



Howard Soil & Water Conservation District

Year in Review 2022

Progress Report

Iowa Financial Incentive Programs FY22

- \$687,924 completed projects (#2 in the State)
- Grassed Waterways: 36.3 acres
- Windbreaks: 4
- Site Prep for Natural Regeneration: 6.9 acres
- Wetland Creations: 5.5 acres
- Field Borders: 16.8 acres
- Conservation Cover: 1 acre
- Soil Quality Restoration: 64,450 square ft.
- No-Till/Strip Till: 231.4 acres
- Waste Storage Facilities: 2
- Cover Crops planted fall 2022: 9,506 acres

Silver Creek Watershed Project

- \$9,029,069 in conservation practices with 178 cooperators
- Streambank Stabilization installed: 5,117 feet
- 55.5% of cropland in watershed area seeded to 7,944 acres cover crops
- 16.1% of the watershed seeded to native CRP on 2,729 acres (188 contracts)
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP): 4,198 acres
- Grassed Waterways constructed since 2012: 30+ miles
- Septic System upgrades with IA DNR319 funding: 24
- Urban Infiltration practices completed as Soil Health Restoration: 17

Turkey River Watershed

- \$4,737,731 obligated & implemented conservation \$
- 35% of cropland in watershed seeded to nearly 17,000 acres
- 12% of watershed enrolled into CRP = 5,154 acres
- Shallow Wetland creations: 9
- Streambank Stabilization constructed: 4,570 ft
- Constructed nearly 40,000 ft of grassed waterways
- 30,565 ac. of total conservation out of 48,502 ac. watershed

CRP Practices Installed in 2022

- Filter Strips: 45 contracts = 459 acres
- Wetlands: 4 contracts = 10 acres
- Waterways: 58 contracts = 320 acres
- Tree Planting: 14 contracts = 150 acres
- Pollinator/Upland Habitat: 50 contracts = 1,041 acres
- Contour Buffers: 3 contracts = 10 acres
- Totals: 193 contracts = 1,994 acres
- #5 in the State for active CRP contracts

Collaborative Projects with NRCS

- Grassed Waterways installed 2022: 61 projects, 20.2 mi.
- Grassed Waterways ready to build 2023: 29 projects



Cover crop into beans



Prairie



Streambank Stabilization

Howard County's State NRCS Rankings 2022

Active Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

#1 total contracts	101
#1 contract dollars	\$5,043,336
#1 total acres	24,907.5 ac.

New Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

#1 new contracts	42
#1 new contract dollars	\$1,951,986
#2 total acres	9,957.1 ac.

Active Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

#2 total contracts	104
#2 contract dollars	\$3,998,787.60
#5 total acres	35,710.2 ac.

New Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

#10 new contracts	10
#29 new contract dollars	\$248,127.66

There are financial assistance programs available for your conservation projects, with varying cost share rates. For more information, please call (563) 547-3040 ext. #3, or go to www.nrcs.usda.gov or www.howardswcd.org



Slifka is Iowa's Watershed Project Coordinator of the Year 2022

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Hunter Slifka, watershed project coordinator for the Turkey River Headwaters & Chihak Creek in NE Iowa, was honored as the 2022 Watershed Coordinator of the Year by the Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance (IAWA) during the fifth annual Iowa Watershed Awards program.

With Slifka's dedication to water quality in his 62,000-acre watershed, cover crops have expanded from only 1,500 acres five years ago to 17,000 acres this past fall. This has a direct impact on water quality for his community and communities downstream. His work is also improving trout streams that feed into the Turkey River.

"Hunter has demonstrated dedication and commitment to his community through his work and his volunteer efforts. His collaboration with farmers, landowners, government agencies, and nonprofits is really making a difference," said Sean McMahon, Executive Director of IAWA. "That's the type of coordination we need to continue to see to improve water quality and successfully implement the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy."

