

Clarke District  
Osceola

# SCRAP BOOK



George Buckett, 63

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

## INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES

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## County Governing Bodies Defeat Soil Proposal

A vote by three Clarke County governing bodies defeated a proposal to secure a county-wide soil survey. At a meeting held Friday morning, January 5, representatives of the Clarke County Board of Supervisors, County Board of Education and the city mayors, each having the right of one vote, defeated the proposal 2-1.

The meeting was held in the Clarke County courthouse and was the result of a proposal submitted to the Clarke County Soil and Water Conservation Commissioners.

The proposal was submitted by the commissioners of the soil district as an aid to farmers throughout the county in obtaining the best results from

their soil and to properly care for their soil. The proposal had been brought before the governing bodies several years ago and was defeated at that time.

Cost of the survey would be approximately \$156,000 with the county paying one-third of the cost, the federal government sharing one-third and the state the final third. The \$52,000 county share would be spread out over the four to six year period that the soil sampling was being done.

In the proposal that was presented five years ago, the cost of the soil sampling would have been \$30,000 for each governing unit or a total of \$90,000.

January 1972

Oscola Sentinel  
Jan 13, 1972



THIS UNFENCED DAM has received severe damage from continued livestock usage. The cow paths are eroding and cutting deeply into the

dam. Also, the area around the water line is slipping into the pond due to the lack of vegetation to hold the soil in place.

### Ponds Need Fencing-In -

## To Prevent Erosion

By Keith A. Ticknor  
District Conservationist

How important is it to fence a pond or erosion control dam or is this just another government requirement? The pond in the above picture illustrates the importance of fencing. Allowing livestock around it at all times had greatly shortened its useful life. The design life of a dam is dependent upon maintaining a grass cover to prevent erosion and deterioration of the structure.

There are other dangers of an unfenced pond at this time of year. When there is a thin crust of ice on the surface, livestock

will walk out on to the ice, break through, and drown. The loss of two or three or more \$300 cows is a high price to pay for \$150 worth of fence.

The quality of the water also deteriorates when livestock are allowed to stand in it. It stays muddy, becomes foul and is soon covered by moss and slime that is dependent upon animal wastes for growth. Disease can be quickly spread under these conditions.

Wildlife is an important secondary benefit of a well managed, improved pond. But the pond shown above, has lost all its attractiveness for wildlife. There is no cover for

rabbits or quail and the water is not suitable for fish production.

Most ponds and erosion control dams have a livestock water pipe installed in them when they are built so that water can be piped from the pond into a water tank. This way the pond can be fenced all the time and the livestock can still get fresh pond water from the tank. ASCS specifications require that a livestock water pond be fenced, but erosion control dams are not required to be fenced. Many of the erosion control dams are also used for livestock water and for the above reasons we strongly encourage that they be fenced.

*Osceola Tribune - 2-1-72*

## State Approval Given for Long Creek Watershed

George Annan, Chairman of the State Soil Conservation Committee, Department of Soil Conservation, announces the approval of the Long Creek Watershed in action taken at the committee's regular monthly meeting held January 17, 1972.

This approval makes the watershed project eligible for federal assistance under the provisions of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, Public Law 566, in planning and installing works of improvement necessary for a complete soil and water conservation program.

The Long Creek Watershed, located in Clarke and Decatur County Soil Conservation Districts, comprises an area of 79,360 acres and encompasses all or parts of 321 farms. Major

problems in the watershed are flood prevention on the major bottomlands of the area, gully stabilization of the main gullies crossing property lines, sheet erosion on the upland fields used for rowcrop production, drainage of the bottomlands along major drainage ways, recreational needs for the people in the area, water source for the towns of Van Wert and Murray, and wildlife are development.

Sponsoring organizations for the Long Creek Watershed are the Clarke and Decatur County Boards of Supervisors, County Conservation Boards, and County Soil Conservation Districts, and the towns of Murray and Van Wert.

*Osceola Sentinel - 2-1-72*

## Elect Toland Chairman Of RC&D Group for '72

The Clarke County Resource Conservation and Development Steering Committee met February 8, at the Soil Conservation Service office to elect officers for 1972. Those present were Jack Jeffreys, Clayton Scott, Doyce Miller, Elva Wolfe, Keith Ticknor, Bob Toland and Melvin Goeldner.

Clayton Scott and Melvin Goeldner were elected to the steering committee for three year terms. Other members of the steering committee are Robert Toland, Jack Jeffreys, Elva Wolfe and Doyce Miller.

Robert Toland was elected chairman, Clayton Scott was

elected vice-chairman and Melvin Goeldner was elected secretary-treasurer.

Jack Jeffreys and Robert Toland were elected to serve on the Executive Board along with Doyce Miller.

Steering Committee members will serve on committees as follows: Project Affairs, Robert Toland; Agriculture, Elva Wolfe; Land and Water, Doyce Miller; Business and Industries, Jack Jeffreys; Community Facilities, Clayton Scott; Recreation, Forestry and Beautification, Melvin Goeldner.

*(Continued on back page)*  
**More About—**

### RC&D

*(Continued From Page four)*

The R. C. & D. project was developed for the purpose of providing a framework through which local people could meet with others in the seven county area to develop plans that will make maximum use of the resources of the area. Unified efforts and unified planning make projects possible that could not be undertaken on a single county basis.

Among the projects proposed for the county are, providing an abundant clean water supply for everyone, improving the airport facilities, and carrying out a demonstrational road-side seeding project.

# Meet to Discuss Landfill Needs

## PLAN MUST BE SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 15

### State Requirements Aimed Toward Ending Pollution

Representatives from three area towns and Osceola met with Clarke County Engineer James Connell and chairman of the local landfill committee, Bill Lear on Monday evening, February 14, in the Clarke County courthouse.

Council members and mayors were represented as well as Leland Hunt of the Clarke County Board of Supervisors. Purpose of the meeting was to explain recent ruling by the State Health Department in regard to landfill measures that all communities and towns must meet. Present plans call for a plan to be submitted to the state that meets the requirements as stated. The plan is due by October of this year.

Bill Lear told of the work that has been done to date in searching out landfill sites in the county. At the present time, two possible sites are available—one at the Sargent Quarries west of Osceola and the other located north of Osceola and owned by Charles Morgan. Both would meet state requirements.

The City Council of Osceola has been served notice by the state to cease burning at the city dump under penalty of being fined. This has caused a restriction of when the dump may be used and also brought the problem home to the city fathers since the dump is rapidly reaching capacity and a different site must be found.

Costs of setting up a dump to meet state requirements and the best method of handling collection was discussed. The recommendation was made that a private operator be contracted with to handle collection of garbage.

Action taken at the meeting consisted of making an ordin-

More About—

### Landfill

(Continued From Page 1)

ance available to municipalities pertinent to forming one agency to handle a landfill site. This will permit engineering to start on a plan that can be submitted to the state from the affected towns and within the county.

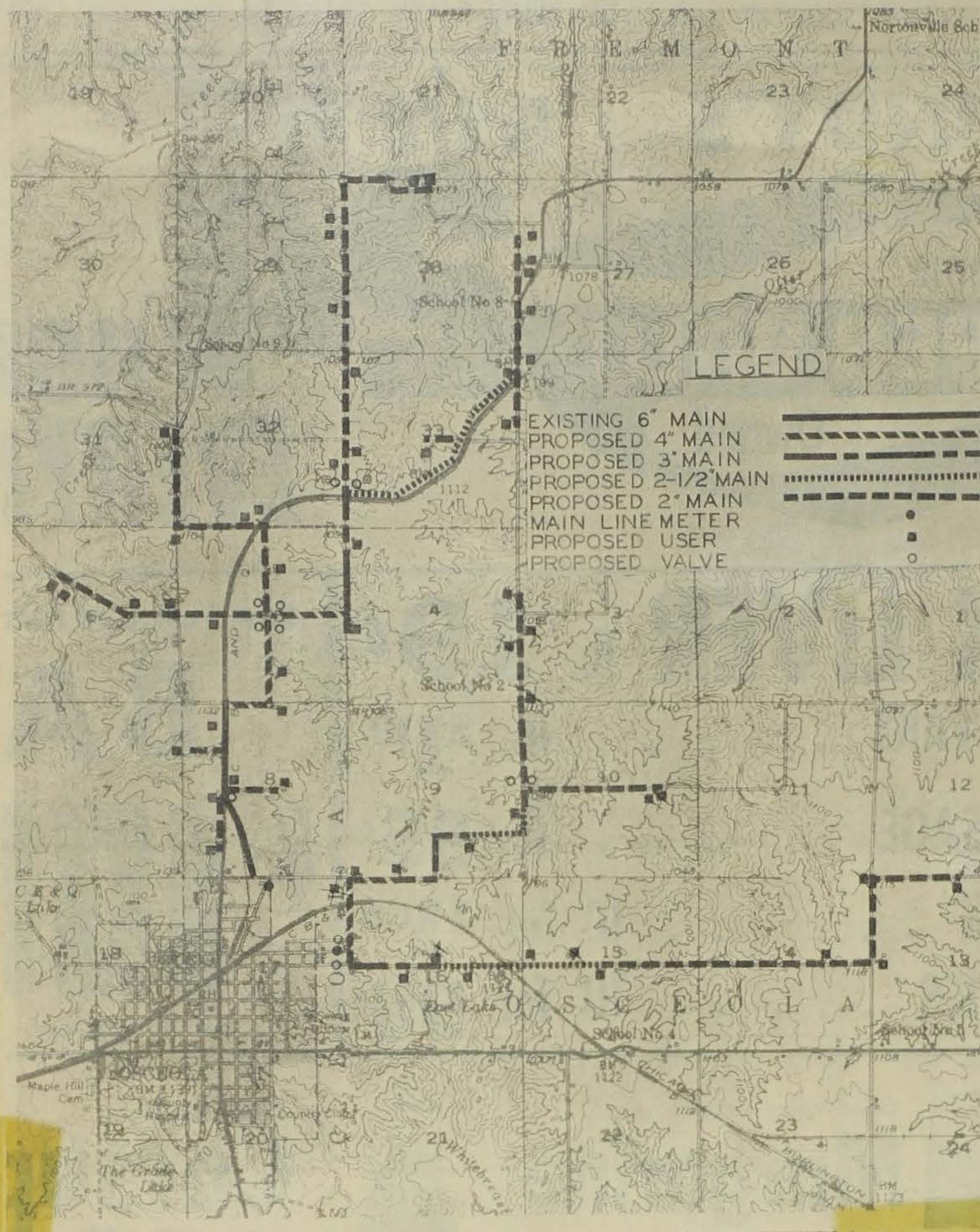
Discussion was held concerning the towns that might be included in the plan and included New Virginia, Woodburn, Van Wert, Weldon, Murray and Osceola. All of the rural area of the county would be included in the plan.

Funding of the landfill project would be by a quarter mill levy provided by law. It was explained by Engineer Connell that this would be but a one-time levy and would not be sufficient to set up the operation. Collection of monies would have to be made by private operators to pay for the cost of pick up.

An additional meeting was scheduled for March with the communities represented to report back on the reaction of the plan from their respective communities.

# Osceola Tribune

## Proposed Rural Water Project May Serve as Model for County



A proposed rural water system for 58 farmers and residents living north and east of Osceola moved one step closer to becoming a reality last week as board members of the non-profit organization reported that 60 percent of the people along the route had signed agreements to proceed with the project.

Doyce Miller, serving as president of the Clarke County corporation, stated that work has been underway for some time in laying groundwork for the program that will make city water available to the 58 potential customers.

Financing of the water distribution system will be accomplished by the users and the Farm Home Administration with a 40-year loan.

Chairman Miller reported that the need was felt by many area farmers who were not able to pump sufficient water from existing wells. Others who relied upon farm ponds were handicapped by water shortages and quality of water in the ponds.

These needs would be met by a rural water system that would pipe city water, purchased from the City of Osceola, to their farms for both household and livestock use.

In addition, it was felt that farmers would benefit from having an immediate supply of water available for added fire protection.

A brief history of the project goes back almost one year when a survey was taken of farmers living within a range of four miles east and north of Osceola. The area was selected by the city's engineer, Bob Buss, within this area because of the topography which would permit gravity flow to be used to provide pressure for the system and an adequate supply of water was available to handle this additional load.

A \$25 fee was collected from interested parties to provide funds for an engineering feasibility study. Tri-State Engineers of Manchester, Iowa were hired to make the survey and recommendations. Based on their findings, the board of directors of Clarke Rural Water District No. 1, as the new corporation is known, proceeded with plans to bring the system into existence.

The report shows that all or portions of 19 sections in Osceola and Fremont Townships will be served by the project. The boundaries were established by the amount of water available from the city and the working pressures available from Osceola's existing water system.

Size of the lines will vary from four inches to two inches, depending on the distance from the source to the user. It is planned that in the future the lines will be looped or connected to provide a more even flow of water and maintain a higher pressure per square inch than is possible with a single line.

Results of the survey showed that a total of 278 people might be served by the new line. Livestock requirements would be for 1,354 beef cattle, 62 dairy cattle, 1,643 calves, 2,805 feeder cattle, 9,500 hogs and sheep, 1,075 poultry and 22 horses.

Design of the proposed distribution system would permit the customers to have a maximum usage per day of 50 gallons per capita with livestock usage to be 134,737 gallons per day or a total of 2,660 gallons per day per customer. Present usage is expected to average 42,078 or 725 gallons per day per member.

Since the water supply of Osceola has an impounding reservoir and a rapid sand and filter treatment plant capable of treating and pumping 1,350 gallons per minute with a 300,000 gallon elevated storage tank, the usage of the new customers would amount to an increase of approximately 10 percent over existing usage.

A total of 18.1 miles of pipe would be laid with an average of 3.20 customers per mile. There

would be 10,283 feet of 4-inch of polyvinylchloride pipe, 9,933 inches of 3-inch pipe, 13,784 feet of 2½ inch pipe and 61,448 feet of 2-inch pipe.

It is planned to have the lines, in most cases, be placed on the private property of the user with easements being obtained from the respective property owners. In cases where it is not practical to locate on private property because of terrain or difficulty in obtaining easements, the pipelines will be located within the public right-of-way with permits obtained from the governing agency.

Recent concurrence by the Iowa Senate in conjunction with the House of Representatives on House File 1084 exempts non-profit rural water corporations from regulation by the Commerce Commission. State Senator John Rhodes stated that this in effect, means that water corporations such as the one being formed, need not extend service to anyone that is not included in the original group if they do not so desire to do so.

It is estimated that a total of approximately \$1,500 will be received in revenue each month to pay for the cost of the system.

Water users have been broken into various groups with the first group of users in the one to 4,000 gallons per month being charged a minimum of \$12.50. Users of 12,000 gallons or less would be charged a minimum of \$22 with those in the third group using 20,000 gallons or less being charged a \$30 minimum.

Board chairman Miller stated that it is hoped that the remainder of the potential customers will sign agreements within the next 10 days so that the F.H.A. loan request can be processed. Providing this can be done, final engineering will be done in the immediate future and the project be advertised for bids.

Members of the Board, which includes Doyce Miller, Charles Morgan, Gerald Pedersen, Jack Cooley and Ronald Reed, stated that they hope for pipe to be laid by early summer and the system to be put into usage soon thereafter.

A total estimated cost of \$147,627.00 will be required for the project with a loan in the amount of \$140,266.00 requested. Present indications are that funding is available for the project, but that there are not sufficient funds for a county-wide project. F.H.A. officials revealed that a total of \$9 million will be available for projects of all types in Iowa and that a 99-county breakdown limits the money available within a given area.

## Conservation Board Proposes -

# Variety of Projects

March 6. Richard Gonseth was elected chairman, Bill Oehlert, vice chairman and Lloyd Phillips, secretary-treasurer. These officers will serve for one year.

Other members serving on

Kenneth Johnson, Louis King, Don Dale, Hugh Carroll, Bill Boyd, Ernest Winter, Howard Ruble, Don Short and Jack Leonard.

Bill Brune, Assistant State Conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service, met with the board to explain the provisions of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policy Act that was recently passed.

Brune stated that low level aerial photos will be taken of the watershed this spring and that survey of control points for these photos will be started soon. The work plan for the watershed is scheduled to be completed approximately a year from now.

