



Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District

Thank You

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A **HUGE** thank you goes out to our contributors: past, present and future. Without you, our community, educational activities and awards would not be possible.

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Monroe County SWCD News



"There can be no greater issue than that of
conservation in this country."
—Theodore Roosevelt

Gullies and Ephemeral Erosion

Do you have a gully or ditch that just keep getting deeper or wider? Or, maybe a waterway that has an erosion problem down each side of it? You may need a tile outlet terrace or basin to control that upland erosion, while the gully may need an impoundment structure, or pond to help stabilize it.

There is cost share and technical assistance available from the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District to help provide alternatives for these issues. The Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District receives money from the State of Iowa to fund up to 50% of the estimated cost or actual cost whichever is lower. Currently, there is a cap of \$5,000 cost share reimbursement per project.



There are also no-interest loans and low interest loans available through the Soil District to help cover projects. The no-interest loan cannot be used alongside cost share. The maximum loan amount is \$10,000 payable over ten years. The low-interest loan can be utilized with cost share funds, or used by itself to assist in the installation of a project. The maximum amount for that can be borrowed is \$50,000. All projects must meet Natural Resources Conservation Service specifications to receive the assistance.

A soil conservation technician can visit the property to evaluate the problem and provide one or more alternatives to solve the soil erosion, or water quality issue.

District Commissioners

Chair—Mervin M^c Danel
Vice-Chair—Donald Niebuhr
Treasurer—Susan Ammons

Robert Scott
Albert Tangie

Assistant Commissioners

Colleen Putnam
George Mackey
Marvin Wirtjes

Discover the Advantages of Cover

If you are looking to increase the productivity of your ground consider COVER CROPS. Cover crops are typically planted in the fall after the harvest of another crop. Using cover crops in between normal cropping seasons can help to reduce soil erosion, limit nitrogen leaching, suppress weeds and increase the soil organic matter. The benefits of the off season crops will: Improve soil health by leaving organic material to decompose, improve water infiltration by reducing soil compaction, improve water retention by protecting the soil from the effects of wind and sun, improve nutrient recycling by retaining fertilizers and releasing it back in to soil and provide additional grazing and haying opportunities

There are several funding sources for producers who wish to enhance their productivity with cover crops. If you are interested in learning about more benefits and cropping options, contact the office.

**DON'T FORGET
TO STOP IN THE
FSA OFFICE**

**MAY 20 -
JUNE 14**

**TO SIGN UP FOR
CRP THIS YEAR!!!**

CRP Nesting Season:
**May 15 -
August 1**

