

# Iowa County Land Conservation Department

Located at 1124 Professional Drive – USDA Service Center  
608-930-9891 - [www.iowacounty.org](http://www.iowacounty.org)

## *LCD Mission Statement*

*Provide administrative information and technical assistance to Iowa County landowners in the stewardship of their soil and water resources, through the cooperation of the Natural Resources Conservation Service and under the direction of the Iowa County Land Conservation Committee.*

# Land Conservation Department Staff



Jim McCaulley, County Conservationist



Len Olson, Conservation Planner



Rob Hemling, Engineer Technician/Soil Conservationist



Debi Finkelmeyer, Department Assistant

## *LCC Committee Members*

The Iowa County Land Conservation Committee (LCC) is the governing body of the LCD under the establishment of State Statutes Chapter 92 in 1972. The LCC sets the direction for the LCD in the delivery of conservation programs in the protection of our precious soil and water resources in Iowa County. The composition of the LCC is diverse group with a wide base of landowner interests represented in policy setting and program delivery. This diversity is accomplished with appointment of 5 member County Supervisors, an at Large Member and USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) conduit member. The LCC members take their roles seriously and hope today's actions will preserve productive soil and keep water clean for future generations. Thank you to them for their service to Iowa County.

**Bob Bunker—Chairman**

**Dan Nankee—Vice Chairman**

**Carol Anderson—Secretary**

**Ron Benish—County Supervisor**

**Greg Parman—County Supervisor**

**Roger Dax—FSA Member**

**Dave Ladd—Member at Large**

# *Cooperating Agencies*

- **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**
- **USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA)**
- **USDA Rural Development Services (RD)**
- **University of Wisconsin—Extension (UW-EX)**
- **Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (WDATCP)**
- **Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)**
- **Iowa County Planning and Development Office (ICPD)**
- **Blackhawk Lake Commission**
- **USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS)**
- **Iowa County Land Information Office (ICLIO)**
- **Southwest Technical College—Voc.-Ag. (SWTC)**
- **All Iowa County School Systems**
- **Southwest Badger Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D)**
- **Military Ridge Prairie Heritage Area (MRPHA)**
- **Southwest Wisconsin Grassland & Stream Conservation Area**
- **Iowa County Highway Department**
- **Village of Barneveld**
- **The Nature Conservancy (TNC)**
- **Sustainable Iowa County**
- **Driftless Area Conservancy**
- **Dane Co. Pleasant Valley Project**

# LCD SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

## Nutrient Management Program (NMP)

The nutrient management program is available to landowners who want to manage the amount of nutrients that are being spread on fields in order to conserve the soil quality. A nutrient management plan (NMP) is necessary for landowners who mechanically apply manure or fertilizer to fields and pastures while receiving the FPP/WLI tax credit. A nutrient management plan can be developed by a certified crop advisor (CCA) or by taking classes through Iowa County UW-Extension to develop your own. Cost-share funds may be available to assist with the development of a nutrient management plan.

## Farmland Preservation Program/Working Lands Initiative (FPP/WLI)

The WLI/FPP program is designed for eligible farmers in Wisconsin to receive a tax credit in exchange for keeping land in agricultural use and by complying with state soil and water conservation practices.

## Land & Water Resource Management (LWRM) Cost Share Program

The Iowa County LCD has been successful in obtaining a DATCP Land and Water Resource Management Grant (LWRM). The money will be used to cost share conservation practices with rural landowners to help improve the water and soil of Iowa County. The goal of the LWRM grant is to reduce sediment and phosphorous entering our streams. This program offers landowners a 70% cost share opportunity.

## Technical Services

Technical services are offered to landowners who sign up for cost-share projects or who may be interested in implementing contour strips, contour buffer strips and contour lines on crop fields. Tech services may be provided for other non-cost share practices to landowners who want to protect soil and water resources.

## PL-566-Dam Maintenance

Iowa County owns 11, PL-566 dam structures in the County and the LCD is in charge of making sure that the dams are functioning properly and provide maintenance when necessary.