Board members are making good progress towards obtaining a land treatment survey for all land above the proposed structure sites. They are making on the farm visits to ask about crops used, rotations and other needed land use information. At least 75 percent of the land above a structure must be within tolerable soil loss limits before it can be built.

## PLANS BEING DRAWN FOR PROPOSALS

Yale Moeller Hired To  
Make County-wide  
Report

A variety of ideas are being proposed in Clarke County that will involve the local Conservation Board. If the plans being made come to fruition, Clarke County will have a roadside park, game preserve and historic sites noted with plaques.

The Conservation Board, an investigative and advisory body, has been one of the organizations interested in the promoting both the White Breast Watershed and Long Creek Watershed projects in the county. During the past year, their attention has turned to projects within the county of a recreational and historical nature.

These interests were noted by a survey that was conducted by the Board the fore part of 1971. Melvin Goeldner, chairman of the Board, reported that a return of 263 questionnaires were received with the order of importance listing camping, picnicking, lakes, historical museum, fishing, boating and wayside parks.

At a special meeting in November, Yale Moeller of Des Moines met with the Board to discuss a plan for the county in which projects might be feasible and to discuss the hiring of himself to prepare a comprehensive plan.

A contract with Moeller was signed in December for the purpose of developing a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan for Clarke County. This plan is intended to meet standards of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.

Chairman Goeldner pointed out that funding is available, providing specifications are met, to pay for certain projects. Presently, approximately \$10,400 through the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and an additional amount of \$22,843 from county funds that will be collected through 1972.

Projects of a similar nature have been undertaken in several surrounding counties. A Slip Bluff park has been established in Decatur City through the efforts of the Conservation Board and in Lucas County, an information center has been built.

Plans for Clarke County included the suggestions for a roadside park south of Murray along highway 34; a plaque commemorating Prairie Grove in Washington Township; a plaque commemorating Jamison in Fremont Township; some type of notice drawn to the big rock on the Arthur Fouche farm in Fremont Township; recognition of the fact that coal was mined in Jackson Township and the fact that the remains of the coal mining operation may still be seen; improvement of facilities at East Lake in Osceola Township; some type of commemorative plaque for the Lost Camp of the Mormons and the first permanent settler in Clarke County located in Franklin Township as well as the possibility of creating a game preserve in Franklin Township; reclamation of Lewis Springs in Knox Township; recognition of Green Bay Township through the White-breast structures to be located there; and in Doyle Township, recognition of Greg Chapel as the site of the first church in Clarke County as well as the first school.

Board members, including chairman Goeldner, Floyd Edwards, Howard Ruble, Bob Cooley and Harold Bonnett with the assistance of Keith Ticknor of the Soil Conserva-

tion Service, have arrived at the point where with the aid of the comprehensive, county-wide plan, action can start on some of the projects. The group asks for further suggestions as to the needs of the county.

*Osceola Sentinel* 3-9-72

# Elect Gonseth White Breast Chairman for '72

Election of officers for the White Breast Watershed was held at their regular meeting March 6. Richard Gonseth was elected chairman, Bill Oehlert, vice chairman and Lloyd Phillips, secretary-treasurer. These officers will serve for one year.

Other members serving on

the board are Charles Rodgers, George Nelson, Doyle Waller, Bill Danner, Jack Obermeier, Kenneth Johnson, Louis King, Don Dale, Hugh Carroll, Bill Boyd, Ernest Winter, Howard Ruble, Don Short and Jack Leonard.

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able basis for continuing... Panama Canal." necessary to point out that the United States has no need assistance from Panama to operate and defend the Canal. Panamanian Government has had 59 Presidents in the past ars, which is a fairly good indication of the instability, the character and the unreliability of Panama as a partner in operation and defense of the Canal. Canal Zone was bought acre by acre and is held in per- ty by the United States under a treaty signed in 1903 with ma. The net total investment of United States taxpayers in Panama Canal was more than \$5 billion by June 30, 1968. representative Daniel J. Flood, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., said in

Technical Sergeant Richa Witter of Des Moines is the ne Air Force recruiter for t Clarke County area. Clarke County teachers w have an active part in the a day meeting of the Sou Central District of the Iov State Education Association. be held Monday, March 26. The Osceola Sportsman club which operates the "Q pond west of the city recent

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gradual erosion of the very foun When will management rea gotten us into the mess we're in a return to aggressive leaders We neither envision nor reco or sweat-shop or straw boss into decision-making and reco centives for a dedicated emplo he'll be able to keep working something that the giveawa forgotten.



THEY'VE GOT TO BE THERE: Ray LeFebvre and his sons, Kary, Kelly and Kurk take full advantage of the opportunities to be found in a farm pond as they test their skill

with poles in their search for bass. An occasional good catch makes the fishing worth while.

## Give Rules to Stock Fish in Farm Ponds

By Keith A. Ticknor,  
District Conservationist

The National Fish Hatchery has announced that the cut-off date for receiving applications for fish to be delivered this year is April 20. This means that you must get your application in right away if you want free fish for your pond this year. Applications should be made at the Soil Conservation Service office.

In order to qualify for Federal Fish stocking the owners' pond must be at least 0.5 acres in size and at least 8 feet deep or deeper at full spillway level. No stocking will be approved if the pond contains any predacious fish population which has been established for more than one year prior to the requested date of stocking. Ponds which are affiliated with Commercial Enterprises such as a resort, motel, real estate promotional project, fish out pond, hatchery, or fish farming ventured are not eligible to receive fish. Largemouth bass and channel catfish are the two kinds of fish which can be obtained for stocking. These fish are provided in fingerling size only.

You should plan to put catfish in the pond one season before the bass are stocked so that the catfish will be big enough that the bass won't eat them all.

The following are rules which should be followed for good pond management from the initial stocking.

1. Don't put any other fish in the pond.
2. Don't fish for bass until they have spawned. Ordinarily this will be the 2nd summer after stocking. After they have spawned, don't remove more than 25 bass/acre/year.
3. Fence your pond to keep cattle from wading and trampling the edges.
4. If a serious weed problem develops consult the Soil Conservation Service for advice.
5. Do not plant aquatic vegetation in the pond.
6. Adequate vegetation cover should be grown on land around the pond to prevent erosion and silty water.
7. Fertilize only when needed. Do not start a fertilization program unless you plan to continue it.

For further information regarding Fish Stocking, contact your local Soil Conservation Service office.

Time Has Come to Plan

## Seeding Cropland

By Keith A. Ticknor  
District Conservationist

During the past few years, there has been an accelerated interest in grassland management in Southern Iowa. To obtain high yields from our cropland, an intensive system of management must be used. This is also true in grassland management. Right now farmers are planning their seedings for this year. To obtain a good grass stand, several items should be considered and development of a good grass stand will be dependent upon germination, establishment, and growth.

Germination is the starting of growth by a live seed. Many things effect germination such as the amount of air needed for the seed to germinate. Wet soil will allow very little air. Different seeds will require different temperatures to germinate making the date of seeding very important. Also, the proper amount of moisture must be present. Too much moisture can be as harmful as too little moisture. Physical characteristics of seed effect germination. For example, a seed with an externally hard seed coat may require special treatment.

Establishment is the process of keeping the plant going after the seed germinates. This is a very critical time in a plants life.

Since the majority of seedlings being established are cool season plants, early establishment is important. But, many times after the seed germinates, the temperature drops below freezing killing the germinated seed. To survive freezing temperatures, the young plant must have developed an adequate root system. With the small size seed used in hay and pasture seedings, the amount of soil cover becomes critical. Too often the seed is planted at too great a depth and dies. However, insufficient cover over a seed will not protect it against drying or freezing. Therefore, proper placement is very important.

It is important to consider the type of soil used for a seed bed and the method in which it is prepared. Many soils crust after a rainfall and the small seedlings are unable to push through and die. It is also important that the soil does not dry out immediately after the seed germinates. A mulch cover may be considered, to keep the soil loose and moist.

Growth refers to items that effect the seedling after it is established. The presence of sufficient nutrients (lime and fertilizer) will be very important for growth and can only be determined by soil test for each type of soil. The soil type will determine the ability of water to infiltrate into the soil and should be considered when selecting the type of seeding. Some grasses will tolerate very wet soil while others require

well drained soils. Too often, failure of a seeding is due to droughtiness. This droughtiness is not only due to the lack of enough rainfall but to the competition for water by weeds or a companion crop.

Growth of seedlings may be slowed, by insects or disease which may not destroy the stand but cause it to be poor. It is important that the species selected be disease resistant and insect tolerant. A major cause of seeding failure is winter killing which may be due to late establishment, overgrazing or seed varieties not adapted to this area.

Oscula Sentinel  
Soil Service 4-27-72

### Offers Teachers Fall Conference

Interested local teachers will have an opportunity to again participate in the fall conference for teachers sponsored by the Iowa Conservation Education Council. The conference features field tours in soil conservation, geology, water and related natural resources. Speakers and displays of current materials are also included in the two-day event.

Due to increased interest among teachers, the program will be expanded this year, stated Keith Ticknor, head of the local Soil and Water Conservation district office. The conference will be held October 13 and 14 with one conference slated at the 4-H camp near Luther and the second at Camp Ewalu near Strawberry Point in northeast Iowa.

Teachers from the local schools have participated in the conference in recent years.

*Oscula Sentinel*  
4-27-72

## Plans Proceed For Watershed

Technical planning on the White Breast Watershed project is proceeding, Wilson T. Moon, State Conservationist, announced last week in a letter to Richard Gonseth, chairman of the local Conservation District.

In reporting that aerial photos necessary for topographic maps have been taken, Moon announced that ground control survey groups should be working in approximately a month.

He also stated that part of the technical studies would include the possibility of a water supply for both rural and urban needs. Preliminary investigation studies carried out in the watershed prior to requesting planning authorization indicated that there were several storage sites within the watershed area that met requirements for recreation and water supply as well as flood prevention.

District Soil Conservationist Keith Ticknor reported that a period of three years is usually required from the time approval is given to the project until it is completed.

*Oscula Sentinel* - 5-4-72

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, the orderly development and improvement of Iowa land and water resources through soil and water conservation programs, flood prevention and wise land use are essential to the increase of agricultural and urban income, to the protection of the economy and tax base of this state, and to the improvement of the quality of our natural environment and recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the State of Iowa and the one hundred soil conservation districts within the state are coordinating and operating a constructive program of soil and water conservation, flood prevention work, and related natural resources development to meet the needs of today's farms, ranches, cities and society in general; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we continue at every available opportunity our cooperative efforts in soil and water conservation programs, watershed programs and resource conservation and development projects:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert D. Ray, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim the week of May 7-14, 1972, as

### SOIL STEWARDSHIP WEEK

in Iowa, and urge all organizations and citizens of our state to participate in soil and water conservation programs and activities which have become vital to our continued success and progress as a State and Nation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 27th day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventy-two.

Robert D. Ray,  
Governor

Melvin D. Synhorst,  
Secretary of State

*Oscula Sentinel*

5-11-72

This Is Soil Stewardship Week —



### USE AND SUPPORT YOUR CONSERVATION DISTRICT

It's the will and the skill of responsible man  
To protect and use wisely the treasures of land —  
The waters and wildlife, the forests and fields,  
Plus the bounty of beauty God's countryside yields.

It's the fight against ignorance, waste, and greed  
To save the resources that all men need.  
It's the foe of erosion, forest fire, and flood —  
Three agents of ruin, pollution, and mud.

It's the vision and work to add something good  
To the home, to the farm, to the whole neighborhood.  
It's new lawns and new gardens; a lake built to please;  
It's roadsides with grass and hilltops with trees.

There's a lot to be done for the state of our living  
But each gain requires your share of self-giving.

Consider conservation. Consider it well.

*Osceola Tribune* 5-23-72

# Amend By-laws Of RC&D Group

The Constitution and By-Laws of the Southern Iowa RC&D Project were amended to provide for a more total representation of all people in the seven county project area. Six persons from each county in the Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Develop-

ment Project will represent the membership of the counties and provide the leadership to carry out the objectives. The six members shall consist of a representative for the County Board of Supervisors, a representative for the County Conservation Board, a representative for the Soil Conservation District Governing Body and three (3) representatives for the incorporated cities and towns. Thus, these board members will be appointed by and be responsible to elected officials making the appointments.

During the next two months, the County RC&D Steering Committees will be meeting with city officials, County Boards of Supervisors, and the Soil Conservation District Governing Body to have county representatives appointed.

The present County Steering Committees will direct the activities of the Southern Iowa RC&D Project until the County Board members are appointed by the appropriate authorities.

The Southern Iowa RC&D Project moved to proceed with the necessary legal work in incorporation of the organization as a non-profit corporation.

It was reported that the work plans for two RC&D measures have been completed, a Road Stabilization project in Ringgold County costing approximately \$59,700 (Federal contribution \$39,100 and Local contribution \$20,600); and a land treatment measure to Bedford Park in Taylor County (approximately 45 acres of forest and wildlife plantings) costing approximately \$2,410 (Federal contribution \$1,860 and Local contribution \$550.)



**WHITE BREAST WATERSHED:** Surveying in the White Breast Watershed has been progressing rapidly during the past three weeks. Jim Fluke, survey party leader, and Mark Cooper are shown as they move through a wooded area approximately three miles southeast of Osceola. Elevations are being established in the watershed area so that

contour maps can be prepared. When this is completed, preliminary engineering work can be done to determine the size and exact location of the proposed structures. With this information, a work plan will be drawn up and presented to the local people for their approval. The work plan is expected to be completed before the end of 1972.



**OUTDOOR CLASSES:** With warm weather and kids eager to get out of school, it is a good time to move classes outdoors. Mrs. Wilma Carson, science teacher, with the assistance of Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist, took approximately 120 seventh grade

students on a field trip to the Robert Myers farm north of Jamison. The students were able to see in the field, many of the things that they had studied in the classroom during the year.

Osceola Sentinel 6-1-72

## Teachers' Camp Being Planned

You Name It!

Why, that's nothing but a weedpatch.

I say it's a garden.

A forest is more like it.

I call that a rockpile.

It's a bird sanctuary.

A fish pond!

A weather station.

It's all those things, but we call it an outdoor classroom... a place where children can learn first-hand about the environment.

An outdoor classroom supplements and stimulates the environmental conservation education program in a school. It is a place for creative learning experiences, where students can "see" as well as "touch", while they learn about their environment. An outdoor classroom gives depth, meaning and new dimensions to generalizations about and understandings of man's relationship to his environment.

If you are a teacher and would like to learn more about conservation, contact the Clarke County Soil Conservation District Office, Telephone No. 342-2917, for information about the Iowa Teachers' Camp which will be held this summer at Springbrook State Park.

## Bruce Wight To Serve Area

Works As Student Trainee  
For SWCD In  
County



Bruce Wight

Bruce Wight, a senior at Iowa State University at Ames, is working as a student trainee in the district Soil and Water Conservation office in Osceola.

Keith Ticknor, head of the local SWCD office, stated that Wight would spend the three summer months in assisting in all phases of the work programs which includes dams, water supply and erosion control practices.

Wight is majoring in forestry and plans to enter the Soil Conservation Service following his graduation.

He is the son of Mrs. Ione Wight of Winterset and is commuting to his summer work in Clarke County.

Osceola Sentinel  
8-3-72

## Farm Safety Is Necessary

In a single year over 3,000 farm lives are claimed in farmwork and home accidents. That may not seem like so many but when one considers that is almost equivalent to the population of Osceola, the figure becomes staggering. As many as 400,000 are disabled in such accidents. This week has been designated as Farm Safety Week by the President and is meant to be a reminder to the farmer to think safety. However, safety should be thought of and practiced year round not just this one week.

There are two keys in farm safety, the first being "Prevention." The removal of a potential hazard today may save some misery tomorrow. The farmer should try to get in the habit of constantly looking for possible danger spots and removing them today not tomorrow. He should also become accustomed to doing things in a safe manner. Although it might take a little longer, the safe way will pay off in the long run.

Of course there are times when one has to perform a potentially dangerous act. The danger can be lessened to a degree if protective equipment is used. For instance, many head injuries could be prevented if the farmer wore a hard hat. It may not be as comfortable as your old hat or cap, but it would have saved a lot of pain from that blow on the head when you were working underneath your tractor. Also, during this time of extensive chemical use such as pesticides, the farmer should protect his eyes from the burning chemicals with safety glasses or goggles. They will also protect the eyes from flying objects including just plain dirt. It's pretty hard to plant corn if you are blind!

