

# Conservation *update*

HOWARD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (HSWCD) ~YEAR IN REVIEW 2016~

## Outdoor Classrooms

The 31st annual **Arbor Day** Outdoor Classroom was held on April 28, 2016 at the Prairie's Edge Nature Center. There were 103 third grade students in attendance. Stations included Backyard Conservation with Neil Shaffer from Howard SWCD; Wildlife presented by Angela Bries of Howard County Conservation; Bird Identification led by Mary Jo Hartogh, volunteer from Elma; Tree Identification with Jed Becker, volunteer from Cresco; and Watersheds presented by the ISU Conservation Station. Each student took home a potted Black Hills Spruce tree seedling. Funding for this year's trees was provided by the Northeast Iowa RC&D Employee Giving Fund.

The 39th annual **Natural Resources Day** Outdoor Classroom held on May 12, 2016 at the Prairie's Edge Nature Center welcomed 117 fifth grade students. Stations included Entomology presented by Angela Bries; Bird Identification with Mary Jo Hartogh; Woodland Plants & Flowers led by Connie Richter, volunteer from Lime Springs; Soils with Neil Sass,

NRCS Agronomist; and Bees with Jed Becker.

*These events are successful thanks to volunteer instructors who have dedicated many hours of their personal time over the years. Thanks also to the Howard County Conservation Board for use of the Nature Center and grounds.*

## Poster Contest

Submissions for the 2016 Conservation Poster Contest featured the theme "We All Need Trees." Judging was based on conservation message, visual effectiveness, originality and universal appeal.

L-R: Grade 7-9 winner Morgan Drilling from Riceville Middle School, Grade 2-3 winner

Marley Drilling from Riceville Elementary, Grade 10-12 winner Madison Drilling from Riceville Community School, and pictured below Grade 2-3 second place Grace Barr from Crestwood Elementary. Each student received a ribbon and backpack from Howard SWCD, and first place posters were submitted for regional judging.

Sponsors: Howard SWCD, Conservation Districts of Iowa, National Association of Conservation Districts & Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co. *Howard SWCD will not be sponsoring a poster contest in 2017. See Coloring Contest information inside!*



## 2016 HSWCD Scholarships



\$500 High School Scholarship: Ryan Wilson, son of Bart & Julie Wilson of Cresco



\$500 College Scholarship: Hunter Slifka, son of Keith & Edie Slifka of Cresco



\$500 High School Scholarship: Dakota Rasmusson, son of Dean & Holly Rasmusson of Cresco

## Commissioners

Back L-R: Mike Natvig, Mike Lewis, Bart Wilson  
Front L-R: Glen Pietan, Harlan Hickie, Irene Lund (assistant)



## Howard County Field Office Staff

L-R: Hunter Slifka (HSWCD Technician), Neil Shaffer (HSWCD Watershed Project Coordinator), Laura Ellingson (Elyon Contract Clerk), Kurt Hoelt (NRCS District Conservationist), Shannon Hurd (IDALS-DSCWQ Conservation Assistant), Shereen Ries (NRCS Soil Conservation Technician), *Not pictured: Kathy Moen, new NRCS Soil Conservationist*