## Conservation Planning

Farmers who are interested in having a conservation plan for their farm may seek assistance from the Land Conservation Department. A conservation plan outlines the use and best management practices of the natural resources on land. A plan will include land use maps, soils information, inventory of resources, engineering notes, and other supporting documents. The LCD would like to have all productive lands to farm to "T" in Iowa County, which means soil loss tolerance is the maximum amount of soil loss in tons per acres per year that can be tolerated and still permit a high level of crop productivity to be sustained economically and indefinitely.

## Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

CREP is a voluntary program that allows landowners to enroll agricultural land into conservation practices along waterways or to return continually flooded fields to wetland while leaving the adjacent land in agricultural production. If you sign up for CRP with FSA, you will be eligible to sign up for an additional state incentive payment with CREP.

## Blackhawk Lake & Birch Lake Operations Agreements

The Iowa County Land Conservation Committee (LCC) and the LCD are the primary liaisons between Iowa County and the Cobb-Highland Commission (Blackhawk Lake Park) and the Village of Barneveld (Birch Lake Park).

## SW Badger Grazing Broker Project

The Iowa County Land Conservation Department hosts the regional SW Badger Grazing Broker Project. SW Badger RC&D is a regional non-profit in SW Wisconsin focusing on land stewardship education and technical assistance. The program brings together non-farming landowners and established livestock producers to develop leasing relationships and promote the economic and environmental benefits of managed grazing. The Grazing Broker develops grazing plans and provides technical assistance to establish well-managed pasture systems.

## PROTECTING GROUNDWATER



**Manure Storage Unit on  
Montfort Area Farm**

### *Financial Benefits to Iowa County Landowners Through Agricultural and Conservation Programs in 2014*

**Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)-\$1,128,721.00**

**Land & Water Cost Share Program  
(DATCP/LWRM/SEG)-\$174,513.00**

**Wildlife Damage Program (DNR/WDP)-\$38,103.00**

NRCS Cost Sharing (EQIP, WRP, CSP)-\$238,528.00

Cons. Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP – State)-  
\$8,039.88

Conservation Reserve Program (FSA/CRP/CREP)-  
\$3,087,497.00

Commodity Loans (FSA/CCC)-\$244,188.00

Direct and County Cyclical Program (FSA/DCP)-  
\$3,994,826.00

Farm Ownership/Operating Loans (FSA/FOL)-  
\$4,623,041.00

Milk Income Loss Contracts MILC-\$1,286,691.00

Disaster (FSA)-\$21,804.00

**TOTAL BENEFITS from LCD & USDA...\$14,845,951.88**

**(LCD benefits total...\$1,341,337.00)**

### *2014 Grants to Iowa County Land Conservation Department for Administration, Cost-Sharing and Projects*

#### **Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (WDATCP)**

- BASG Staff and Support-  
\$98,213.00
- LWRM & NMP Cost Sharing to  
Landowners-\$158,513.00
- CREP Cost Sharing & Incentive to  
Landowners-\$8,039.88

#### **Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)**

- APHIS Wildlife Damage  
Administration/Claims-\$38,103.00

**TOTAL GRANTS  
LCD.....\$302,868.88**

***RETURN ON  
INVESTMENT  
(R.O.I.)  
to Iowa County  
Taxpayers***

**Benefits to Farmers & Rural Landowners**

- FPP (tax credits) - \$1,128,721.00
- LWRM cost-share - \$174,513.00
- WDP (crop loss payments) - \$38,103.00

**TOTAL = \$1,341,337.00**

**LCD Tax Levy - \$117,943.00**

(Cost to run the LCD)

Return on Investment (R.O.I.) –

**\$11.37 : \$1.00**

*In other words, for every Iowa County tax payer dollar spent there are \$11.37 benefits directly to farmers & rural landowners.*