There is other safety equipment which would be beneficial. For example, filter masks or respirators help stop all the dust and dangerous chemical fumes from getting into your lungs. Also, with all the heavy machinery today, a lot of noise is created which when listened to for a sustained period of time may be harmful to your hearing. Some sort of

ear plug is quite helpful in preventing hearing loss. Finally, precautions should be taken to protect your feet. Most industries require safety shoes with a steel toe. The farming industry being an individualistic business has no such widespread ruling but you may wish it did when your old cow steps on your foot.

The second big key to farm safety, is "Preparedness". If tragedy does strike, every member in your family should be able to act quickly and efficiently to aid the victim. You should have a first aid kit and have it well supplied. Place it in an easy to reach location, and make sure everyone knows where it is and above all how to use it. Many times an accident victim's most crucial moments are those immediately following the accident. If first aid is applied immediately and properly, it may mean the difference between life and death.

Farm safety is very important and should be practiced and thought about always. One should never relax his search for possible danger. When a person relaxes, that's when tragedy strikes. It would be terrible enough if you lost your sight or hearing, but think what it would do to your family if they lost you!

OSCEOLA, IOWA 50213. TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1972



**RECEIVES CHECK:** David Johannes, instructor in the Clarke Community High School, receives a check from Keith Richard of the Clarke County State Bank. Johannes attended the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp at Springbrook State Park from July 2-22. The three-week sessions are designed to

help teachers learn new ways of instructing students in conservation and ecology. Local teachers have been sponsored by the Soil Conservation District and bank in recent years. Doyce Miller, chairman of the local soil district, observes the presentation.

SCS-INF-74 7/17/72 Rev. 9-69  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Name of paper Osceola Tribune  
Where published Osceola, Iowa  
Date of issue 7/18/72  
Sent by Keith A. Ticknor  
S. C. D. Clarke  
Stationed at Osceola, Iowa

CLASSIFICATION: Weekly column ☐  
Story (SCS) ☐  
(Other) ☒  
Feature (SCS) ☐  
(Other) ☐  
Editorial ☐  
Advertisement ☐  
Cons. picture ☐

## Local Man at SCS Camp

David Johannes of Osceola, is currently attending the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp at Springbrook State Park near Guthrie Center.

The camp is sponsored jointly by the State Conservation Commission, University of Northern Iowa, and the State Department of Public Instruction. This program provides the opportunity for Iowa teachers to learn conservation by taking field trips led by experts in the field of forestry, geology, soils, botany, fish and game management, and natural resource conservation in general.

Johannes and approximately 50 other teachers from all parts of the State receive college credits for their participation in this nationally famous outdoor school, now in its 23rd summer. He will be at the camp from July 2 to July 22. He is a high school teacher at Clarke Community School. He is being sponsored at the camp by the Clarke County Soil Conservation District.

SCS-INF-74 Rev. 9-69  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Name of paper Osceola Sentinel  
Where published Osceola, Iowa  
Date of issue 5/18/72  
Sent by Keith A. Ticknor  
S. C. D. Clarke  
Stationed at Osceola

CLASSIFICATION: Weekly column ☐  
Story (SCS) ☐  
(Other) ☒  
Feature (SCS) ☐  
(Other) ☐  
Editorial ☐  
Advertisement ☐  
Cons. picture ☐

## Invite Public To Pond Meet

"The public is invited to attend a Pond Management meeting on Thursday evening, May 25, 1972, from 6:45 to 9:00 p.m.," stated Bill Sirowy, Clarke County Extension Director. The evening pond-side meeting will be held at Melvin Goeldner's pond, located 1.7 miles south of Osceola on Highway 69.

Dr. Robert Moorman, Extension Wildlife Conservationist from Iowa State University, will be the featured speaker at the evening activity. He will discuss general pond management practices including aquatic weed control, algae problems, management of fish, fishing techniques. Dr. Moorman will allow ample time for questions regarding pond management and he encourages those attending to air such questions.

Keith Ticknor, S.C.S. District Conservationist, will also be at the meeting to answer any questions relating to establishing a pond.

The entrance to Mr. Goeldner's pond is 1.7 miles south of the four-way stop in Osceola on Highway 69. The program will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. with registration being from 6:45 to 7:00 p.m.

In case of rain or inclement weather, the meeting will be held in the 4-H Building in Osceola.

Persons having questions about the meeting should contact the Clarke County Extension Service.

SCS-INF-74 Rev. 9-69  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

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Advertisement ☐  
Cons. picture ☐

## Bird Brochure Is Available

### Spring

It's spring—birds on the wing—and time to consider how you can attract more robins, bluebirds and cardinals to your neighborhood. For midwestern homeowners, a colorful new brochure, "Invite Birds to Your Home—Conservation Plantings for the Midwest" has been prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service.

The brochure describes and

illustrates a number of trees, shrubs and other plants that attract different birds. It suggests how to create a landscape design, mentions the needs of various plants for sun, soil and water, and lists the plant foods preferred by common midwestern birds.

Single copies of "Invite Birds to Your Home—Conservation Plantings for the Midwest" PA-982 are available from the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

An earlier brochure, "Invite Birds to Your Home—Conservation Plantings for the Northeast" PA-940 is also available from the Office of

## 7 OSCEOLA SENTINEL May 18, 1972

Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist in the Clarke Soil Conservation District, says the office in Osceola also has a limited supply of the booklets.

Conservationists Say —

# SOIL SURVEY IS NEEDED

By Bruce Wight  
Soil Conservationist

How would you like to build a new home only to have the ground shift and buckle the side of the house? This happens quite often and is unnecessary because such things can be predicted and prevented. If the homeowner had considered the soil type before he started to build, the resulting catastrophe might have been prevented. How can a homeowner find out the soil type? He could take a soil sample and have it analyzed. He would then know the soil type but probably not know its suitability for construction without further investigation. This procedure could be shortened drastically if a thorough soil survey for that county had been completed. If so, all the homeowner would need to do is find his building site on the soil map in the survey giving the soil type and look up that soil type in the survey and readily find out its suitability for construction.

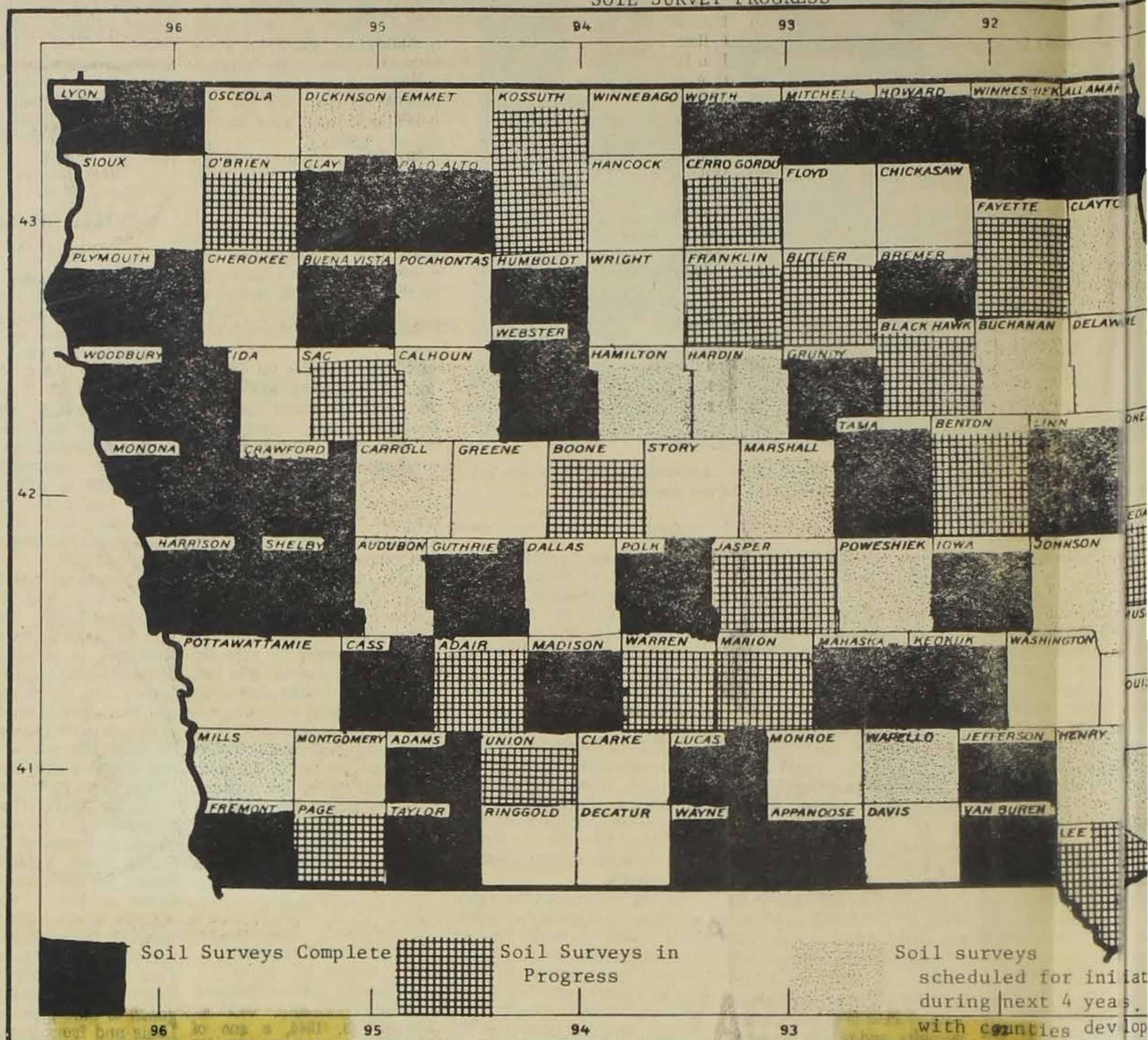
The soil survey contains an abundance of information. This information includes basic facts about the soil accompanied by a map drawn on an aerial photo locating each soil type. A report goes along with this describing the soil characteristics of each type and explaining their application to such things as farm management, engineering, and land use planning. There is also information and suggestions for the best use of the soil for pasture, crops, or timber. All this information is very valuable in helping plan the intelligent use of our land to support our rapidly increasing population.

There are numerous uses of a soil survey other than building a home. The farmer can use the soil type information on his farm for profitable crop production. Each type varies in yield capabilities, fertilizer needs, and other management problems. With the information from the survey these problems and needs can be anticipated, and the proper management practice applied. Engineers can also use the survey to help decide the best location for roads, buildings, and industrial sites. Zoning officials are finding the soil information useful in planning land use in the best interest of the public. Land appraisers are using the soil information for credit purposes, investment, and taxation. Many Iowa counties which have the survey are using them to set taxes in an equitable manner based on the soil's potential rather than the management ability of the individual owner. According to Iowa law, counties having field work completed on a soil survey are supposed to use this information for tax assessment purposes. These are only a few of the many uses and users of the soil survey.

How does a soil survey come about? First of all an agreement must be drawn up between the cooperating agencies responsible for the funding of the soil survey. This agreement gives the estimated starting and completion date and the amount of money to be contributed by the county. The survey is funded by the State Soil Conservation Committee, the Soil Conservation Service, and the county. The county group which decides whether a survey is to be performed is the County Conference Board consisting of the Board of Supervisors, County Board of Education, and the mayors of the cities and towns in the county. Each of the cooperating agencies contribute about a third of the cost. Once the agreement is completed, it usually takes about four years to complete the survey with a staff of two to three soil scientists working in a county.

Complete soil surveys can and are being used effectively in the planning of proper land use. It can be beneficial to everyone by helping utilize safely one of our biggest natural resources, our soil. Is a soil survey necessary? You be the judge.

IOWA  
SOIL SURVEY PROGRESS



Oscula Sentinel  
8-17-72



**LIVESTOCK POND:** This livestock water pond on the Garland McCay farm south east of Hopeville was just starting to fill with water when the picture was taken. The pond

is well located so that there is easy access to it from the buildings and it is a good watering location for the livestock. The pond also eliminated a troublesome, tree filled ditch.

## Concerning Good Water — *Ponds Are Important*

by Keith A. Ticknor  
District Conservationist

With the increasing emphasis on good water supplies, ponds have become very im-

portant in Southern Iowa. Ponds are used for water supplies for man and livestock, irrigation, fish production, fire protection, recreation, waterfowl, wildlife, and field or orchard spraying.

There are several considerations in locating a good pond site. From an economic viewpoint, a pond should be located where the most water can be obtained with the least amount of earth fill. This is usually a site where the valley is narrow, sideslopes are relatively steep, and the slope of the valley floor will permit a large deep basin.

The type of use must also be considered in locating a good site. If the pond is to be used for watering livestock, the livestock should not have to travel more than one-quarter mile to reach the pond in rolling terrain. Ponds for fishing or boating, on the other hand, should be readily accessible by automobile.

Ponds should be built in an area that does not receive drainage from barnlots or sewage lines. Grass or woodland in the watershed above the pond keeps the pond from filling with sediment. The pond should not be built in areas that are sandy or have limestone exposed at the surface.

Your financial input for a pond should be given careful consideration. You should visit with the ASCS committeemen about the availability of government cost-share funds. Talk with your neighbors to see if they may need water also. Many times two or more farmers can share the cost of building a pond that will serve each of their needs and be less expensive than if each farmer built his own.

A pond in a good location will have at least ten acres of drainage per acre of pond size, be at least one-fourth acre in size, and eight feet deep, and be built in a soil with a clay subsoil.

A pond located, constructed,

and maintained correctly will provide a good supply of water for a number of years. If you have sites on your land that look good for ponds, contact the Soil Conservation Service for feasibility and construction details.

### Oscula Sentinel **LEGAL** **NOTICES**

Notice Of Public Hearing  
On Proposed Soil Loss Limit  
Regulations Within Clarke  
County Soil Conservation  
District

Under authority set forth in Chapter 467A, Code of Iowa, 1971, as amended, the commissioners of Clarke County Soil Conservation District, with the approval of the State Soil Conservation Committee, have formulated soil loss limit regulations applicable to said District.

A copy of the proposed soil loss limit regulations may be obtained at the Clarke County Soil Conservation District office, 820 A North Main Street, Osceola, Iowa.

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held at 2:00 p.m., September 5th, 1972, at Clarke County Soil Conservation District Office at which time and place an explanation of the regulations will be made and opportunity will be given for any landowner or occupant of land who would be affected thereby to be heard for or against the proposed regulations.

Commissioners of Clarke  
County Soil Conservation  
District.

