

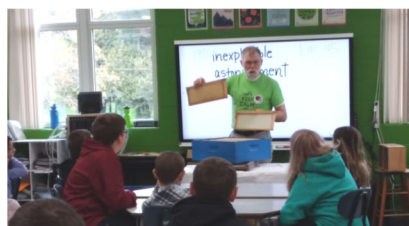
# Soil & Water Conservation

## *Year in Review 2019*

### Conservation Outdoor Classrooms



Mary Jo Hartogh– Bird ID



Jed Becker– Bee Keeping



Neil Sass– Soil Health

The 34th annual **Arbor Day** Outdoor Classroom was held on April 25, 2019 at the Prairie's Edge Nature Center. There were 100 third grade students in attendance. Stations included *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; *Soil Health* with Neil Sass, NRCS Soil Scientist and Jake Groth, NRCS Resource Conservationist; and *Backyard Conservation* with Neil Shaffer and Hunter Slifka, HSWCD. Each student took home a potted Spruce tree at the end of the day.

The 42nd annual **Natural Resources Day** was held on May 9, 2019 at Crestwood Elementary due to inclement weather. There were 99 fifth grade students in attendance. Stations included *Entomology* presented by Angela Bries; *Bird Identification* with Mary Jo Hartogh; *Bee Keeping* with Jed Becker; and *Wetlands* presented by Ann Staudt with Iowa Learning Farms and Joshua Harms, AmeriCorps Service Member serving with Water Rocks!

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



### 2019 HSWCD Scholarship Awards

**\$500 High School senior scholarship winners:**



Hope Dohlman



Christopher Dunn

Scholarship information and application forms can be found online at [www.cdiowa.org](http://www.cdiowa.org) (High School seniors) and [www.howardswcd.org](http://www.howardswcd.org) (current College students).

**\$500 College student scholarship winners:**



Madison McKenna



Connor Slifka



Ryan Wilson

# Progress Report

## Iowa Financial Incentive Programs FY19

- #6 in the State for cost share \$297,002
- \$1,335,078 completed projects
- 17.53 acres Grassed Waterways
- 5 Septic System Installations/ Upgrades
- 2 Waste Storage Facilities
- 7 acres Shallow Wetlands/ Wetland Creations
- 6 Windbreaks
- 118.7 acres Field Borders
- 54,000 square feet Urban Soil Quality Restorations
- 1,955 acres Cover Crops
- 12,532 total acres of Cover Crops planted FY14 to FY19

## Silver Creek Watershed Project

- Funded by EPA, IA DNR Section 319, WSPF & WIRB
- Brook Trout naturally reproducing in Mullens Creek & Silver Creek
- July 2012 to date: \$6,270,424 in Conservation practices applied
- Continued water monitoring at 6 sites, now have 9 years of data
- 2 Energy contracts \$118,000
- 1,375 feet of Streambank Stabilization installed
- 33% of cropland approx. 6,000 ac. in the watershed seeded to Cover Crops in 2018 & 2019 (\$223,000.00 annual payments)
- 3,575 ac. in CSP (\$224,000.00 annual payments)

## Turkey River Watershed

- Completed IDALS Planning Grant in 2016 awaiting funding for project
- Working through 2<sup>nd</sup> Planning Grant with additional Sub-Watershed
- Continued water monitoring at 10 sites for 8 consecutive years
- Over \$1,000,000 of obligated conservation funds this year

## Collaborative Projects with NRCS, IFIP, Silver Creek

- Grassed Waterways installed 2019: 130,050 feet = 24.6 miles
- Grassed Waterways ready to build 2020: 104,822 feet = 19.9 miles
- Surveyed in 2019 for 2020 construction: 130 projects
- #1 in the State for total CSP contracts (178) and acres (71,927)
- #2 in the State for new CSP contracts (28) and acres (2,642)
- #5 in the State for total EQIP contracts (70), payments (\$2,793,802) and acres (9,274)
- #7 in the State for new EQIP contracts (27) and acres (2,259)

## Conservation Reserve Program

- 282.3 acres Filter Strips installed 2019
- 215.5 acres Wetlands installed 2019
- 267.2 acres Waterways installed 2019

## Contractors:

A list of contractors who do work or provide sales in Howard County, Iowa for conservation practices is available to our customers online & in our office.

1. Review your information at [www.howardswcd.org/contractors](http://www.howardswcd.org/contractors)
2. Check that your contact info and services are correct
3. Send corrections/ additions to [Shannon.Hurd@ia.nacdnet.net](mailto:Shannon.Hurd@ia.nacdnet.net)

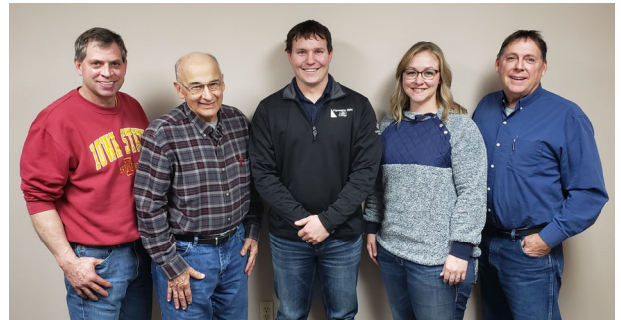
*Watch your mailboxes for the  
**Howard Soil & Water  
Conservation District  
Annual Report**  
in the Times Plain Dealer and  
TPD Extra... coming soon!*

## Financial Assistance

There are financial assistance programs available to build your conservation projects, with varying cost share rates. For more information, please call, stop by the office, or go to [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov) or [www.howardswcd.org](http://www.howardswcd.org)



**Field Office Staff L-R:** Hunter Slifka (HSWCD Watershed Project Coordinator), Dalton Nelson (HSWCD Technician), Shereen Ries (NRCS Soil Conservation Technician), Derek Grube (NRCS Soil Conservationist), Kathy Moen (NRCS Soil Conservationist), Dakota Rasmusson (HSWCD Technician), Shannon Hurd (IDALS-DSCWQ Conservation Assistant), Neil Shaffer (HSWCD Watershed Project Coordinator), Laura Ellingson (HSWCD Technician), Corey Brink (NRCS District Conservationist)



**Commissioners L-R:** Bart Wilson, Harlan Hickie, Brian Hrdlicka, Kayla Sebastian, Mike Lewis

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.