# Iowa County Land and Water Resource Management Plan

2016-2026

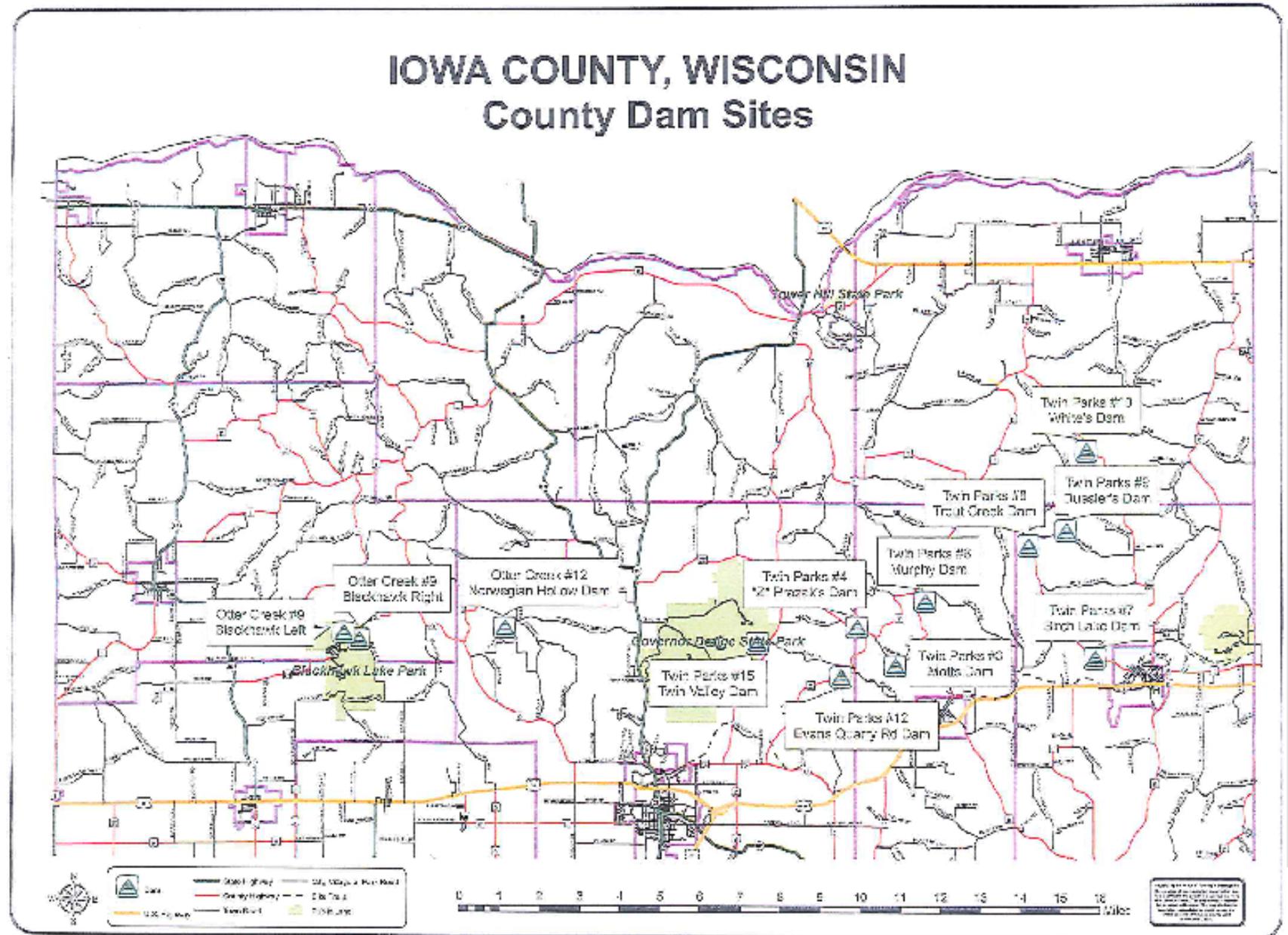
Top Ten Resource  
Concerns with 5 year  
Work Plan & Budget

(Please refer to pages 30 & 58-68  
in the LWRM Plan)