By Richard Gonseth,  
Chairman

s-34

Oscula  
Sentinel  
8-24-72

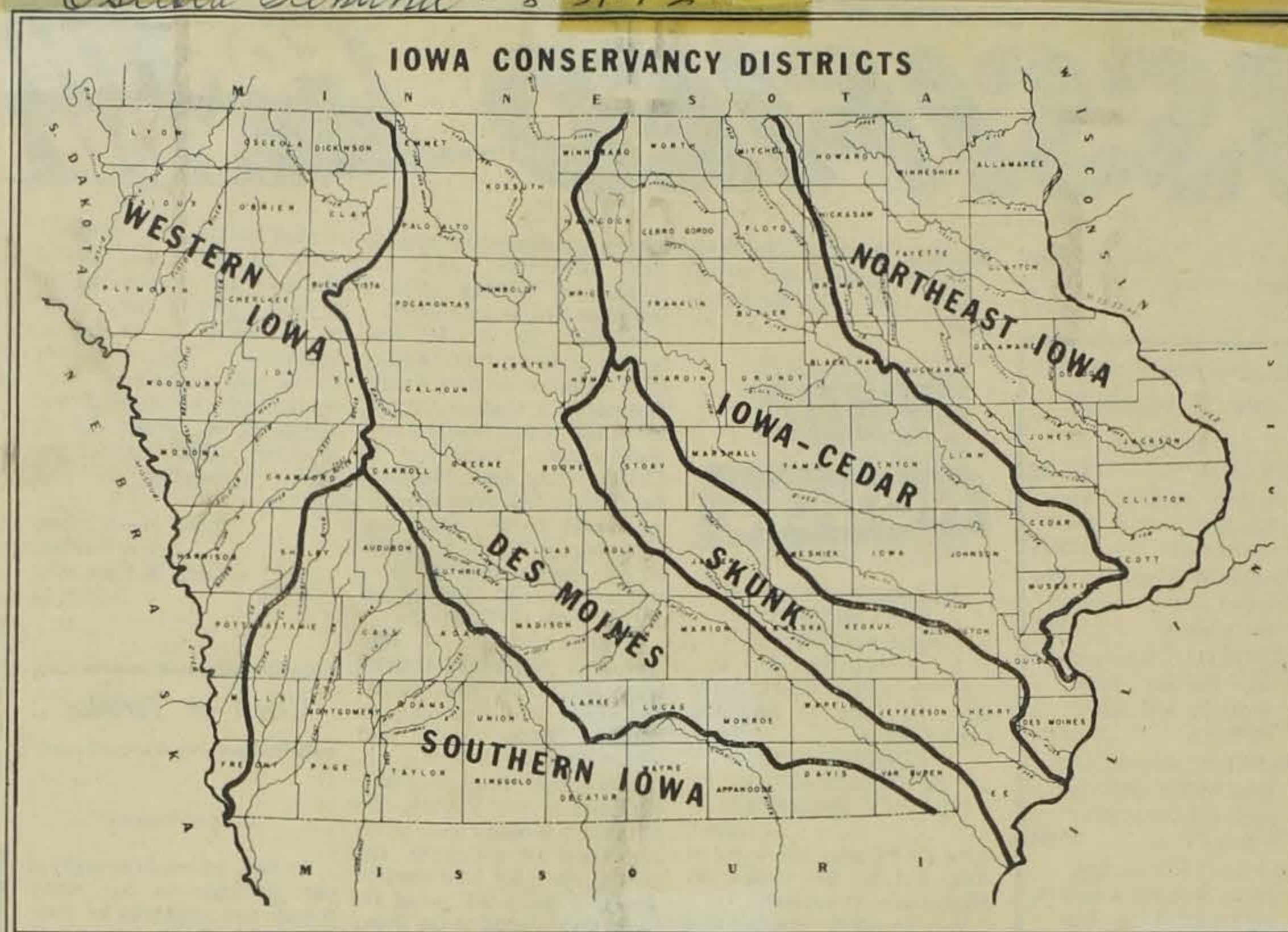
## To Hold Soil Loss Meeting

A public hearing will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 5, at the Soil Conservation District Office, 820 A North Main Street, on the question of the adoption of proposed soil loss limit regulations for lands in the Clarke County Soil Conservation District, according to Richard Gonseth, Chairman of the Soil Conservation District commissioners.

Gonseth stated that all persons who are likely to be affected by the proposed regulations may attend and will be given an opportunity to present their views concerning the proposed regulations.

The regulations proposed will establish allowable rates of soil loss by wind or water erosion for lands in the county. The rates of erosion expressed in tons per acre per year are proposed to be set for (1) agricultural lands, (2) non-agricultural lands, and (3) construction sites. For agricultural (farm) land the proposed soil loss limit will be set for each soil type and will vary from one to five tons per acre per year.

The proposed soil loss limit regulations are on file and may be reviewed at the Clarke County Soil Conservation District office, prior to the date of hearing.



The Conservancy District Law established July 1, 1972 created six conservancy districts. The law charges the Soil Conservation District Commissioners of each county to establish and ad-

minister regulations limiting rates of soil erosion on land in the district.

#### Soil Commissions To Establish Rules —

### Plan Public Hearing

By Keith A. Ticknor,  
District Conservationist

The Iowa Conservancy District Law passed approximately one year ago, requires Soil Conservation District Commissioners of each county to establish and administer regulations limiting rates of soil erosion on land in the county. As a result of this requirement, the Clarke County District Commissioners have prepared soil loss limit regulations for the county. A public hearing is scheduled for 2:00 p.m., September 5, 1972 at the S. C. S. office, 820 A North Main Street. The public hearing gives everyone a chance to voice their opinion either for or

against the regulations as proposed by the District Commissioners.

Richard Gonseth, Chairman of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District will conduct the hearing. He invites anyone that is interested to stop at the SCS office and review the regulations prior to the hearing.

The soil loss limit regulations declare soil erosion a nuisance if it results in damage by siltation to property other than that of the owner of the land on which the erosion is occurring, or if it results in damage by siltation to any improvement of a conservancy district. The regulations also establish soil loss limits in tons per acre per year for each type of soil in the

county. They set maximum limits for agricultural land, nonagricultural land (parks, urban areas, industrial parks, recreation area, etc.) and construction sites.

If damage is occurring as a result of excessive soil erosion, a complaint can be filed in writing to the soil conservation district. The District Commissioners would investigate the complaint and determine if the soil loss limits are being violated. Where a violation is taking place, the owner would be notified by the Commissioners and voluntary abatement of the nuisance would be sought. But, if the landowner did not correct the nuisance, an administrative order would be issued by the Commissioners to advise him that he is required to take action. On agricultural land, 75 percent cost-sharing would have to be made available to the landowner before he could

be required to install a permanent soil conservation practice.

If the owner fails to apply the necessary conservation work as specified in the administrative order, a court order would be issued to obtain immediate compliance with the Commissioners order. Unless the owner complies with the court order, he may be found in contempt of court and so punished.

# Landfill Study Is Given Approval

In resolutions passed by members of the Clarke County Board of Supervisors and the Osceola City Council at their last regular meetings, the two governing bodies agreed to participate in a comprehensive study being conducted by the Warren County Landfill Commission.

Clarke County Engineer James Connell attended a

meeting of the governing bodies in Warren County pertaining to the possibility of joining with that group in a landfill.

The action was taken following requirements by the state that each county and city have an approved sanitary landfill. The Osceola city dump has been the target of state agencies for not adhering to open burning laws and city officials have been warned of violations in past months.

Several meetings have been called by a committee named by the Osceola City Council during the past year with officials of surrounding communities attending. Recommendations have been made and preliminary studies completed concerning possible landfill sites within Clarke County, but no action has been taken and no thorough cost accounting for the venture has been made.

Engineer Connell stated that it is hoped that by joining with Warren County in the landfill study and increasing the number of people participating in the project that the per capita cost can be brought down from an estimated figure. Providing that the study would show that the landfill, through having 10,000 participants instead of 3,000 if it were done on a one-county basis, could bring the cost down a third, it would be feasible to join in the landfill with Warren County.

The wording of the resolution as passed by the Board of Supervisors states, "the Board of Supervisors intends to participate in the solid waste program of the Warren County Landfill Commission and does hereby request that said community be included in the comprehensive study with reference to costs, service and equipment necessary to serve membership communities, all subject to final approval based on costs of services per capita, said final approval to be required before actual expenditures are made with reference to said project".

A tentative site north of New Virginia has been selected for the location of the landfill.

Should the local governing bodies elect to join the Warren Landfill Commission project because of lower costs, it would mean that the present city dump would be closed.

No time schedule has been set for the project at this time.

Osceola Tribune  
9-26-72

## 8 PUBLIC NOTICES

### COUNTY BOARD PROCEEDINGS

Osceola, Iowa

September 11, 1972

The Board of Supervisors of Clarke County, Iowa, met pursuant to law, the rules of said Board and to adjournment. Members present: Chairman, Harry McCarty, Gerald Baughman and Leland Hunt.

A RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAMS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Whereas:

The Economic Development Administration was assigned to administer the provisions of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965; and

Whereas: The Economic Development Administration has established the criteria by which counties may be eligible for assistance under the provisions of said act; and

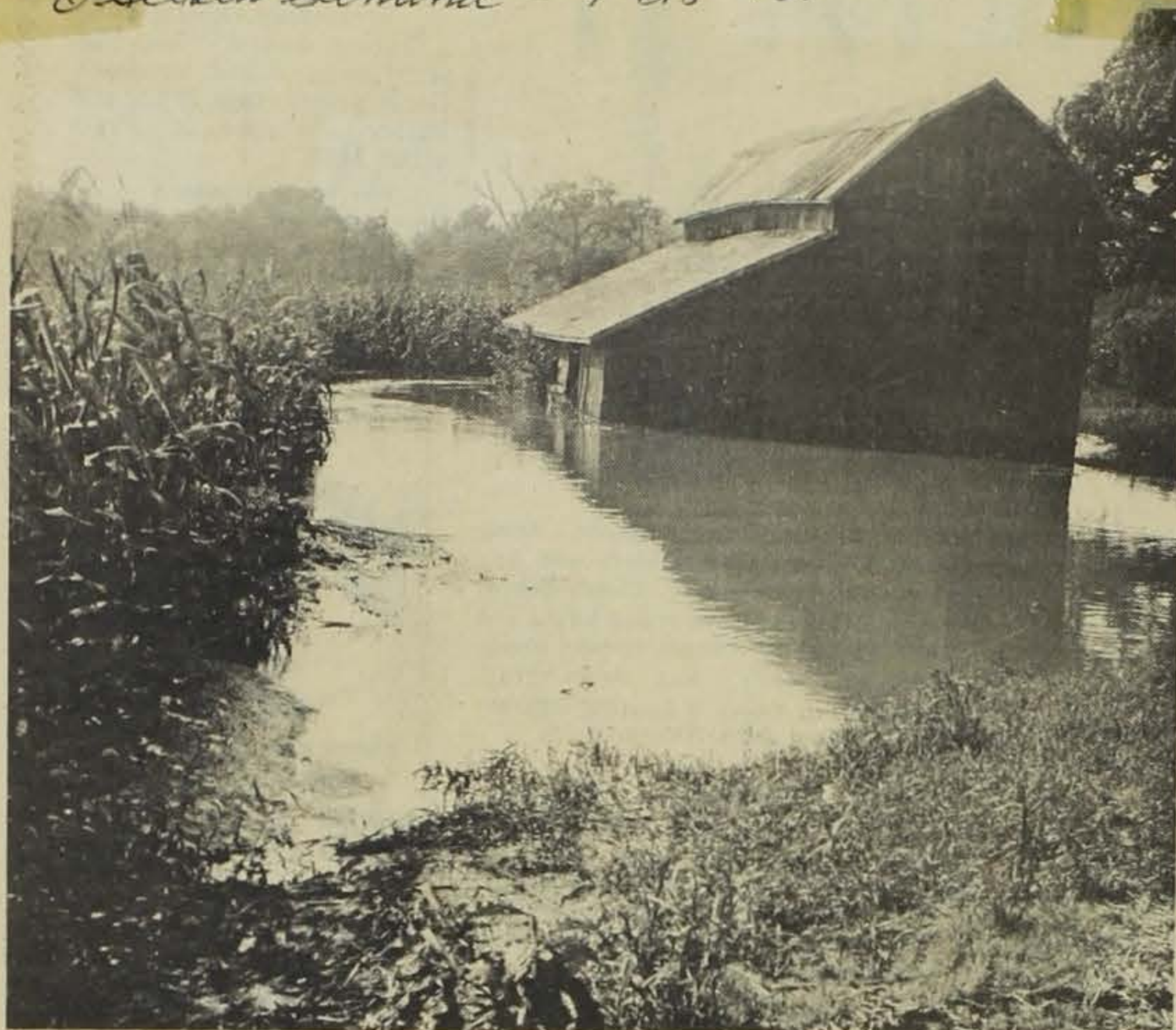
Whereas: Clarke County has met that criteria and has been officially designated EDA County.

Be it therefore resolved by Clarke County Board of Supervisors that Clarke desires to participate in the programs of the Economic Development Administration, and that Area XIV, consisting of Adair, Adams, Taylor, Ringgold, Union, Clarke and Decatur Counties, Iowa, be designated as a Multi-County Economic Development District.

Passed and signed this 8th day of September, 1972.

Harry McCarty, Chairman  
Clarke County Board of Supervisors

Attention: Helen Ferris Doss  
Auditor, Clarke County



RECENT FLOODING: Damage in the Whitebreast Creek area was not confined to one area. Above is shown the barn and part of a cornfield on the Orval Morris farm in

Osceola Township. Soil Conservationist Keith Ticknor reported that some of the flooded crops would probably be a complete loss.

## Soil Conservation Saves During—

# Floods in County

Flood damage from recent heavy rains across Iowa would have been much worse if much of the land had not been protected with conservation measures, according to Wilson

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the orderly development and rational use of Iowa land and water resources through soil and water conservation programs are essential to maintain and increase agricultural and urban income, and to protect and improve the rural and urban environment of this state for the benefit of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the State of Iowa and the one hundred soil conservation districts within the state are coordinating, conducting and implementing a constructive program of soil and water conservation, flood prevention and related natural resources development to meet the demands of today's farms, ranches and cities; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we continue with resolve and dispatch our efforts in soil and water conservation programs, and that the resources and personnel available to advance this

Page of all

Ray, Governor of the State of Iowa, October 1-8, 1972 as

CONSERVATION WEEK

our state to participate in and



Local Leaders To Attend —

Osceola Sentinel  
9-28-72

## Development Meeting

Two Osceola officials will participate in Governor Robert D. Ray's Rural Policy Council meeting slated to be held Friday, September 29, in Creston. Osceola Mayor Jack Jeffreys will speak as part of the meeting devoted to local govern-

ment and Clarke Community School Superintendent Ron Riekena will participate in the presentation of education as it pertains to rural development.

Purpose of the governor's meeting will be to focus attention upon South-Central Iowa as to development, opportunities and problems that are unique to the seven counties involved in the meeting.

The meeting will be held at Southwestern Community College starting at 1 p.m. and will continue through the afternoon. The meeting will be chaired by Governor Ray.

The seven-county RC & D group is the sponsoring body for the meeting and includes Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor and Union counties. Representatives of each of these counties will be present to participate in the sessions.

Oscula Tribune 10-10-72



Switchgrass establishment on the Richard Gonseth farm is being studied by grass specialists from the Soil Conservation Service and from Iowa State University. Left to right:

Richard Stille, Erwin Aust, Frank Schaller, Richard Gonseth, Bill Hayes, Dr. Pierce, John Maddy, T. J. Laing, Bob Loudon and Dale Chidester.

Oscula Tribune 10-24-72  
**Teachers Attend  
Two-day Workshop**

Paul Chesnut and Mrs. Lola Hunt of Clarke Community Schools attended the Iowa Conservation Education Council's Western Iowa Conservation Education Workshop at the 4-H Camp near Luther, Iowa October 13-14. Some 150 teachers gathered to exchange information about time-tested and innovative activities and programs dealing with the workshop theme of "Ideas to Action".

The Clarke Community teachers participated in two days of sessions that included field trips, projects, activities, Mini labs and small group discussions as well as providing outstanding speakers.

Notes by Keith Ticknor About

## Sufficient Pasture

By Keith A. Ticknor  
District Conservationist

Having a sufficient amount of pasture during July and August is usually a serious problem for the farmer. These two months are noted for being hot and dry. Our common cool season grasses, Bluegrass, Bromegrass, Orchardgrass, Tall Fescue and Reed Canarygrass quit producing at this time and remain pretty much dormant until we get cooler weather and late summer rains.

Our alternatives have been limited for finding a plant that will produce well during July and August. The native grasses, Switchgrass, Big Bluestem and Indiangrass have always produced well in the dry Western and Southwestern states. These plants can be found along our roadsides and in many uncultivated fields today. But the native grasses have not been managed for pasture and have not been considered a good pasture plant.

Agronomists are now taking a second look at the native grasses, sometimes called 'warm season' grasses because they make most of their growth during July and August. Several farmers here in southern Iowa have, for the last few years, been planting these grasses and managing them for summer pasture.

The results have been very encouraging.

The Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center gave Richard Gonseth 250 lbs of Switchgrass seed for an experimental seeding of 20 acres. Establishment of the native grasses has been difficult and as shown in the picture, foxtail competition is a severe problem.

Richard sprayed the field with 2 lbs. atrazine and 1 pt. 2,4-D per acre April 28th to kill the previous stand of alfalfa and orchardgrass. Then he seeded the field May 16th using a grain drill with no disking or cultivation of the field. A good stand of Switchgrass has resulted along with a good stand of foxtail. Clipping and pasturing is not recommended the first year.

