Class VI but of such intensity or combination that they require severe restrictions in use.	Timber Pasture	Protect from fire and grazing Restricted grazing Seed bare areas

C - Clean tilled crop; G - Small grain; M - Meadow (Legume-grass mixture)

Good management practices including cultivation, liming, and the return of organic matter and fertilizers are recommended on all classes of land.