The IAWA Iowa Watershed Awards program was developed by IAWA in partnership with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, Conservation Districts of Iowa, The Iowa Department of Agriculture, and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

2022 Conservation Scholarships

The Howard Soil & Water Conservation District awards scholarships to students who pursue a college education in conservation or agriculture and demonstrate leadership and scholastic achievement. A \$500 scholarship was awarded to current College student Justin Kerian, son of Randy & Lori Kerian of Cresco. A \$500 High School Senior scholarship was awarded to Carter Johnson, son of Aaron Johnson and Lisa Nelson of Cresco. Congratulations to these deserving students! *Scholarship application forms can be found online at www.cdiowa.org and www.howardswcd.org.*



Justin Kerian



Carter Johnson



Field Office Staff L-R: Summer Intern Ryan Steffen, Soil Conservation Technician Shereen Ries*, Soil Conservationist Jess Stevens*, District Technician Laura Ellingson, District Conservationist Corey Brink, Conservation Assistant Shannon Hurd, Watershed Project Coordinator Neil Shaffer, Watershed Project Coordinator Hunter Slifka. **Four-County Resource Team members Not pictured: 780-hr IDALS Technician Riley Wilson*



Commissioners L-R: Bart Wilson, Chas Malek, Brian Hrdlicka, Harlan Hickie, Kayla Sebastian

Your locally elected Howard SWCD Commissioners provide local program guidance to solve natural resource concerns within the district. Public meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month.

Watch your mailboxes for the Howard Soil & Water Conservation District Annual Report in the Times Plain Dealer & TPD Extracoming soon!

Booster Club Members FY 2022

SAVERS \$25-\$49	SUSTAINERS \$50-\$99	STEWARDS \$100-\$UP
<p>Andera, Dale & Lynette Barnes, Tom & Sue Buresh, Tom & Connie Cannon Farms Inc. Carman, Eugene & Judy Chapman, Harold & Julie Christensen, Kelly & Audrey Cole's 20 Curtis Land Management Dietzenbach, Dean F. Drtina, Dan Flaherty, Bob Flugge, Beverly Garmen Farm Goverm Farms & Homes-Elaine Govern Halvorson, Sheldon & Diane Haw, Jeff & Shirlee Kapler Farms Kerian, Randy & Lori Klobassa, Gary & Marilyn Kruse, Dennis Martinek, Bob McGrane Farms LLC ML Farms LLC Natvig, Allen & Yankey, Debra Nibaur, Francis & Pegg Platte, Emil & Charlotte Plumb, Robert & Joyce Praska, Marv & Jan Roberson, John & Eileen Schmitt, Spencer & Chelsey Schroeder, Dan & Amy Shatek, Dan & Cathy Shimek, Elva Stevenson, Phyllis Stevenson, Russ & Karen Thraenert, Joe & Barb Voves, Linus Whisler, T. Jan & Shirley</p>	<p>Adams, Mike & Melissa Bronner, Brent & Patsy Chihak Family Farms Christensen, Barry & Olivia Christensen, Cory & Dorene Christensen, Steve & Rosalie Daley, Dave & Pam Dietzenbach, Bob Dietzenbach, Dale & Julie Dietzenbach, James Dietzenbach, Joe Dietzenbach, Kevin Ferrie, Gary & Marti Fox, Mike & Marj Franks, Richard Grabau, Tim & Sheila Hawbaker, Eric Heimerdinger, Gary & Sue Hopkins, Gayl & Kathy Hubka, Wilmer & Loraine Hughes, Jim & Penny Jirak, Richard Johnson, Patrick & Sue Keune Farms Kleve, Roger & Elaine Kreitzer, Dale & Jean Kurash, Steve & Marianne Larson, Gary & JoAnne Lauraine Miles Dinger Trust Malek, Chuck & Kathy Miller Reis, Marilyn Moellers, Ken & Deb Moellers, Ryan & Meagan Moser, Elaine & John Mrachek, Mike & Joann Myron, Irv & Molly Natvig, Allen Neubauer, Lloyd O'Byrne, John & JoAnn O'Donnell & Mahoney Farms Inc. Ollendick Farms Inc. Prairie Ridge LLC Praska, Sheldon & Mary Reicks, Iven & Norma Schroeder, Alice Seele, Bill & Cheryl Star Seed Inc. Stark, Dean & Helen Stevenson, Carol Stevenson, Chuck & Tammy Strike, Eldon & Janice Swestka, Ron & Joyce Ullom, Bob & Becky Ullom, Rick & Jane Zajicek, Steven</p>	<p>Amundson, Lois Anonymous Art's Milling Service Inc. Bakken, Nancy & Rod Balik, Merlin & Allison Blazek Egeland Tiling Bouska, Amy Carroll, Robert & Jane Chihak, Annette & Thomas Cole's 20 Conant, Ingrid Cray, Tom & Sheryl Dahlke, LeRoy & Janet Dorothy Schmauss & Family Drilling, Dorothy DRSG Partnership Drtina, Gary J. Ebertz Enterprises Evelyn Adamec Trust Featherlite Trailers Fencil, Victor & Sharla Flugum, Ken & Janet Fritcher, Dave & Ruthie Gooder, Gary & Sara Gooder, Rosie Grover Farms Harris, Craig & Kristi Hickle, Harlan & Darlene Hove, Tommie & Maggie Hovey Enterprises Inc. Hrdlicka, Brian & Josie Jestrab Excavating LLC KMAX Farms LLC Lidtkke, Lucas & Kari Ludwig Farms M&C Reis Dairy LLC Mahr, Mike & Gwen MarJo Farm Holdings LLC Matthias, Rod & Lori Mayers Digging Co. McAllister Family Farms Mehmert Tiling Inc. Meyer, Brandon & Alanda Miller, Cathy Miltz, Tom & Pat Moore Farms Murphy Farms Neubauer Farms Pedretti, Josh & Jennalee Reicks, Ray Reis, Brandon & Jessica Reis, Jason & Jen Reis, John & Kay Reis, Ron & Marilyn Rethamel, Eldred & Pat Riley, John & Talbott, Barbara Riley, Russ & Claudia Schwade, Dale & Jeanine Shatek, Ronald Shatek, Tom & Pauline Sobolik, Jim & Sharon Sobolik, Mel & Mardell Sovereign, Merle & Marge Truman Rea, Nancy Voyna, Al & Karen Wilson, Bart & Julie Wolfe, James & Rockabrand, Janis Zeimet, Francis Zeimet, Scott</p>
SUPPORTERS \$5-\$24		
<p>Aberly, Art Daley, William Margaret L. Miller Inv. Trust Schmitt, LaVern Young, Patricia</p>		
<div>Thank You!</div>		
Total donated	\$12,788.00	Thank you!

