

# Conservation update



## Year in Review 2024

### Iowa Financial Incentive Program FY24

- Completed projects: \$492,907.12 cost share
- Grassed Waterways: 34.36 acres
- Windbreaks: 2
- Forest Stand Improvement: 7.8 acres
- Conservation Cover: 5 acres
- Soil Quality Restorations: 80,630 square feet
- Field Borders: 8.1 acres
- Cover Crops fall 2024: 13,136 acres

### CRP Practices Installed in 2024

- Filter Strips: 33 contracts = 321.6 acres
- Waterways: 21 contracts = 50.84 acres
- Riparian Tree Buffers: 10 contracts = 94.3 acres
- Pollinator/Upland Habitat: 7 contracts = 40.65 acres
- STRIPS program: 6 contracts = 18.18 acres
- Totals: 106 contracts = 1414.0 acres

### Collaborative Projects with NRCS

- Grassed Waterways installed 2024: 19 projects, 7.6 mi.
- Grassed Waterways ready to build in 2025: 8 projects

### Silver Creek Watershed Project Area

- Project Coordinator: Neil Shaffer
- \$10,339,449 in conservation practices with 191 cooperators
- Streambank Stabilization installed: 1,937 feet
- 60.1% of cropland in watershed area seeded to 8,967 acres cover crops
- 16.1% of the watershed seeded to native CRP on 2,729 acres (188 contracts)
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP): 3,556 acres
- Grassed Waterways completed since 2012: 35.5 miles
- Septic System upgrades with IA DNR319 funding: 25 since 2012
- Urban Infiltration practices completed as Soil Health Restoration: 20

### Turkey River Watershed Project Area

- Project Coordinator: Riley Wilson
- \$6,029,537 obligated & implemented conservation
- 38% of cropland in watershed seeded to nearly 19,000 acres cover crops
- 12% of watershed enrolled into CRP = 5,800 acres
- Shallow Wetland creations: 14
- Streambank Stabilization constructed: 7,500 ft
- Beginning the process on 4 new CREP Wetland sites
- 24,800 total ac. of conservation in the 62,361 ac. watershed



Grassed waterway with erosion blanket



Streambank stabilization



Stream temperature monitoring



Ag Waste System



Cover crop field signs

There are financial assistance programs available for your conservation projects with varying cost share rates. For more information: visit our office, call (563) 547-3040 ext. 3, or go to [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov) or [www.howardswcd.org](http://www.howardswcd.org)

# 2024 Coloring Contest Winners

The annual Coloring Contest was held for children in PreK-6th grade. These students were awarded a HSWCD drawstring backpack filled with art supplies and conservation goodies. *This year's entry form can be found online at: [www.howardswcd.org](http://www.howardswcd.org) and is due by May 1st*