# PL-566 DAMS

11 Structures in the  
Northern  
Half of the County



Dam Name/#	Design Age	Age	DNR Hazard Rating	Size (HT)	Perm. Pool (Y or N)	C/W Fish Res. Effect + or - *	Public Rec. (Y or N)	Land Ownership	Overall Condition/ O & M Issues **	Other Comments ***
Twin Parks #3 Motts Dam	50	52/1964	Low	38'	Y	W+/ C-	N	Kelch	Good. Outlet pipe.	EAP's to be done when NRCS information is provided to LCD.
Twin Parks #4 "ZZ" Prakash's Dam	50	52/1964	Low	35'	Y	W+/ C-	N	Prazak	Good. Small trees.	EAP's to be done when NRCS information is provided to LCD.
Twin Parks #6 Murphy Dam	50	50/1966	Low	30'	N	C-	N	DNR	Good. Beaver issues.	EAP's to be done when NRCS information is provided to LCD.
Twin Parks #7 Birch Lake Dam	50	51/1965	High	41'	Y	W+/ C-	Y	DNR	Good.	EAP done.
Twin Parks #8 Trout Creek Dam	50	51/1965	High	41'	N	C-	N	DNR	Good. Plunge pool issues.	EAP done.
Twin Parks #9 Duesler's Dam	50	51/1965	High	37'	Y	W+/ C-	N	Duesler	Settlement at outlet.	EAP done.
Otter Creek #9 Blackhawk Right	50	49/1967	Ordinance in place	72'	Y	W+/ C-	Y	DNR	Good. Outlet pipe checking.	EAP done.
Otter Creek #9 Blackhawk Left	50	49/1967	Ordinance in place	54'	Y	W+/ C-	Y	DNR	Good. Little trees.	EAP done.
Twin Parks #10 White's Dam	50	51/1965	High	38'	N	N/A	N	Robbins	Sound and in good condition.	EAP done.
Otter Creek #12 Norwegian Hollow Dam	50	46/1970	Low	58'	N	C-	N	Bothfelt	Sound and in good condition.	EAP's to be done when NRCS information is provided to LCD.
Twin Parks #12 Evans Quarry Rd Dam	50	50/1966	Low	46'	N	C-	N	Meyer	Good. Outlet plunge pool.	EAP's to be done when NRCS information is provided to LCD.
Twin Parks #15 Twin Valley Dam	50	50/1966	High	72'	Y	W+/ C-	Y	DNR	Good. Rusted toe drains.	No longer County Responsibility.

\* Rated by DNR Fish Mgrs.

\*\* NRCS Engineering Staff Information.

\*\*\* EAP - Emergency Action Plans to be put in place when the NRCS completes breach study - then work with the Planning and Development to protect public health and safety and reduce the hazard rating.

# *Twin Parks #7 Birch Lake*

Also, there is an Operational Agreement with Village of Barneveld to operate their park in the pooling easement area.



Looking West off Hwy T

View across the top of the dam



# *Twin Parks #8 Trout Creek*

Located along Hwy T,  
2 1/2 miles North of  
TP#7



Looking West off Hwy T

View across the top of the dam



# CONSERVATION AWARDS

*The big challenge... "keeping the  
soil in place and water clean!"*



Moyer Family at Farmers Appreciation Day

**THANK YOU  
FOR  
SUPPORTING  
YOUR LCD!**

## Land Conservation Committee

### 2015 Award Winners

*Conservation Farmer of the Year*

Moyer Farms, Russ & Lonny Moyer, Brigham  
Township

*Water Quality Leadership*

Bill Hanson, Dodgeville Township

*Wildlife Habitat Development (Private)*

Brett Peterson Family, Moscow Township

*Wildlife Habitat (Club)*

Bethel Horizons Youth Education

*Tree Farmer of the Year*

Brad and Barb Glass

# ***REVIEW***

- LCD (Activities & Programs)
- LWRM Plan
- PL-566 Structures

# **QUESTIONS**