Next spring Richard will apply 2 lbs. of atrazine and 1 pint of 2,4-D per acre about the last week of May or the first week of June to kill the foxtail and other competition. Switchgrass is tolerant to atrazine. An application of 75-25-25 fertilizer may also be applied in mid June. This field can be expected to produce very good pasture next July and August.

If you are interested in using native grasses in your pasture program, you should stop in the SCS office to get additional information or you may want to visit with Richard Gonseth

about his experiences. If you have the patience to establish warm season grasses, your rewards of increased pasture will be tremendous.

# Clarke Co. Soil & Water Conservation District

## FORWARD

We, the Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners of the Clarke County Soil & Water Conservation District, want to thank the people of the district for their part in carrying the best program for the betterment of our people, both rural and urban.

With the ever increasing need to protect our natural resources for future generations while we keep our environment clean, we wish to thank all agencies and organizations for the part they play in our District.

I feel that everyone is becoming aware that conservation of all our natural resources must be a necessity for present and future generations to survive.

The passing of recent legislation covering soil loss limits and factory wastes, recognize public pressures.

Also, with the formation of a local Youth Board consisting of members for seventh through eleventh grades indicate that young people are much concerned about their environmental future.

The majority of local people are showing interest and practicing conservation but greater strides could be taken if all interested parties would take some time to check on all conservation practices and technological assistance available to them.

Richard Gonseth, Commissioner

With the ever increasing demand for food, shelter, and material things that go to make up our standard of living, it is more apparent that the priority of conservation must be established and maintained.

In keeping conservation practices ever before the people, we can keep pace with the demand and not deplete our greatest resource, "our soil".

Let us work together as producer and consumer, with the cooperation of all the people of the District.

Adrian Fuller

## District Activities

We, the District Commissioners would like to summarize some of the highlights of the past year, so that you may better understand the activities of the district.

### JULY

Chuck Jackson of Murray won the regional Soil Conservation speech contest.

### AUGUST

The District constructed a booth at the county fair. A rock was placed on display and prizes given for guessing the exact weight.

The District received word that the White Breast watershed has been approved for planning.

### SEPTEMBER

Conservation work books were distributed to the fifth grade pupils in the schools of the District.

Richard Gonseth, Adrian Fuller, Doyce Miller, Merrill McCarty and Keith Ticknor attended the annual conference at Des Moines. Chuck Jackson won first place in the State Soil Conservation speech contest at the conference.

### OCTOBER

Earl Mateer was presented the Goodyear award for winning second place in the southern division.

Conservation booklets, "Plants-How They Improve Our Environment" were distributed to all schools.

The District commissioners sponsored three teachers who attended the Fall Conservation Teachers workshop at the state 4-H camp near Luther, October 1 and 2.

### DECEMBER

Marion Siglin, State Representative, attended our December meeting and discussed up-coming legislation affecting conservation activities.

The Regional Catholic Community held a workshop December 5 on Standard Soil Surveys and Rural Water Systems. The District provided assistance on the program preparation.

### JANUARY

The annual short course was attended by Doyce Miller, Adrian Fuller, and Richard Gonseth.

John Webb was named outstanding cooperator of 1971 for the conservation work he has done on his farm. His farm was entered in the annual Goodyear contest.

January 17, 1972 the Department of Soil Conservation announced that the

application for watershed assistance in the Long Creek watershed had been approved.

### FEBRUARY

Mr. and Mrs. Doyce Miller attended the NACD conference in Washington, D.C.

### MARCH

The slide set "Consider the Soil First" was purchased for use in an information program on standard soil survey.

### APRIL

Leland Dolecheck and Jon Weber, Vo-ag instructors and six boys met with the commissioners to discuss starting a Youth Conservation Board. It was agreed that a youth board is needed and plans will be made to organize it.

### MAY

The District received Soil Stewardship booklets and 1000 place mats which were distributed by Adrian Fuller to all churches in the District.

### JUNE

Soil loss limits were tentatively adapted for Clarke County and submitted to the State Department of Soil Conservation for approval.

Mark Chamberlain won the local conservation speech contest held in June. He will advance to the regional competition to be held in July.

Adrian Fuller was appointed district commissioner to fill the unexpired term of Jerry Kelly, who resigned due to poor health.

The District is looking forward to the next year with much enthusiasm and hoping to bring to the district much information and a better program of involvement.



STRIPCROPPING an inexpensive and efficient way of controlling erosion as well as adding beauty to the landscape. These strips are on the Bill McCoy farm west of Woodburn.

## SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSIGNED

Soil Conservation Service Personnel Assigned  
Keith A. Ticknor.....District Conservationist  
T. J. Laing.....Conservation Technician  
Corvus M. Cooper  
(Intermittant).....Soil Conservation Aide  
Bruce C. Wight (Summer).....Student Trainee  
Mrs. Arlene Garner.....District Clerk  
Dale L. Chidester.....Conservation Aide

## DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

District Commissioners  
Richard Gonseth.....Chairman  
Doyce Miller.....Member  
Jack Ames.....Member  
Merrill McCarty.....Member  
Adrian Fuller.....Member

## ASSISTING THE COMMISSIONERS

Assisting the Commissioners  
Lowell Moran (deceased).....Ass't Commissioner  
Milan Welker.....Ass't Commissioner  
Fred Wood.....Ass't Commissioner

Bruce Berven  
and Bill Sirowy.....County Extension Director

## ASCS Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP)

| Conservation Practice             | Amount of Cost-sharing |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Establishment of Vegetative Cover | \$38,396.00            |
| Limestone                         | 2,197.00               |
| Trees and Shrubs                  | 24.00                  |
| Trees (Windbreaks)                | 931.00                 |
| Improving Pasture                 | 2,646.00               |
| Shrub Control                     | 454.00                 |
| Well for Livestock                | 2,124.00               |
| Springs or Seeps                  | 100.00                 |
| Water Impoundment Reservoirs      | 12,675.00              |
| Pipelines                         | 748.00                 |
| Permanent Vegetative Cover        | 78.00                  |
| Terraces                          | 65.00                  |
| Underground Drainage System       | 1,239.00               |
| Wildlife Pond                     | 400.00                 |
| Structures                        | 17,300.00              |
| Waterways and Terraces            | 6,608.00               |
| Total                             | \$85,985.00            |

## District Accomplishments FARM PLANNING AND SERVICING

| Activity                                   | Unit |
|--------------------------------------------|------|
| District Cooperators                       | No.  |
| Landowners or operators assisted           | No.  |
| Landowners or operators applying practices | No.  |
| Conservation plans prepared                | No.  |
| Conservation Plans Revised                 | No.  |
| Inventories & Evaluations prepared         | No.  |
| Group Plans                                | No.  |
| ASCS: REAP Referrals Serviced              | No.  |
| Office Callers                             | No.  |
| Telephone Calls                            | No.  |

## CONSERVATION PRACTICES APPLIED

|                                    | Ac. |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Critical Area Planting             | No. |
| Multi-Purpose Dam                  | No. |
| Ponds & Erosion Control Structures | No. |
| Diversion Terraces                 | Ft. |
| Farmstead Windbreaks               | Ac. |
| Grassed Waterway                   | Ac. |
| Pipeline                           | Ft. |
| Open Drainage Ditch                | Ft. |
| Drain, Tile                        | Ft. |
| Tree Planting                      | Ac. |
| Land Adequately Treated            | Ac. |



COMMISSIONERS MEET: From the left are Arlene Garner, Richard Gonseth, Norma Anderson, Adrian Fuller, Ron Henry, Merrill McCarty, Darci Kent, Debbie Martin, Doyce Miller, Gerald Garner.

## District Operates With 2 Budgets

The District operates with two budgets provided by the State Soil Conservation Committee from State Appropriations.

| 1-M BUDGET                              |           |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1971-72 Appropriation                   | \$ 700.00 |
| Commissioners expenses (mileage, meals) | \$ 388.59 |
| Office Supplies                         | 96.08     |
| Printing                                | 143.80    |
| Prizes for Contests                     | 4.00      |
| Material for Demonstration              | 3.69      |
| Office Expense                          | 51.24     |
| Meeting Expense                         | 12.60     |
| Total expended                          | \$ 700.00 |
| Balance                                 | \$ 0.00   |

| 2-M BUDGET                    |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1971-72 Allocation            | \$13,500.00 |
| Gross Salaries                | \$11,970.00 |
| District's share - F.I.C.A.   | 622.47      |
| District's share - I.P.E.R.S. | 418.98      |
| Health Insurance              | 288.00      |
| Life Insurance                | 10.68       |
| Travel                        | 11.15       |
| Total expended                | \$13,321.28 |
| Released                      | \$ 178.72   |

The District fund is non-appropriated, therefore we must rely on donations from our local cooperators, businessmen and friends to supply this fund.

The District fund is used to pay State and National dues, which amounts to \$250.00, promotional activities such as local awards, contest prizes, conservation booklets for local schools and expenses which cannot be taken from the state budget.

The balance on hand July 1, 1971 was \$343.85. Donations received were \$674.00, expenditures were \$880.94, leaving a balance on hand June 30, 1972 of \$136.91.



TILE-OUT TERRACES temporarily hold the water back, allowing silt to settle out above the terrace. This terrace on the John Webb

farm has prevented the loss of manure topsoil and has carried the silt from the terrace to a safe outlet.

## RC & D Activities

The Clarke County RC & D board members, Bob Toland, Chairman, Clayton Scott, Vice-Chairman, Melvin Goeldner, Secretary. Treasurer, Elva Wolfe, Jack Jeffreys and Doyce Miller have been instrumental in bringing about many major changes in the Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Project during the past year. These changes have helped to put the organization in a position so that it can provide assistance on a wider range of projects.

In the fall of 1971, the State Conservation Commission assigned John Tibben District Forester to this seven county area. He is providing assistance on tree planting, timber sales and other forestry activities. He is also conducting an inventory of potential wood chip users so that a market can be developed for the timber in this area.

The organization amended their constitution and by-laws so that they could seek recognition from the Office of Planning and Programming as a regional planning group. They also incorporated as a non-profit corporation. Many government programs require that you be a part of regional planning group before you are eligible for receiving funds. By being recognized as a regional planning commission this seven county area will be in a position of high priority for receiving grant funds.

Plans were prepared for construction of an erosion control dam on the west side of the Clarke Community School property. This will control erosion in two large gullies and will be the nucleus for an outdoor classroom. This approximately \$6,000 project will be 100 percent funded by the RC & D. It is planned to build the dam in the spring of 1973.

Several other projects are in the planning stage that will have a significant impact on the economy of this area.

## Watershed Activities

In August 1971, the White Breast watershed took a major step closer to becoming a reality when notice was received that Washington had approved our application for assistance in developing a Work Plan. Since that time, low level aerial photographs have been taken of the watershed and extensive survey work conducted in the watershed to obtain ground control information for the aerial photos.

The watershed directors have been gathering land use information so that the present status of the upland treatment can be determined. They also revised their organizational by-laws to establish membership, officers and terms of office.

The 18 member board consists of Richard Gonseth, Chairman, Bill Oehlert, Vice-Chairman, Lloyd Phillips, Secretary-treasurer, Charles Rodgers, George Nelson, Jack Obermeier, Bill Danner, Hugh Carroll, Don Dale, Louis King, Kenneth Johnson, Ernest Winters, Don Short, Harold Leonard, Gerald Allen and Arthur Anderson.



*Osceola Sentinel - Jan 11, 1973*

# Green Bay Gophers Are Awarded State Honor

A State Conservation Recognition Certificate was awarded to the Green Bay Gophers 4-H Club of Clarke County for their efforts in Conservation during the 1972 4-H year.

The certificate was presented to the Green Bay Gophers 4-H Club at the 4-H Officer and Recreation Training School held at the 4-H building on December 28.

Twenty-five members of the Green Bay Gophers, along with their leader, Ron Woods, raked and seeded a badly eroded road bank after it had been graded with a county road grader.

Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist, acted as a resource person in providing films "Consider the Soil" and "Ecological Look at the Environment." These films were shown at the local club meetings. Ticknor met with the club and told them of ways they could practice conservation.

Tim Engler, Dan Waller and Ed Wallace contacted the county supervisors and

engineer, who graded the bank and donated a mixture of bromegrass, crownvetch and orchard grass.

For two years, members of the club cleaned, raked, and improved the appearance of a small cemetery in Green Bay Township.

They picked up cans and bottles from roadside ditches, removed labels and delivered them for a recycling project in Osceola.

Individual members gathered and planted walnut seeds. Six members made bird houses and maintained bird feeding stations. Two members drained and filled in lowlands in an orchard. Several members cut brush along the roadside. A slide presentation of conservation work completed by their club was compiled and presented at a local club. Dan Waller attended State Conservation Camp, July 25-29.

Officers of the Green Bay Gophers 4-H Club are Mike Gunderson, president; Andy Ames, vice-president; Rita

More About—

**4-H**

(Continued From Page 1)

Engler, secretary; Ed Woolsey, treasurer; Tim Engler, historian and Ronda Woods, reporter. Other members are David Chumbley, Beth, Dick and Joe Downing, Sam Ellis, Carolyn Engler, Julie, Lori and Mike Gunderson, Larry Landphair, Jim, Julie, Mark and Ruth Nelson, Dean, Becky and Julie Woods, Ed Wallace, Bonita, Tom and Dan Waller, Steven and Mitchell Whitham and Ed Woolsey.

Garland Ramsey, Clarke County 4-H Program Aide, said that the Green Bay Gophers are one of the outstanding 4-H Clubs in the county. They have tripled their enrollment the past year and have been very active in the various 4-H community and service projects.

Bill Sirowy, County Extension Director, added,

"Only four State Conservation Certificates are presented to Iowa 4-H Clubs each year. We're very pleased that the Green Bay Gophers were recipients of one of these coveted awards, as they certainly worked hard for it. This is the first time a 4-H Club in Clarke County has been honored for such an endeavor. The group efforts of the Green Bay Gophers 4-H club certainly speaks highly of them and all Clarke County 4-Hers. Yes, Iowa is a Place to Grow and 4-H is a way to grow."



CONSERVATION WINNERS: Members of the Green Bay Gophers met for a group picture Monday evening, January 8 at the 4-H Fairgrounds. The Gophers 4-H Club becomes

the first such club in Clarke County to be awarded a Conservation Award by the state organization.

*Osceola Sentinel 1-11-73*

## Watershed Members Discuss Soil Survey

The regular meeting of the White Breast Watershed Board was held Monday, January 8. Present were Hugh Carroll, Lloyd Phillips, Richard Gonseth, T.J. Laing, Dennis Grundel, Gerald Allen, Don Dale, Keith Ticknor, Art Anderson, Don Short and Louis King.