Emmitt Pecinovsky  
PreK - Kindergarten



Yuri Wildman  
1st - 2nd grade



Alexis Hougen  
3rd - 4th grade



Sayde Larson  
5th - 6th grade

## Booster Club Members FY 2024

SUPPORTERS \$25-\$49	SAVERS \$50-\$99	SUSTAINERS \$100-\$149	STEWARDS \$150-\$UP
Alden, Shirley M. Andera, Dale & Lynette Cannon Farms Inc Daley, William Drtina, Dave & Patti Flaherty, Bob Franks, Richard Carmen Farm Govern Farms & Homes-Elaine Govern Hageman, Randy Haw, Dr. Jeff & Shirley Head, Jim & Becky Huagland, LeRoy Kapler Farms Kruse, Dennis Kuhn, Carrie Michels, Sandra Miller, Margaret L. Pecinovsky, David & Connie Platte, Emil & Charlotte Plumb, Robert & Joyce Rethamel, Shirley Roberson, John & Eileen Schmitt, LaVern Schroeder, Amy & Dan Shimek, Elva Thraenert, Joe & Barb Whisler, Thorold & Shirley Young, Patricia & Donaldson, Matthew	A&W Schatz Farms Barnes, Tom & Sue Bronner, Brent & Patsy Chapman, Harold & Julie Christensen, Steve & Rosalie Cole's 20 Curtis Land Management Curtis, Kendall Daley, David & Pamela Dietzenbach, Bob Dietzenbach, James Dietzenbach, Joe Dietzenbach, Kevin Donel Inc. Drtina, Dan Edward Hovorka Trust Ellingson, Dale Feldman, Chuck & Tom Ferrie, Gary & Marti Flugge, Beverly Fox, Mike & Marj Heimerdinger, Gary & Sue Hopkins, Gayl & Kathy Hubka, Loraine Hughes, Jim & Penny Hyberger, Ron & Donna Jirak, Richard & Joyce Kach, Scott & Sarah Kleve, Roger & Elaine Klobassa, Gary & Marilyn Koliha Farms Kruse, Bill & Pam Kurash, Steve & Marianne Larson, Gary & JoAnne Lauraine Miles Dinger Trust Mahr, Steve & Brooke Mai, Dean & Jane Martinek, Marvin & Michelle Mayfield, Cindy (Nagel) McGrane Farms LLC Miller Reis, Marilyn Moellers, Ryan & Meagan Moser, Elaine & John N&K Contracting LLC Neubauer, Lloyd Nibaur, Francis & Peggy O'Byrne, John & JoAnn O'Donnell & Mahoney Farms Inc. Praska, Sheldon & Mary Reicks, Iven & Norma Schrage, Brian & Patty Seele, Bill & Cheryl Smith, Dennis & Marie Sobolik, Chris & Lurleen Stevens, Paul & Connie Stevenson, Carol Stevenson, Chuck & Tammy Stevenson, Russ & Karen Swestka, Randy & Megan T&V Grover Farms Inc. Ullom, Rick & Jane	Adams, Mike & Melissa Amy S. Bouska Trust Anderson, Karen Anonymous Bigalk, Manley Blazek Corp. Bouska, Amy Bruening Rock Products Inc. Carroll, Bob & Jane Christensen, Barry & Olivia Christensen, Kelly & Audrey Costello, James Dahlke, LeRoy & Janet Eastman, Steve & Deanna Ebertz Enterprises LLC Farmers Feed & Grain Flugum, Ken & Janet Fritcher, Dave & Ruthie Gassett, Gary & Elaine Gooder, Gary & Sara Gooder, Rosie Grabau, Tim & Sheila Grover Farms Hagen, Rick & Sandy Hickle, Harlan & Darlene Holy Smoley Acres-Bradley & Michelle Smoley Hove, Tommie & Maggie Hovey Enterprises Inc. Hruska Farms LLC Keune Farms L&H Tree Nurseries LLC Mahr, Mike & Gwen Malek, Chuck & Kathy Matthias, Rod & Lori Mayers Digging Co. McAllister, Jeff & Shelly Meyer, Harold Miller, Cathy Miller, Terry & Nancy Moellers, Kenny & Debbie Moore Farms Mrachek, Mike & Joann Murphy Farms Ollendick Farm LLC Prairie Ridge LLC Reis, Jason & Jennifer Reis, John & Kay Reis, Josh & Amy Riley, John & Talbott, Barbara Schmidt, Max Schmitt, Bryan Schroeder, Alice Schwade, Dale & Jeanine Sovereign, Merle & Marge Stark, Helen Stevenson, Eugene Swestka, Ron & Joyce Voyna, Al & Karen Wilson, Bart & Julie Wilson, Gerald	Anonymous Art's Milling Ser. Inc. Bakken, Rod & Nancy Conant, Ingrid Cray, Thomas & Sheryl Drilling, Dorothy Drtina, Gary J. Fencl, Victor & Sharla Hrdlicka, Brian & Josie Jestrab Excavating LLC Ludwig Farms Mehmert Tiling Inc. Milz, Tom & Pat Neubauer Farms Inc. Reis, Brandon & Jessica Reis, Ron & Marilyn Rethamel, Eldred & Pat Riley, Russ & Claudia Shatek, Kenneth Shatek, Tom & Pauline Sobolik, Jim & Sharon Sobolik, Mel & Mardell Strike, Eldon & Janice Truman Rea, Nancy Wolfe, James & Rockabrand, Janis

Thank  
You!

Thank  
You!

Total donated:

\$14,527.00

Thank you!

# 2024 Conservation Scholarships Awarded

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. Two \$500 High School Senior scholarships were awarded to Kaleb Adams\*- son of Mike & Melissa Adams, and Brady Burke- son of Nick Burke & Sara Burke. Two \$500 Current College Student scholarships were awarded to Ryan Wilson- son of Jeff & Traci Wilson, and Carter Johnson- son of Aaron Johnson & Lisa Nelson. Congratulations to these deserving students!

\*Kaleb Adams was also the recipient of a \$500 Regional Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI) scholarship. (Statewide, CDI awards 6 Regional scholarships and 3 State scholarships).

Scholarship application forms can be found online at [www.cdiowa.org](http://www.cdiowa.org) (for H.S. Seniors) [www.howardswcd.org](http://www.howardswcd.org) (for Current College Students)



Kaleb Adams



Brady Burke



Ryan Wilson



Carter Johnson

# Outreach and Education

- Distributed Arbor Day "Trees for Kids" to 100 third graders
- Hosted "Natural Resources Day" Outdoor Classroom for 80 fifth graders
- Assisted with 4 "Inspire Day" events at Norman Borlaug Farm for over 600 elementary students from IA and MN
- Led 2 tours of Lake Hendricks and other practices for the NICC Environmental Studies classes



For more information, or to volunteer, please contact the HSWCD office at (563) 547-3040 ext. 3



**Field Office Staff L-R:** Watershed Project Coordinator Riley Wilson, Conservation Assistant Shannon Hurd, Watershed Project Coordinator Neil Shaffer, Conservation Engineering Technician Shereen Ries, District Conservationist Kathy Moen



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

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





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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.*



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

# 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 Agriculture
- **Awards** for Outstanding Conservation Farmers & Coloring Contest winners

## 2025 Booster Club Membership

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

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

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

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to "Howard SWCD"

*Please mail before June 15th*

Levels of Support:	
Supporter:	\$25 - \$49
Saver:	\$50 - \$99
Sustainer:	\$100 - \$149
Steward:	\$150 - UP



*Thank You!*