2022 Coloring Contest

The annual Coloring Contest was held for children in PreK-6th grade. The following students were awarded a HSWCD drawing backpack filled with art supplies and conservation goodies:



Gwenn Gomez
PreK/ Kindergarten



Emery O'Brien
1st/2nd grade



Justin Knode
3rd/4th grade



Claire Kach
5th/6th grade

This year's entry form can be found online at:
www.howardswcd.org
and is due May 1st



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www.howardswcd.org

Mission: To provide 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

Attention Contractors: A list of contractors who provide conservation practice services or sales in Howard County is available online & in our office. 1. Review your information at www.howardswcd.org/contractors and 2. Send corrections or additions to Shannon.Hurd@ia.nacdnet.net before April 1st.

Thank You for Supporting Conservation

The Howard SWCD has been generously supported by its members since 1969. The 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:

- **HSWCD Technicians and Interns**
- **Arbor Day Trees for Kids**
- **Natural Resources Day Outdoor Classroom**
- **Scholarships** for Howard County High School seniors and current College students who pursue a degree in Conservation or Natural Resources
- **Conservation Road Show** of USDA and IDALS cost-shared projects in Howard Co.
- **Awards** for Outstanding Conservation Farmer Recognition & Coloring Contest winners

2023 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 mail before June 15th

Levels of Support:

<i>Supporter</i>	<i>\$5 - \$24</i>
<i>Saver</i>	<i>\$25 - \$49</i>
<i>Sustainer</i>	<i>\$50 - \$99</i>
<i>Steward</i>	<i>\$100 - UP</i>