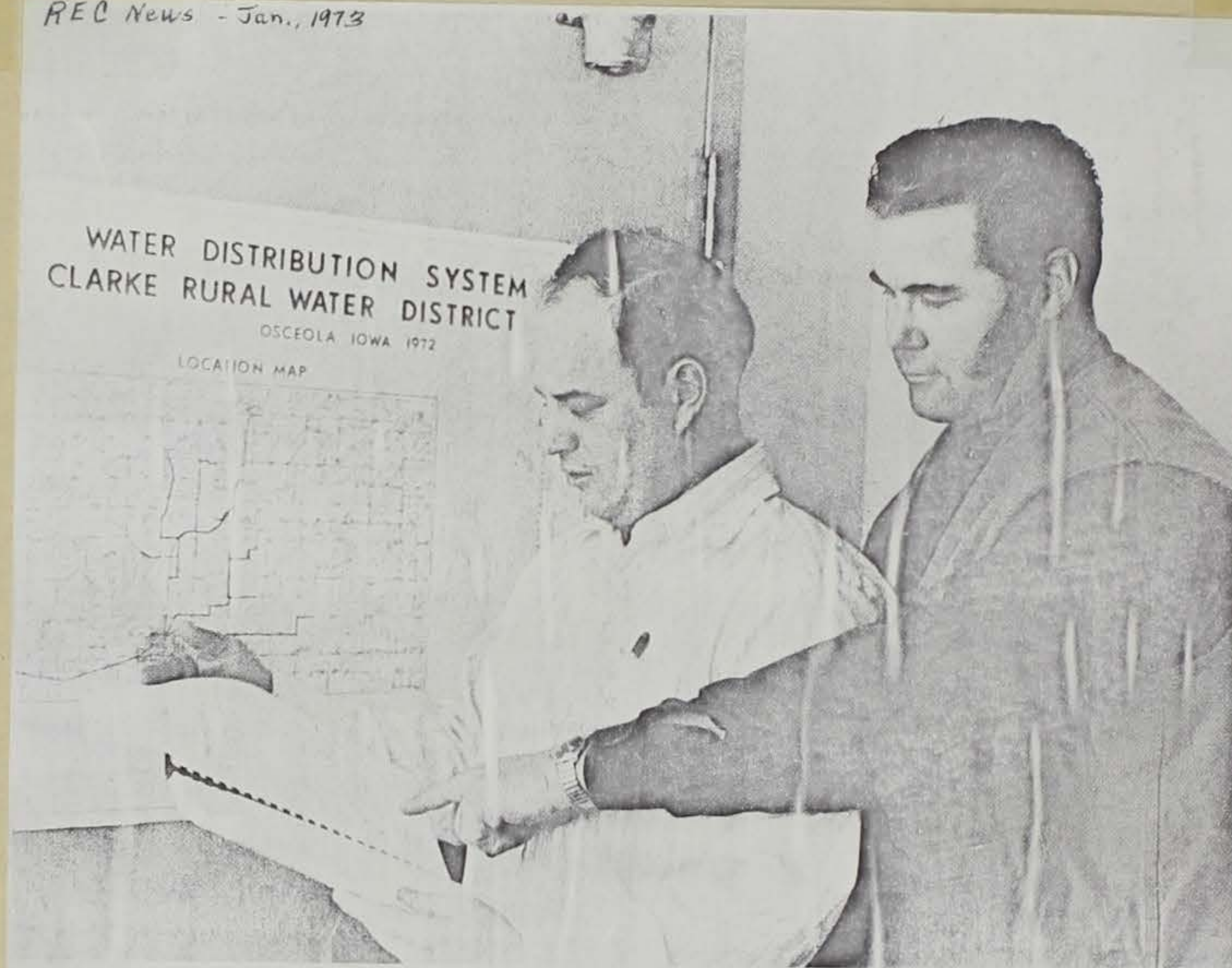
Watershed Board members have been working on a land treatment inventory of the watershed. Work is almost complete in the watershed west of Interstate 35, but little work has been done west of I-35. Board members will be contacting the farmers in this area during the next two months to collect the needed information. A watershed structure cannot be built until at least 75 per cent of the land in the drainage area above the structure is adequately treated or within acceptable soil loss limits.

Most of the survey work is completed at this time.

Topographic maps are being prepared from the low level aerial photographs that were taken last spring. When these are completed, the final location for the structure sites can be selected and their size determined.

Election of officers and Board members for 1973 will be held at the meeting scheduled for February 5.

*1-9-73  
County Gover.  
Bodies Repeal Soil  
Proposal  
Put in with Good  
year contest*



Gary Pool (left) and Charles Morgan study details in plans for a rural water district that will serve 70 consumers near Osceola. Both are officers of the Clarke Rural Water District Number One.

## Water cooperative forming in Clarke county

There's as much excitement and challenge to forming a water co-op today as there was 25 or 35 years ago in energizing a rural electric cooperative.

First, a group of interested people must form and appoint a steering committee. Highlights of the organization's efforts from then on include: original survey, signup campaign, feasibility study, incorporation, engineering plans and approval from various governmental agencies.

The Clarke Rural Water District Number One is on its way to becoming a reality. Target date is next July when 70 members—as of Dec. 14—hope to be using quality water for home and livestock needs.

Gary Pool, power use and industrial development specialist for Clarke Electric Cooperative, Inc., serves as executive secretary for the water district.

"The project was first started in April of 1971 with 58 members on a system 19 miles long. Now it's 20 miles and we will have 70 users."

Pool says the rural water system, located northeast of Osceola, will deliver 800,000 gallons of water a month with pressure at 30 pounds. It has a potential of distributing 4.8 million gallons a month at 50 pounds of pressure.

The system is seeking a \$167,000 loan from the Farmers Home Administration. An initial membership fee was used to pay for the preliminary survey. Local members will pay tapping fees. The FmHA loan is to be for 5% interest for 40 years.

The water will be delivered 10 feet inside the member's property line. Members may not connect the system to other sources of water. This is a safeguard against contamination.

The operation is patterned after that of Clarke Electric's with self-billing but the water co-op is completely separate from the REC.

Officers and board members include Doyce Miller, president; Charles G. Morgan, secretary-treasurer; Gerald Pederson, Ronald Reed and Jack Cooley, all from Osceola. Engineering work is being done by Tri-State Engineering of Manchester and Vance and Hochstetler of Winterset.

Aside from the engineering, all the work has been on a voluntary basis. Pool says much help was obtained from Keith Ticknor, Clarke County soil conservation district engineer, and the FmHA.

If people are interested in forming a rural water district, Pool suggests they contact their local FmHA representative who can call on personnel from the FmHA state office for assistance.

*Oscula Sentinel*  
1-18-73  
**Soil Service  
Is Available**

If you're a farmer or other landowner who hasn't been involved in the soil and water conservation movement, there's a good chance you're missing out on a valuable service. That service, according to Richard Gonseth, chairman of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District, is the development of a long-range conservation plan for your entire farm. "A good plan will help you get the maximum production out of your land and at the same time keep soil losses within limits of Iowa law," Gonseth says.

The completed plan will include soil and planning maps of your farm, an outline of your plans for land treatment and conservation, and suggestions from a conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service. It also includes information of fertilizer requirements of your soils and other management guides.

"The service is free, but you do need to formally request the service from the Clarke County Soil Conservation District office by becoming a district cooperator," Gonseth says. The District now has 893 cooperators, about three-fourths of all farmers in the county.

"Keith Ticknor of the Soil Conservation Service assists us in planning," Gonseth says. He and the farmer go over the entire farm to look for erosion problems and alternative solutions. He might suggest several good sites for a pond, for example. This visit would also give you a good chance to learn about different kinds of conservation treatments, especially if your choices of land treatment seemed slim, Gonseth says.

You make all the decisions, and can change your plan at any time. Or, if you ever wanted, you could cancel your plan completely.

"We would like to see everyone develop a plan that would assure future generations of a productive soil and beautiful countryside," Gonseth explains, "and the way to have that is for farmers to plan con-

servation for their entire farm, rather than put on treatment in a hit and miss fashion."

*Oscula Tribune*  
1-23-73  
**Explain RC&D Program  
For Southern Iowa**

Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor and Union Counties in southern Iowa are all part of a pioneer project for natural, physical, and human resource development known as the Southern Iowa Resource Conservation county and Development Project.

The birth of the idea for RC&D came out of Public Law 87-703, Section 102 of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1962. This act gave the Secretary of Agriculture the power to set up organizations to help coordinate the work of various agencies within USDA. The secretary, in turn, designated the Soil Conservation Service as being responsible for setting up RC & D projects throughout the country.

Each county has an RC&D county board composed of six local people appointed by elected officials. All of the county board members comprise the project board, which decides on proposals and priorities for the seven county area.

At present, each county board is getting money from board of supervisors for staff, office and project funds for the Southern Iowa Regional Planning Agency. The seven county area will provide \$20,000, each county's share being allotted on the basis of population; and the federal government will match with \$40,000.

As a corporation and a regional planning agency, RC&D and SIRPA meet all present criteria set up by every federal agency. The organization can now bring more government agencies together with people who need assistance in the seven county area.

The development of a comprehensive regional plan is the first item on SIRPA's agenda, a major step which must precede any funding done by federal agencies.

After developing the comprehensive plan, RC&D and SIRPA will begin to make contacts with appropriate groups in order to start implementing it.

Anyone can submit a proposal to the county RC&D board. If the county board decides the proposal would benefit the county and is something with which it can help, it tries to line up the group requesting aid with appropriate sponsors who have the legal financial authority to see the proposal through.

*Oscula Sentinel*  
1-25-73  
**Trees Offered  
To Citizens**

The Iowa Conservation Commission is now taking orders for tree seedlings. These are to be used for establishing or improving existing forests, erosion control, and to establish game habitat.

The special wildlife packet, containing 250 mixed plants, will again be offered.

The minimum order of seedlings will be 500 in multiples of 250 with the exception of the wildlife packet.

Orders may be placed with your local Soil Conservation Service Office or through the Forester's Office in Creston.

Oscola Tribune  
1-30-73

SCS Office Offers —

## Free Fish for Ponds

By Keith A. Ticknor  
District Conservationist

Now is the time to make application for receiving fish for your farm pond. You must have your order in before March 1 to get fish this summer from the National Fish Hatchery. Application can be made by stopping in the Soil Conservation Service office or by calling the SCS office (342-2917).

If your pond is new, I would recommend putting catfish this summer and then adding bass the following year. When bass are put in before catfish, the bass will eat the catfish before they have a chance to get established. For those of you that stocked your pond with catfish last year, you should make sure that you get an order in for bass now. Old ponds that have never been stocked or ponds in which the fish have died may be restocked the same as new ponds, but no pond will be restocked at intervals of less than five years.

The fish hatchery requires that the pond be  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre in size

and eight feet deep to qualify for stocking. If you are not sure whether or not your pond will qualify, check with us in the SCS office because we have design notes on file that were prepared at the time the pond was built.

The fish that you receive will be between one inch and four inches long. Ponds are stocked at the rate of 100 catfish and 200 bass per surface acre of water. For example, if your pond is 0.8 acre in size you would get 80 catfish or 160 bass.

There is no charge for these fish and no obligations. Some landowners have heard or been told that if they stocked their pond with these fish, they would have to allow public fishing. This is not true. The landowner retains all rights to restrict the use of the pond in any manner that he wishes.

INSTANT READER  
RESPONSE



Oscola Tribune  
2/6/73



CONSERVATION AWARD: Kenneth Henry, center, and wife, Helen, accept the annual Clarke County Conservation Award from

Richard Gonseth. The award is presented annually to a farmer who has improved his farm through conservation practices.

Jan. 30, 1973  
Oscola Tribune

## Secure Lease for Murray Roadside Park

The Clarke County Conservation Board has secured a 25 year lease on land located south of the Murray Cemetery for use as a wayside park.

The board is presently waiting for approval of the project from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. If approved by the bureau, the agency would share the cost of the project with the Conservation Board.

Committee chairman, Melvin Goeldner, said that the next step in the project is the building of 1600 feet of roadway into and through the area. He added that after the roadway is built, rest room facilities, shelter housing, picnic tables and trees would be added.

The park is the first project

of the Clarke County Conservation Board and represents many hours of time spent by the committee in planning for improvements in the county. Melvin Goeldner, chairman of the county board, cited committee member Floyd Edwards for his work on the project. The board, composed of Edwards, Howard Ruble, Bob Cooley and Harold Bonnett hired the services of Yale Moeller, site planner, to draw up a comprehensive development plan for Clarke County—the park is the first of several projects planned.

The park will not only serve residents of Murray and Clarke County, but will also be available to travelers on highway 34. A 1,000-foot surfaced

road will lead to a 20-car parking site and turnaround. A combination shelter house with restrooms is included in the planning with 10 picnic sites scattered throughout the area.

Planting of trees will begin as soon as possible with Linden, Hawthorn, Red, Scotch and White Pine, White Oak and Pin Oak. Flowering Crabs and Russian Olive selected for various parts in the park.

With the overall plan submitted by Moeller, the future development of recreational areas can be based on these suggestions. The plan was based on a five year implementation schedule with the Murray park the first of the projects.

Oscola Tribune 2-13-73

## Elect Short Watershed Board Chairman for '73

Don Short was elected chairman of the White Breast Watershed Board for 1973. Other officers elected were George Nelson, vice-chairman and Hugh Carroll, secretary-treasurer.

Six board members were

also elected to serve a three year term. They are Doyle Waller, Charles Rodgers, Lloyd Phillips, George Nelson, Milton Miletich and Jack Obermeir.

Board members with two years left to serve on their term are Ernest Winter, Arthur Anderson, Don Short, Richard Gonseth, Harold Leonard and Gerald Allen. Those with one year left on their term are Bernard Engler, Louis King, Bill Oehlert, Don Dale, Hugh Carroll and Bill Boyd.

# To Elect Soil Commissioners

**THREE POSTS  
TO BE FILLED  
FRI., MAR. 30**

**Ames, Gonseth And Kelly  
Positions Are  
Due**

The election of Soil Conservation District Commissioners will be held March 30, 1973. Three members will be elected to serve on the five member board.

At this election it will be necessary to fill the expired terms held by Jack Ames and Richard Gonseth. Also, the unexpired term of Jerry Kelly, presently held by Adrian Fuller, must be filled. Two members will be elected to serve six year terms

and one member will be elected to serve the remaining four year term.

"Anyone interested in helping carry out a conservation program in the county is encouraged to place his name on the ballot," according to Richard Gonseth, Chairman of the Soil Conservation District Commissioners. "To be eligible to serve as District Commissioner you must live in Clarke County and be qualified to vote in the county," he explained. "Candidates can be either men or women," Gonseth said, "but not more than one person can be elected from each voting precinct."

If you are interested in placing your name on the ballot, you should contact the Soil Conservation Service office as soon as possible.

District Commissioners have the responsibility of co-ordinating the conservation

efforts of all agencies or organizations for the protection of our natural resources. Commissioners set conservation policy, determine conservation needs and direct the over all conservation program. They assist in conservation education activities and encourage conservation through the use of contests, awards and information releases. There are many other responsibilities that demand concerned leadership.

"You don't get paid for your efforts," Gonseth said, "but your reward for serving as a commissioner is the satisfaction of knowing that you are contributing to the protection of our most important resources and to the development of the community."

**Iowa**  
a place to grow

## New Ideas For Pasture

### Establishing Warm-Season Grasses

If you're thinking of trying warm season grasses as part of your summer pasture program, one of your first considerations is establishing a stand.

"Establishing stands of warm season grasses is no different than establishing trefoil or some of our cool season grasses," according to Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service.

"For best results plant on a firm weed-free seedbed. Fertilize with P and K according to soil test recommendations but use no nitrogen in establishment year," Ticknor said, "because this encourages weed growth. Apply lime to bring the PH to 6.0 or 6.2. Plant in early spring, from April 15 to May 15 with a double disc furrow opener grass drill."

According to Ticknor, these grasses grow slow the first year, so they shouldn't be grazed. He went on to say diverted acres are a logical place to establish a warm season grass stand. "Once established, these grasses will last forever," Ticknor said. "With our rainfall and with good management these grasses will produce large amounts of forage during the hot, dry summer months," he continued.

Visit the Soil Conservation Service office to ask about seedbed preparation, varieties, and seeding rates and first year management for a quick stand.

"Richard Gonseth seeded 20 acres of Switchgrass last spring," Ticknor said. He applied two lbs. of atrazine and one pint of 2, 4-D per acre on April 28 to kill the existing

vegetation and weeds. Then on May 17 he planted the seed, using a regular grass drill.

"I got a good stand established," Gonseth said, "but I found that competition from foxtail is a problem. I will probably apply atrazine again this spring to kill the foxtail."

## New Ideas For Pasture

The following article is the first of a series of eight articles on warm season grasses that will be printed each week. The articles will explain the use of these grasses for pasture, their establishment and their management.

If you run short of pasture during July and August, warm season grasses may be your answer, according to Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service.

"Warm season grasses like switchgrass, Indiangrass and big bluestem make 60 to 70 percent of their growth between July 1 and September 1, and this is the time of year when our cool season grasses such as orchard grass and brome grass go dormant," Ticknor said. "It seems to me," he continued, "anyone who plants sudangrass for summer pasture should strongly consider the permanent warm season grasses."

For the average livestock farm in southern Iowa, about 75 percent of the pasture land should be in cool season

grasses and 25 percent of the pasture land should be in warm season grasses. This combination will provide prime forage production for a five to six month grazing season, Ticknor says.

Lyle and Dean McCunn of Montgomery County grazed 15 acres of a warm season grass with yearling steers last year. According to Ticknor, they were so well pleased with the results that they will be establishing additional acreages in 1973.

If you want additional information on warm season grasses, Ticknor suggests you contact him at the Soil Conservation Service office.

inners. Local should be sent County Soil District office in March 25.