# Booster Club Members FY 2019

**\$7,493.00**

SAVERS \$25-\$49	SUSTAINERS \$50-\$99	STEWARDS \$100-\$UP
Andera, Dale & Lynette Baumann, Michael & Myrna Bodermann, Duane & Kelly Brunner, Adolph & Carol Lou Cannon Farms Inc. Carman, Eugene & Judy Christensen, Kelly & Audrey Curtis Land Management Daley, Dave & Pam Dietzenbach, Urban & Lucy Drtina, Daniel Ferrie, Denis Flaherty, Robert Flugge, Beverly Garmen Farm Govern Farms & Homes Grabau, Tim & Sheila Haw, Jeff & Shirlee Kerian, Randy & Lori Kleve, Roger & Elaine Larson, Stan & Joanne Lauraine Miles Dinger Trust Martinek, Bob McGrane Farms LLC Moellers, Ken & Deb Myron, Irvin & Molly Neubauer, Lloyd Ollendieck, Pat & Marlene Pecinovsky, Clair Pecinovsky, David & Connie Platte, Emil & Charlotte Plumb, Robert & Joyce Praska, Sheldon & Mary Ellen Reis, Jason & Jennifer Riensche, Ronald Roberson, John & Eileen Schroeder, Amy & Dan Shatek, Dan & Cathy Shatek, John R. Shatek, Roger & Lori Stevenson, Carol Stevenson, Phyllis Thraenert, Joe & Barb Vobr, Eric Voves, Linus & Linda	Adams, Mike & Melissa BJR Farms Bouska, James E. Bronner, Brent & Patsy Christensen, Barry & Olivia Christensen, Corwin & Dorene Christensen, Steve & Rosalie Dahlke, LeRoy & Janet Dietzenbach, Dale & Julie Dietzenbach, James Dietzenbach, Kevin Elwood, Henry & Carol Farmers Feed & Grain Co. Fencil, Victor & Sharla Fox, Mike & Marj Fritcher, Dave & Ruthie Gooder, Gary D. Hagen, Rick & Sandy Harting, Ken & Debra Heimerdinger, Gary & Sue Hove, Tommie & Maggie Hovey Enterprises Inc. Hubka, Wilmer & Loraine Keune Farms Kleckner, Gordon Kobliska, Joe Kruse, Bill & Pam Kurash, Steve & Marianne Larson, Gary & JoAnne Miller-Reis, Marilyn Moser, Elaine & John O'Donnell & Mahoney Farm Inc. Ollendick Farms Peoples Savings Bank Pietan, Glen & Lisa Prairie Creek Seed Prairie Ridge LLC Reicks, Iven & Norma Reinhart, Richard & Connie Rethamel, Eldred & Pat Riley, Russ & Claudia Schwade, Dale & Jeanine Seele, Bill & Cheryl Stark, Dean & Helen Stevenson, Chuck & Tammy Stevenson, Eugene Strike, Eldon & Janice Ullom, Bob & Becky	Bakken, Nancy & Rod Bouska, Amy Brush, Rick Carroll Construction LLC Chihak, Annette & Thomas Drilling, Dorothy Flugum, Ken & Janet Gooder, Don & Rosie Grover Farms Inc. Grover, Kurt Hickle, Harlan & Darlene Jestrab Excavating Johnston, Roger & Joan Ludwig Farms M&C Reis Dairy Matthias, Rod & Lori Mayer's Digging Co. Mehmert Tiling Inc. Moore Farms Murphy Farms Neubauer Farms Inc. Ollendick Construction Reicks View Farms Reis, Ron & Marilyn Riley, John & Talbott, Barbara Schmauss, Dorothy Shatek, Tom & Pauline Sobolik, Jim & Sharon Sovereigns Inc. Voyna, Al & Karen Wilson, Bart & Julie Wolfe, James & Rockabrand, Janis Zeimetz, Francis
SUPPORTERS \$5-\$24		
Kruse, Dennis		

*Thank you*

# 2019 Coloring Contest Winners

The 3rd annual Coloring Contest was held for Howard County residents in PreK-6th grade. The following students were awarded a HSWCD drawstring backpack filled with conservation goodies:



Aiden Reicks (PreK/K)



Amberlena Lopez (3rd/4th)

No photo available  
Jadyn Cummings (1st/2nd)

No photo available  
Blaire Cummings (5th/6th)

Coloring Contest entry forms can be found online at [www.howardswcd.org](http://www.howardswcd.org). Due May 1st.





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)

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.*



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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

## Help Support Conservation in 2020

The Howard SWCD has been generously supported by its members since the district began the Booster Club in 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:

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

### 2020 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 by June 15, 2020 to be counted as a FY20 donation.

- ☐ Please correct my name/address on your mailing list
- ☐ Please remove my name from your mailing list



Levels of Support:	
Supporter	\$5-\$24
Saver	\$25-\$49
Sustainer	\$50-\$99
Steward	\$100-up

**Thank you!**