<b>Booster Club Members FY 2016</b>		<b>Total: \$5,880.00</b>	<b>Members: 112</b>
<b>SUPPORTERS \$5-\$24</b>	<b>SAVERS \$25-\$49</b>	<b>STEWARDS \$50-\$99</b>	<b>SUSTAINERS \$100-\$UP</b>
Baethke, Mercedes Dillon, Marlene & Glen Eiffler, Duane & Irene Gamez, Adolph & Jolene Govern, Elaine Hurd, Jason Hurd, Preston Meyers, Megan Murphy, Lon Schroeder, Dan & Amy Zobeck, Lavern & Betty Zweibohmer, William	Barnes, Tom & Sue Bruening Recycling Cannon Farms Inc. Christensen, Kelly & Audrey Daley, Dave & Pam Davis Construction Dennler, Dale & Stephanie DeWalle, Tillie Dietzenbach, Urban & Lucy Drtina, David & Patricia Elwood, Henry & Carol Evelyn Adamec Trust Flaherty, Robert Franks, Richard & Yvonne Gary Hubka Construction Inc. Grabau, Tim & Sheila Johnson, Steve & Wendy Larson, Stan & Joanne Martinek, Bob Martinek, Marvin & Michelle McClure, Karlos & Janet McGee, Bill & Vicki Neubauer, Lloyd Platte, Emil & Charlotte Praska, Sheldon & Mary Preston, Dortha Reis, Jason & Jennifer Roberson, Eileen & John Shatek, John Shatek, Leonard Shea Bros. Smutzler, Arden & Sharon Steve Falck Concrete Const. Stevenson, Carol T&V Grover Farms Inc. Thraenert, Joseph & Barbara Tremmel, Anthony & Mary Jo Zakosteelky, Donald & Ida	Anderson, Mark & Karen Bouska, Amy Bronner, Brent & Patsy Brush, Rick Christensen, Dennis & Ann Christensen, Merlin & Fay Christensen, Steve & Rosalie Corrington, Patrick Dietzenbach, Dale & Julie Dietzenbach, James Fencl, Victor & Sharla Flugge, Beverly Fritcher, Dave & Ruthie Gooder, Gary Haley, Ethel Ann Hawbaker, Eric Hubka, Wilmer & Loraine Ihns, Delbert & Lela Larson, Gary & JoAnne Ludwig, Marge Mahr, Mike & Gwen Malek, Chuck & Kathy Meyer, Harold Neubauer Farms Inc. Peoples Savings Bank Reicks, Ray & Linnette Reis, Brandon & Jessica Reis, Josh & Amy Rethamel, Eldred & Pat Schmidt, Max & Georgia Schmitt, Tim & Denise Schwade, Dale & Jeanine Seele, Bill & Cheryl Shatek, Tom & Pauline Spindler, Pam & Tom Stark, Dean & Helen Swestka, Ron & Joyce Ullom, Rick & Jane Wilson, Bart & Julie	Bakken, Rod & Nancy Carroll Construction Chihak, Tom Cray, Randy & Jan Drilling, Dorothy Flugum, Ken & Janet Gooder, Don & Rosie Hickle, Harlan & Darlene Hovey Enterprises Inc. Jestrab Excavating Ludwig Farms Mayer's Digging Co. Mehmert Tiling, Inc. Michel, Marlene Mike & Melissa Adams Family Moore Farms Murphy Farms Pine Creek Farm Ltd. Reinhart, Richard & Connie Shaw, David & Darlene Sobolik, Jim Wolfe, Jim Zeimetz, Francis & Linda

## Progress Report

### Iowa Financial Incentive Program (State Cost Share)

- ◆ **\$160,211.59** in projects completed in CY16 (**\$70,909.59** cost share) includes **9.06 acres** of Grassed Waterways, **1** Wetland, **1** Grade Stabilization Structure, **4** Windbreaks, **12.5 acres** of Forest Stand Improvement, **26 acres** of Conservation Cover, and **1,025 acres** of Cover Crops
- ◆ Total Cover Crop planted in CY13-CY16: **6,899** acres
- ◆ **98** CP42 Pollinator Habitat incentive payments in CY14, CY15, CY16 totaling **\$149,371.00**

### Turkey River Watershed

(North and West Branch Turkey and Chihak Creek)

- ◆ IDALS Planning Grant completed
- ◆ Water monitoring **6** sites, **5** years data
- ◆ Declared a Priority Watershed in 2014

### Silver Creek Watershed Project

- ◆ Funded by EPA, IA DNR Section 319, WSPF & WIRB
- ◆ Scheduled for Trout reintroduction in spring 2017
- ◆ July 2012 to date: **\$2,365,493.74** Conservation practices applied
- ◆ Water Monitoring **6** sites, **8** years data
- ◆ Awarded **\$240,000.00** for Manure Storage Projects: WIRB Grant
- ◆ Awarded **\$378,000.00** for FY17: 319/WSPF Grant
- ◆ Awarded DALCI Priority Watershed for FY17 over \$500,000.00
- ◆ DALCI applications: Streambanks, Vortex Weirs, Cover Crops
- ◆ Added Septic System replacement to practice list: 10 per year @ 50% cost share

**HOWARD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
FY 2016 REPORT ON ANNUAL USE OF DISTRICT FUNDS  
JULY 1, 2015 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2016**

**DISTRICT REVOLVING FUND**

BEGINNING BALANCE		\$19,131.62
RECEIPTS	BOOSTER CLUB DONATIONS	\$5,880.00
	INTEREST	\$18.99
	MISC INCOME	\$3,000.00
	SALES: MARKING FLAGS	\$8.00
	TRANSFER FROM TF: IM BUDGET ALLOCATION	\$3,000.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$11,906.99
TOTAL		\$31,038.61
EXPENSES	BANK SERVICE CHARGES	\$53.50
	DONATION- RC&D	\$1,000.00
	DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$71.95
	FARMER AWARDS	\$777.00
	IM- ANNUAL REPORT	\$783.00
	IM- CDI DUES	\$850.00
	IM- COMMISSIONER EXPENSES	\$1,068.99
	IM- POSTAGE	\$298.01
	MISC. EXPENSE	\$72.57
	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$578.29
	OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS	\$630.00
	POSTAGE AND DELIVERY	\$761.00
	SCHOLARSHIPS	\$1,500.00
	TRANSFER TO TECH ACCT	\$2,500.00
	WATER SAMPLE TESTING	\$210.00
	WEBSITE FEE	\$424.02
	CHECKS DATED PRIOR TO 7/1/15	\$565.50
	UNCLEARED TRANSACTIONS AS OF 6/30/16	-\$696.18
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$11,447.65
ENDING BALANCE		\$19,590.96