Clarke County advance to the where prizes \$10 for first,

### District contest

rd place. vation Speech r at the State receive a \$250 id \$100 in cash. be a \$75 award ace and a \$50 d place.

ool and junior n Clarke County to enter this st. They are act any of the rvation District s, Richard Miller, Adrian McCarty, Jack fice of the Soil Service in

Osceola for additional information and entry blanks.

Oscula Sentinel 3-1-73

## New Ideas For Pasture

### Three Warm-Season Grasses Show Promise

There are three major warm season grasses that show promise as pasture grasses in southern Iowa, according to Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service.

"Big bluestem, Indiangrass and switchgrass are the ones we are talking about," Ticknor said. Each of these grasses do better on different soil types. Big bluestem likes deep fertile soils whereas Indian grass is more drought tolerant than either of the other grasses. Switchgrass does better on wetter soils than either big bluestem or Indiangrass.

If these grasses are properly managed we can expect to use them from July 1 to September 1. "We are not sure about stocking rates," Ticknor said, "but from limited experience it looks like two cows per acre or three yearlings may be a goal to shoot for."

Additional information on warm season grasses may be obtained from the Soil Conservation Service office.

Oscula Sentinel 3-8-73

## New Ideas For Pasture

"For about three years now, farmers in southern Iowa have been trying warm season grasses as part of their summer pasture program," says Keith Ticknor District Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service. Interest in the grasses is growing, he says, and many farmers want to know more about them.

Switchgrass is a native perennial warm season, deep-rooted, semi-bunch grass. Seed stalks grow three to six feet high. "This grass grows well throughout the eastern

and central Great Plains and on certain prairie sites in other parts of the United States," Ticknor says, "And is adapted well to southern Iowa." Switchgrass is more adapted to wetter soil but is winterhardy and drought resistant, and will grow under a wide range of soils and climatic conditions.

Considered a tall grass, switchgrass is very nutritious and readily eaten by all classes of livestock, either as green forage or hay. It should be carefully managed, Ticknor says, because if it's continually grazed closer than five to seven inches during the growing season, it will be replaced by less productive plants.

Blackwell switchgrass, an upland form of medium height, is being used for pasture and hay in southern Iowa. It is more productive and disease resistant than wild forms. Certified Blackwell switchgrass seed is available on the commercial market.

For more information about switchgrass as a summer grass for pasture, contact the Soil Conservation Service District Conservationist.

3-20-73 Oscula Sentinel

## Fuller Takes Reins of Long Creek Board for '73

Bob Fuller was elected Chairman of the Long Creek Watershed Board for 1973 at the board meeting held March 12. He has been active on the watershed board since it was organized in 1971 and has been responsible for successfully conducting a land treatment inventory throughout the watershed. He lives in Knox Township, one and one-half miles east of Lacelle.

Other officers elected were Charles Gorsline, vice-chairman and Hubert Duff, secretary-treasurer. Gorsline and Duff both live in Decatur County and have also served on the board since its beginning.

Other board members are George Wilson, C. I. Jackson, Seymour Schaa, Kenneth Sickels, Richard Beers, Terry (Continued on Back Page)

Robins, Rolland Fuller and Randol Cox.

The Long Creek watershed was organized in March 1971 for the purpose of controlling flooding in Long Creek bottoms and for controlling erosion in the uplands. In August 1971, the board submitted an application to the State Soil Conservation Committee for assistance under the P.L. 566 Watershed Program, which is administered by the Soil Conservation Service. The application was approved in January 1972 and placed on a priority list for planning.

Before planning can begin, the application must be placed at the top of the priority list by the State Soil Conservation Committee and then referred to the Soil Conservation Service for developing the plan. At this time, there is no indication of when this may occur.

During the past year, the watershed directors have been contracting all landowners in the watershed to find out how the land is being used and to find where additional land treatment is needed. This work is approximately two-thirds complete at this time and they hope to finish it before spring work starts.

Oscula Sentinel 3-15-73

## New Ideas For Pasture

### Indiangrass For Pastures

"Interest in warm-season grasses for pasture during the hot summer months is bringing many questions on types of grasses," says Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service. Indiangrass is one of the grasses being used.

It's a native perennial, warm season, tall grass which reproduces from seed and short scaly underground stems. It grows to a height of three to seven feet.

"Indiangrass is very

nutritious and relished by all livestock," Ticknor says. It provides high quality forage when green, and fair quality when mature. This grass is planted and managed in pure stands as a pasture grass. It is best adapted to deep, moist soils from heavy clay to deep sand.

Indiangrass responds very favorably to nitrogen fertilizer which increases both seed and forage production. You can get more information on its use from Keith Ticknor at the Soil Conservation Service office.

# Right-of-Way Is Seeded

## AERIAL CROP SPRAYERS DO WORK

Motorists Get Thrill Of Seeing Operator Perform

Seeding the right-of-way along a highway can be a major undertaking. Especially when the weather has produced enough rain to prevent standard machinery and equipment from getting onto shoulders and ditches.

The answer? Aerial seeding. And this was the way the stretch of highway 34 between Osceola and highway 169 east of Thayer was seeded during the past week.

The Chase Aerial Crop Spraying Service of Villisca provided the plane and the know-how to perform the job. Equipped with a hopper to carry the seed, the pilot flies at fence row height to seed the areas along the highway.

The mixture of grasses include 20 pounds of Kentucky Fescue 31 per acre, eight pounds of Western Seed Grass

per acre, four pounds of switchgrass, four pounds of Alsike grass and four pounds of Birdsfoot Trefoil. A slightly different mixture consisting of white clover and rye are used in the median areas of intersections.

Motorists traveling along highway 34 are notified to be on the lookout for the seeding operation by a sign that reads "Aerial Seeding". And the notice is necessary, for the pilot keeps the plane just a few feet above the ground as he releases the seed. Enough seed is carried in the hoppers to seed 12 acres.

In fact, Monday afternoon while seeding just south of Murray, a power line leading to a nearby farm was broken as the plane's wheels touched and broke the line.

Following the seeding, conventional equipment will be used by the prime contractor, Max Porter of Massena, to fertilize the soil on the right-of-way. A dry mixture of 16-16-16 will be used to complete the job.

The 32-mile stretch of highway 34 between Osceola and Creston was completed in 1972 and opened to the public.



LOOKS EASY: Seeding of the right-of-way along highway 34 west of Osceola may be all in the day's work for an accomplished crop sprayer who makes it look easy, but motorists who observed the procedure caught their

breaths several times when the little plane would swoop beneath wires to make a pass while seeding. The above picture was taken at the intersection of highway 34 and the Lacelle road.

## New Ideas For Pasture

### Big Bluestem For Pastures

Interest in warm season grasses is growing in southern Iowa, says Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service. "One of the warm-season grasses farmers are trying for pasture in hot summer months is big bluestem," Ticknor says.

Big bluestem is a native warm season perennial tall grass that grows to height of three to eight feet. It produces abundant forage in mid-summer, and does best on deep, fertile soils.

"Big bluestem is used primarily for grazing and shouldn't be grazed shorter than six to eight inches during the growing season, Ticknor says. If continually grazed closer than this it dies out and is replaced by less productive plants. But properly managed, big bluestem is high in both quantity and quality of forage produced," according to Ticknor. "It responds well to nitrogen fertilization," he adds.

If you have questions about big bluestem as part of a summer grazing program, contact Keith Ticknor, your

local Soil Conservation Service District Conservationist.

## Soil Election Is Postponed

The District Soil Commissioners election has been postponed until a latter date according to Keith Ticknor, District Soil Conservation officer. The election had been scheduled to start this week but Ticknor did not know when the election would be re-scheduled.

## List Grasses For Pastures

Warm season grasses like big bluestem, Indiangrass and switchgrass, as well as cool season grasses like bromegrass and orchardgrass fit into a pasture program. But their management is very different, according to Keith

Ticknor, District Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service.

The secret to success with warm season grasses is the "Take half - Leave half" concept. This means leaving about eight to ten inches of stubble. "You can't graze the warm season grasses into the ground like some people do bromegrass, but with proper management they'll really produce," Ticknor says.

Nitrogen fertilizer will have the same effect on warm season grasses as it does on cool season grasses, according to Ticknor. "Right now it looks like 80 to 100 percent of nitrogen per acre may be the maximum. It should be applied June 1 to June 15," he says.

"Most of the warm season grass plantings we are involved with are small," Ticknor said. "However, they show great promise for summer grazing and I'm sure we will see more acreage planted each year."

For more details on warm season grasses, contact Keith Ticknor at the Soil Conservation Service office.

# Despite Cutbacks, SCS Continues Services

by Kieth A. Ticknor

Since the President's cut in agricultural programs, I have had many questions about our services. Questions such as, "Is your office still open? Can you still lay out a pond for me? Can I receive financial assistance? How have you been affected by the cut backs?" and many others.

At this time, the government cuts have not changed our job in the Soil Conservation Service, which is to assist the Soil Conservation District in planning and applying conservation practices. We will still assist you in laying out contour lines, survey, design and stake ponds and structures, design and layout waterways, stake tile, diversions or terraces, assist with planning and design of feed lot lagoons, planning and layout of windbreaks and assist with many other services that you may need.

The major difference is that with the termination of REAP, we cannot talk with you about cost-sharing. Our services to you are still provided, without charge, but the total cost of construction will have to be paid by the land owner. With REAP, as much as 50 percent of the construction cost could be paid with federal funds.

Sure, the "across the board" cuts in Department of



**SOW OATS ANY ONE!** This picture was taken during one of the "dry" days we had last week. As one farmer put it, "The water table is just two inches above the ground".



**SUPER-SATURATED!** Severe damage has occurred to road banks by soil sliding as shown in this picture taken near Murray along Highway 34. Damage has not been limited to new grading. Many banks along old roads have slipped also.

Agriculture spending has affected the Soil Conservation Service. Most of the SCS budget goes for paying people to provide a service to the public and when there is a cut in the budget, we lose people. In Iowa, the Soil Conservation Service expects to lose approximately 50 employees. This means that many adjustments, transfers and other arrangements will have to be made in the field offices.

It is too early to tell what changes will be made, but you can be sure that if you need assistance in planning or laying out conservation measures that we will be here to help you when you ask.

## Graze Steers On Switchgrass

"Talk to the man who has some." If you're thinking of trying warm season grasses you can get a first-hand report on them. There are several plantings of warm season grasses in southern Iowa, according to Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service, and he suggests talking to fellows who have them.

John Hientz in Decatur County was one of the first to try warm season grasses three years ago. His first ten acre field did so well, he's planted additional acreage each year since.

Lyle and Dean McCunn grazed yearling steers on 15 acres of switchgrass last year. In fact, the cattle seemed to prefer the switchgrass to brome along in July and August, Dean said. Asked if they were going to establish more warm season grass, Dean said, "You bet."

Richard Gonseth in Clarke County planted 20 acres of switchgrass in the spring of 1972 and got a good stand. Some of it was three feet high and went to seed before frost. Gonseth is looking forward to grazing this field in 1973.

Other farmers in southern Iowa have had similar results,

Ticknor said. We must remember, he cautioned, that proper management is the key to success or failure.

The Soil Conservation District has more details on warm season grasses.

*Osceola Sentinel*  
4-19-73

## Youth Board Undertakes Tree Planting Project this Spring

By Keith A. Ticknor,  
District Conservationist

Conservation is everyone's responsibility including both the young and old alike. On the young side, the Clarke County Conservation Youth Board organized last fall to provide a coordinated approach to youth conservation projects in the county.

Under the leadership of Terry Bonnett, the group started with ten members from the seventh to the eleventh grades and have increased their membership to sixteen. Students may become a member only if they have a sincere interest in conservation.

Youth involvement in conservation activities is not new. There has been many projects carried out by school, 4-H Scout and other groups in the community. The Soil Conservation District Commissioners recognized this and felt that they needed the support and assistance that young people can give to a total conservation program. In turn, youth need to have a better understanding of what conservation Districts are all about and what they are doing to improve the environment.

Approximately a year ago, a group of students came to the District Commissioners and



LEFT TO RIGHT: Larry Jackson, Bart Emary, Paul Owens, Les Irving, Leland Dolecheck, Cathy Carroll, Brian Huss, Dave Johannes, Terry Bonnett, Richard Gonseth,

Tony Pontier, Debbie Martley, Larry Hamilton, Ricky Baughman, John Davenport and Darci Kent. Members not in picture, Greg Kent and Brian Garrett.

asked for help to solve an erosion problem on the school grounds west of the school building. Following this request, plans have been made to build a one and one half acre pond in the gully west of the school. Funds for this project are being obtained from the Southern Iowa RC&D. Along with the pond, the idea of developing an outdoor classroom evolved. With these activities in progress there was a need for the youth to organize. With the assistance of the district commissioners, Leland Dolecheck,

Larry Rohr, Dave Johannes and Jon Weber, the group was organized. Terry Bonnett was elected chairman, Brian Huss Vice Chairman and Debbie Martley, Secretary-treasure. They meet regularly with the District Commissioners to coordinate their activities.

The youth group is making plans for a tree planting project for this spring. They have also gathered ideas and information needed to develop a plan for the outdoor classroom. Other projects and activities will be undertaken in the future.

*Osceola Sentinel* 5-10-73  
**Group Plans Tree**

### **Planting Project**

A tree planting project is planned for this week with members of the County Conservation Youth Board undertaking the task of planting 16 Green Ash trees on city parking areas.

The group, organized within the past two months, is com-

posed of 19 students from Clarke Community Schools in grades seven through 11.

They have received a \$100 donation from the Osceola Chamber of Commerce to be used for the purchase of trees. With the aid of their supervisors, Leland Dolecheck, David Johannes, Jon Weber and Keith Ticknor, they will plant the trees on parking along West Cass Street. They also hope, in future years, to increase the number of plantings along other streets as well as plant red bud trees near West Ward Manor.

Terry Bonnett is chairman of the group that was organized to promote community projects through the local Soil District.

Oscola Sentinel April 26, 1973

# Arbor Day Is Observed by Local Soils Office

By Keith A. Ticknor,  
District Conservationist

This week, April 22-28, has been designated in Iowa as our time to observe Arbor Day. Traditionally, Arbor Day is a time in late April or early May appointed, by most states in the United States, for planting trees.

Tree planting has a special importance to us in this Decade because so many of our prized Elm trees have been lost to Dutch Elm Disease. Also, some of our oak trees are being threatened by Oak Wilt Disease. I have heard many of you comment about how you miss the beauty of the tree lined streets, canopied by the large spreading Elm trees.

These trees didn't just happen to grow along our streets. Someone had the foresight and dedication to plant them 70-80 years ago. Some of you may remember when these trees were planted, but for most of us we have just had the opportunity to enjoy them for most of our lives. Now it is our responsibility to replace these trees. We will not get the full enjoyment from them that our descendants will, but we have been enjoying the benefits of someone else's efforts too.

Anyone can plant a tree, and everyone should. But, remember that the little tree that you plant today may get very big in a few years and that it will be a permanent object that will probably out live you.

Before you plant your tree, look at the surroundings and try to picture how the tree will fit in when it is full grown. There's a tree to fit almost any location so it may be worth while to familiarize yourself with the different sizes and shapes of trees available.

I urge you all to make a community effort to plant trees in our country side and along our streets. I can't wait to see the day when I can drive through tree lined, canopied streets again.



Tree planting is always an important spring activity. Kenneth Sickels, right, is picking up one bundle of the 500 evergreen seedlings that he ordered from the State Nursery. John

Tibben, left, District Forester from Creston, delivered several thousand trees and shrubs to local farmers.

Oscola Sentinel 5-24-73

## Observe Soil Stewardship Week with Services

The Clarke County Soil Conservation District is observing National Soil Stewardship Week, May 27 through June 3. Soil Stewardship Week is a nationwide observance which places emphasis on man's obligation to God as stewards of the soil, water and other resources.

As part of the observance, the District invites everyone to attend a special soil stewardship program on June 3, at 8:00 at St. Brendan's Church Hall in Leon. Fr. John McRaith, Co-Director of the National Catholic Rural Life

Conference, will be the principal speaker. His topic will be "The Future of the Small Community".

Fr. McRaith was reared on a farm in Minnesota. His past experience includes work as Rural Life Director in the New Ulm Minnesota Diocese.

The program should be interesting and informative and the District cordially invites you to attend.



Father John McRaith

Osceola Sentinel 5-31-73

## PUBLIC NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF SOIL  
CONSERVATION  
STATE OF IOWA

Notice of election of commissioners for the Clarke Soil Conservation District, encompassing lands lying in the county of Clarke in the state of Iowa:

To all qualified electors residing within the Clarke County Soil Conservation District:

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of June, 1973, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., an election will be held for the election of commissioners for the Clarke County Soil Conservation District.

Polling places for the election are as follows: Clarke County Court House.

Eligible voters residing within the district shall cast their ballots at one of the polling places. Eligible voters who will be absent from the district on the day of election, may apply in person, or in writing, to the County Auditor at Osceola, Iowa, for "absentee ballots". Each applicant for an absentee ballot shall state his name and address when application for such ballot is made.

Department of Soil Conservation

By: George K. Annan  
Chairman, State Soil Conservation Committee

Committee  
Department of Soil Conservation

s-21-22



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Osceola Sentinel 5-24-73

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Department of Soil Conservation

s-21-22

Osceola Sentinel 5-24-73

# To Elect Three Soil Commissioners June 1

The election of Soil Conservation District Commissioners will be held Friday, June 1, for the purpose of electing three members to serve on the five-man board.

An earlier election scheduled for March 30 had been postponed to the present time, Keith Ticknor, head of the local Soil and Water Conservation office stated.

Hours of the election will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Clarke County courthouse with all persons living within the boundaries of the district eligible to vote.

Members to be voted on for a six year term include Richard Gonseth, Merrill Thornton, Bob Wright and Everett Fenn. Two of the four will be elected from this group of candidates.

Seeking a four year term

will be Mrs. Norma Anderson and Adrian Fuller.

Jack Ames is presently on the Board and is not running and Adrian Fuller is filling the unexpired term of Jerry Kelly.

District Commissioners have the responsibility of coordinating the conservation efforts of all agencies or organizations for the protection of our natural resources. Commissioners set conservation policy, determine conservation needs and direct the over all conservation program. They assist in conservation education activities and encourage conservation through the use of contests, awards and information releases. There are many other responsibilities that demand concerned leadership.

"You don't get paid for your efforts," Chairman Gonseth said, "but your reward for serving as a commissioner is the satisfaction of knowing that you are contributing to the protection of our most important resources and to the development of the community."

Osceola Sentinel  
5-31-73

## Three Week Course Is Offered to Teachers

Falls and again July 9-27 at Burlington. In the past, the course has been held at Springbrook State Park.

"By taking the program closer to the home environment of the participants, we hope to be of more direct help to schools and teachers in developing conservation education programs," says Camp Director Bernard Clausen of Cedar Falls.

The course, open to both Northern Iowa, Iowa Department of Public Instruction, Iowa Conservation Commission, and Iowa Department of Soil Conservation.

The Clarke County Soil Conservation District will pay the tuition for one teacher or one half the tuition for two teachers to attend the camp.

Dave Johannes, Biology instructor at the Clarke Community High School attended the camp last year. He stated that the course has been very valuable to him.

Osceola Sentinel 5-31-73



**TREE PLANTING:** This group of high school students from CCHS dig in as they plant one of the 16 Green Ash trees on West Cass street in Osceola. The trees were purchased by the Osceola Chamber of Commerce upon recommendation of Keith Ticknor, who organized the Conservation Youth Group. David Johannes, Leland Dolecheck and Jon Weber, instructors at CCHS, serve as spon-

sors for the group of young people who are interested in conservation and beautification. In the above picture, David Johannes (left) observes the tree planting procedure. Students participating are Debbie Martley, Darci Kent, Chris Baker, Greg Kent, Kathy Carroll, Bart Emery, John Davenport, Tim Pontier, Jim Fors and Larry Hamilton.

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Osceola Sentinel 5-24-73

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Chairman, State Soil Conservation Committee

Committee  
Department of Soil Conservation

s-21-22

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5-31-73

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Osceola Sentinel 5-31-73



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Oscula Sentinel 6-7-73



FIELD TRIP: A final field trip highlighted the end of school for Leland Dolecheck's sophomore class at Clarke Community High School. Members of the class inspect the pond

and outlet pipe on the Robert Myers farm north of Jamison. Myers is building a private recreational area on the farm.

## Oscula Sentinel 6-7-73 Elect Three Soil Commissioners

Adrian Fuller, Merrill Thornton and Richard Gonseth were elected as district Soil Commissioners for Clarke County in the balloting held Friday, June 1 in the Clarke County Courthouse.

Seeking the post for a four-

year term were Adrian Fuller who polled 45 votes and Mrs. Norma Anderson who polled 41 votes.

Seeking the six-year term seats were Richard Gonseth with 57 votes, Merrill Thornton with 52 votes, Everette Fenn with 36 votes and Robert Wright with 24 votes.

An organizational meeting of the commissioners will be held Thursday, June 21, with the two hold-over commissioners meeting with them at that time. Doyce Miller and Merrill McCarty are the two commissioners who will remain on the board.

Assistant commissioners will be appointed at that time.

Oscula Tribune  
6-26-73

## Program for Elderly Is Given Approval

The Southern Iowa Regional Planning Agency has been approved as the Area Agency on Aging, by the Commission on Aging, State of Iowa, for operating in the seven county Area XIV region beginning July 1. The Agency will plan for, coordinate, administrate, and evaluate programs for the elderly in Adair, Adams,

Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor, and Union counties. By concentrating resources in areas having limited resources, SIRPA and the State Commission on Aging will initiate new programs and where desirable, improve or assist in further development of existing programs for the elderly.

Under the proposal that was accepted by the State Commission on Aging, an Advisory Council composed of two members from each county, will be formed. Fifty-one percent of these members will be over age 60 and will be representative of and reflect the concerns and needs of the

forces on such as transportation, recreation, member will which ent  
be open 4th  
5:00 P.M.

seats  
• Pickle Pimento  
• Beef Bologna • Olive Loaf

*Osceola Sentinel*  
**PUBLIC NOTICES**  
6-14-73

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING AND LETTING**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING ON PROPOSED  
PLANS AND SPECI-  
FICATIONS AND  
PROPOSED FORM OF  
CONTRACT FOR THE  
CONSTRUCTION OF A  
RURAL WATER SYSTEM  
FOR THE CLARKE RURAL  
WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 OF  
OSCEOLA, IOWA AND THE  
TAKING OF BIDS FOR SUCH  
CONSTRUCTION.**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of CLARKE RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 in CLARKE County, Iowa, will meet at the CLARKE ELECTRIC COOP., INC. in OSCEOLA, Iowa, on the 9 day of July, 1973, at 8:00 o'clock p.m., C.D.T., at which time and place or at such later time and place as the Board of Directors may then fix, a hearing will be held and said Board of Directors proposes to adopt plans and specifications and form of contract and to receive bids for the construction of a RURAL WATER system, in and for CLARKE RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 of OSCEOLA, Iowa. The extent of the work involved consists of the construction of a RURAL WATER system, and service lines, together with related subsidiary and incidental work.

The kinds and approximate quantities of materials and types of construction for which bids will be received shall be as follows:

**DIVISION 1:**

Construction of approximately 20.5 miles of pipeline (sizes 2" through 4"), valves, meter pits, service lines, and miscellaneous appurtenant work. Proposals received will be acted upon by the Board of Directors at the time and place above specified or at such later time and place as may then be fixed.

All work and materials are to be in strict compliance with plans and specifications prepared by TRI-STATE ENGINEERS of Manchester, Iowa, which together with the proposed form of contract have heretofore been approved by the Board of Directors, and are now on file for examination in the office of the Secretary and are by this reference made a part hereof as though fully set out and incorporated herein.

All proposals and bids in connection therewith shall be submitted to the Secretary of the CLARKE RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 of

OSCEOLA, Iowa, on or before the time herein set for hearing and letting. All proposals shall be made on official proposal forms furnished by the CLARKE RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 of OSCEOLA, Iowa or TRI-STATE ENGINEERS of Manchester, Iowa, Engineers for the association, and must be enclosed in a separate sealed envelope and plainly identified and addressed to the Secretary, CLARKE RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 1, Osceola, Iowa. Each proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check or a bid bond in a separate sealed envelope in an amount equal to Ten per cent (10 per cent) of the total amount of the proposal, drawn on and certified to by a responsible bank, and payable to the Secretary of the CLARKE RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 of OSCEOLA, Iowa, as security that if awarded a contract by resolution of the Board of Directors, the Bidder will enter into a contract at the prices bid and furnish required bond and proof of insurance coverage. The certified check may be cashed and the proceeds retained by the association as agreed liquidated damages if the Bidder fails to execute a contract or file an acceptable bond or produce proof of specified insurance coverage within ten (10) days after the acceptance of his proposal by resolution of the Board of Directors. No Bidder may withdraw a proposal within ninety (90) days after the date set for opening bids.

At the said hearing the Board of Directors will consider the plans and specifications and proposed form of contract for the project, the same now being on file with the Secretary, reference to which is made for a more detailed and complete description of the proposed work, and at said time and place the Board of Directors will also receive and consider any objections to said plans, specifications and form of contract or cost of such

project made by any interested party.

Payment of the cost of said project will be made in cash to be derived from the proceeds of a loan from the Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, which said loan will be payable solely and only out of the future net earnings of the Rural Water system of the association and/or from such other cash funds on hand of the association as may be lawfully used for said purpose and or from the proceeds of a federal and/or state grant or grants as may be obtained by said association.

Payment to each Contractor will be made in monthly estimates and one final payment. Monthly estimates will be equivalent to ninety per cent (90) of the contract value of the work completed during the preceding calendar month. Estimates will be prepared on the first day of each month by the Contractor, subject to the approval of the Engineer, who will certify each approved estimate to the Board of Directors for payment on or before the 15th day of the month in question. Such monthly payments shall in no way be construed as an act of acceptance for any part of the work partially or totally completed.

Final payment to each Contractor will be made not earlier than thirty-one (31) days from and after the final acceptance of said work by the association. No such partial or final payment will be due until the Contractor has certified that the materials, labor and services involved in each instance have been paid for in accordance with the requirements stated in the specifications.

The work under the contract for each section shall commence on or before the date specified in a written "Notice to Proceed" and shall be fully completed and ready for operation within 150 consecutive calendar days thereafter.

Contractors may bid on any or all sections. However, the Board of Directors will award a separate contract for each section, and no tied bids will be permitted.

"Bidder's Proposals," plans and specifications may be obtained from the Engineer. A deposit of \$30.00 will be required for the plans and specifications, \$20.00 of which will be refunded to those returning them in good condition within twenty (20) days after the date of the bid opening.

Each successful Bidder will be required to furnish a bond in an amount equal to one hundred per cent (100) of the contract price, said bond to be issued by a responsible surety approved by the Board of Directors, and shall guarantee the faithful performance of the contract and the terms and conditions therein contained and shall guarantee the prompt payment of all materials and labor and protect and save harmless the association from claims and damages of any kind caused by the operation of the Contractor, and shall also guarantee the maintenance in good repair of all work and materials for a period of one (1) year from and after the completion and acceptance of the work by resolution of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors hereby reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive informalities and irregularities and to enter into such contracts as it may deem to be for the best interests of the association.

Bidders on this work will be required to comply with Presidential Executive Order No. 11246.

Published upon order of the Board of Directors of CLARKE RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 1, Osceola, Iowa.

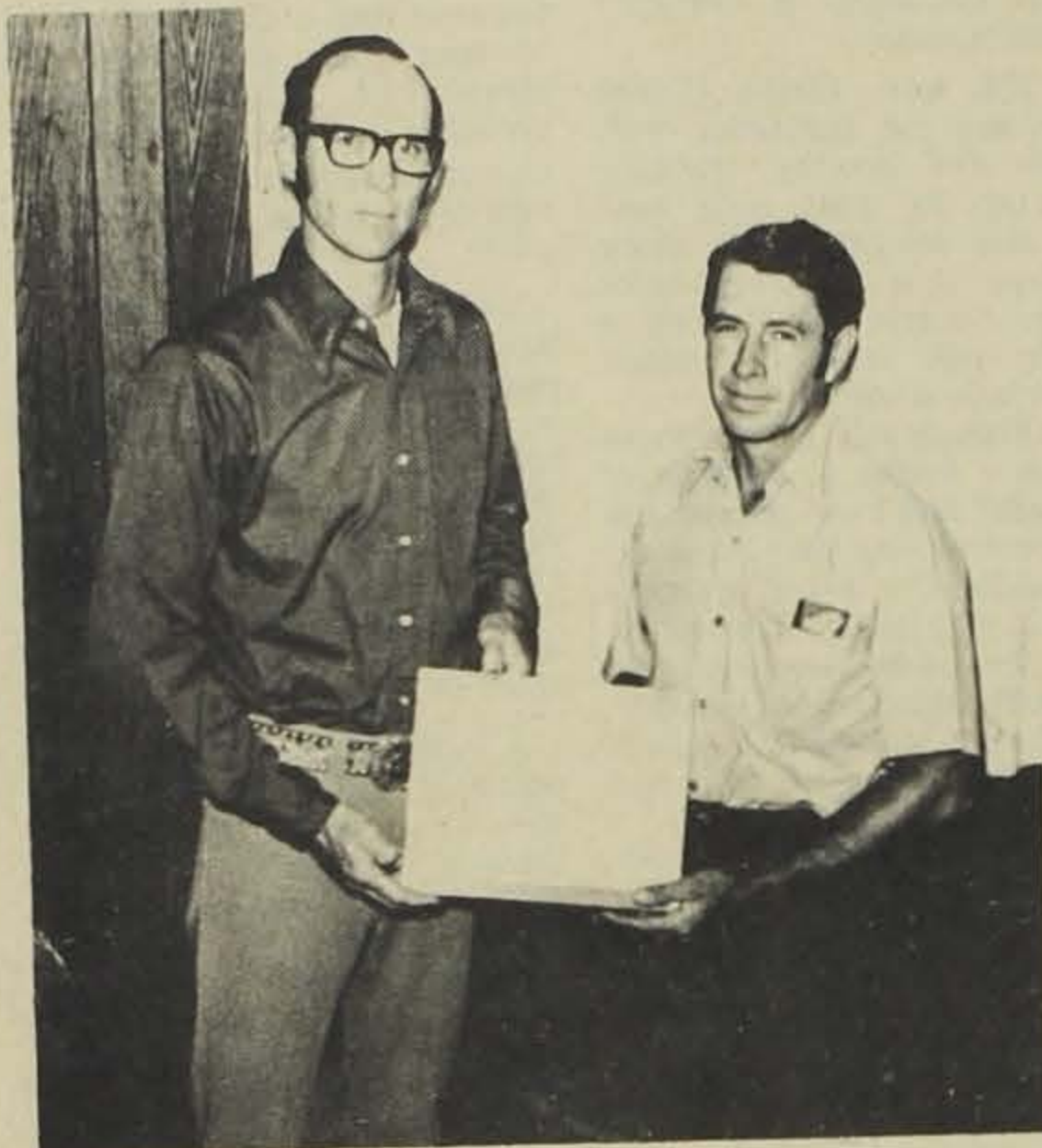
**CLARKE RURAL WATER  
DISTRICT NO. 1.**

By: Doyce V. Miller  
President

ATTEST:  
Charles G. Morgan  
Secretary

s-24.2

7/26/73



**RECOGNIZED:** Jack Ames, Weldon was presented a certificate commemorating his service as a Soil Conservation District Commissioner. Ames served for eight years from 1965 to 1973 and chose not to run for office in this election.

7/26/73  
**Thayer Firm  
Has Low Bid  
For Dam**

Frank Adams, Adams Construction at Thayer, submitted the low bid for construction of a grade stabilization structure at the Clarke Community School. Adams bid was \$7,991.30. Other bids were received from Keith Kent, Lucas, \$10,986.80 and D & G Construction, Corydon, \$18,527.20.

The work includes clearing and grubbing, building a 10,212 cubic yard dam, seeding and mulching of the construction area and fencing. The dam is to be located west of the high school near the west property line. Adams expects to start construction in early August.

The dam will create a one and one-half acre pond that is designed to stabilize a deep gully that is cutting back into the school grounds. The dam and pond area will be a part of the school grounds and it will become a part of an outdoor classroom.

The total cost of the project is being funded by the Southern Iowa RC&D.