**HOWARD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
FY 2016 REPORT ON ANNUAL USE OF DISTRICT FUNDS  
JULY 1, 2015 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2016**

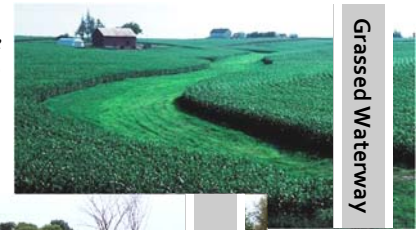
**DISTRICT TECHNICAL FUND**

BEGINNING BALANCE		\$65,338.12
RECEIPTS	CRP DISTRICT INITIATIVE	\$6,000.00
	FARM BILL XIII	\$10,828.54
	FARM BILL XIII B	\$9,549.00
	IDALS INTERN SALARY	\$1,728.00
	IM BUDGET ALLOCATION	\$3,000.00
	INTEREST	\$79.17
	SILVER CREEK 319 INFO/ED	\$80.00
	SILVER CREEK 319 SALARY	\$76,031.74
	SILVER CREEK 319 SUPPLIES	\$5.75
	SILVER CREEK 319 TRAVEL/TRAINING	\$669.52
	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DONATIONS	\$11,615.00
	TURKEY RIVER GRANT	\$5,047.79
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$124,634.51
TOTAL		\$189,972.63
EXPENSES	BANK SERVICE CHARGES	\$21.40
	DISTRICT EMPLOYEE EXPENSES	\$603.33
	PAYROLL	\$59,735.97
	PAYROLL ACCOUNTING FEES	\$415.00
	PAYROLL EXPENSE: IPERS	\$12,044.22
	PAYROLL TAXES	\$29,267.76
	SILVER CREEK EXPENSES	\$1,045.69
	TURKEY RIVER GRANT- SUPPLIES/MAIL/PROMO	\$990.65
	TURKEY RIVER GRANT- STAKEHOLDER SURVEY	\$320.95
	TRANSFER TO RF: IM BUDGET ALLOCATION	\$3,000.00
	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	\$433.15
	WATER SAMPLE TESTING SUPPLIES	\$301.43
	UNCLEARED TRANSACTIONS AS OF 6/30/16	-\$817.80
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$107,361.75
ENDING BALANCE		\$82,610.88

**Financial Assistance Available**

There are financial assistance programs available to build your conservation projects, with varying cost share rates. Call, stop by the office, or visit our website at [www.howardswcd.org](http://www.howardswcd.org) for more information.

*Pictured here are just a few examples.*



**Coloring Contest**

Go to [www.howardswcd.org](http://www.howardswcd.org) and print the coloring page (based on grade level) or pick one up from our office. Return by **May 1, 2017** for a chance to win a drawstring backpack!



*\*PreK-6th  
Grade  
Howard  
County  
residents  
only*





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Howard  
**Soil & Water**  
Conservation District

311 7th Street SW, Suite #2  
Cresco, IA 52136

(563) 547-3040, ext. #3

[www.howardswcd.org](http://www.howardswcd.org)

Providing leadership and education for  
protecting, enhancing and utilizing the  
soil and water of Howard County, Iowa

*The Howard Soil & Water Conservation  
District is an Equal Opportunity  
Provider and Employer.*

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

## Support Conservation in 2017

The Howard SWCD has been generously supported by its members since the district began the Booster Club in 1969. The Howard SWCD commissioners wish to thank all of the individuals and businesses who have generously donated over the years, and would appreciate your support again this year. You will receive a receipt for your donation.

*Along with standard operating costs, the following are made possible with your support:*

• **Scholarships** for Howard County High School seniors and College Students who pursue a degree in Conservation or Natural Resources

• **Conservation Tour** of USDA and IDALS cost-shared projects in Howard County

• **Arbor Day Outdoor Classroom** and potted trees for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders

• **Natural Resources Day Outdoor Classroom** for 5<sup>th</sup> graders

• **Conservation District Employees**

• **Awards for Conservation Farmer Recognition & Coloring Contest Winners**

### Levels of Support:

Supporter \$5—\$24

Saver \$25—\$49

Steward \$50—\$99

Sustainer \$100— UP

### 2017 Booster Club Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you would like it to appear in our report)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to "Howard SWCD")

Please correct my name/address on your mailing list

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