



Iowa County Land Conservation Department 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Land Conservation Committee Members

Bob Bunker—Chair
 Dan Nankee—Vice Chair
 John Meyers—Secretary
 Ron Benish—County Supervisor
 Bill Grover—County Supervisor
 Art Whitford—FSA Member
 Dave Ladd—Member at Large

Conservation Office Staff

James McCaulley, LCD County Conservationist
 Lucas Conmey, LCD Land Conservationist/Engineer Tech
 Len Olson, LCD Land Conservation Planner
 Tammy Havlik, LCD Department Assistant
 Andy Walsh, NRCS District Conservationist
 Wendy Fiala, NRCS Soil Conservationist
 Joe Schmelz, NRCS Technician
 Lexie Straka, NRCS Area Technician
 Debra Finkelmeyer, NRCS Data Update
 Erin Holmes, Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist
 Katie Abbott, Military Ridge Prairie Heritage Coordinator

Land Conservation Department Activities

Programs

- Iowa County Working Lands Initiative (WLI)
- Iowa County Watershed Dam Maintenance
- Elementary and Outdoor Classroom Education @ County Farm
- USDA Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)
- USDA Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)
- WDATCP Nonpoint Water Quality—NR151
- WDNR Stewardship Incentive
- Wildlife Damage Program
- USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- USDA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- Iowa County Tree Planting
- DATCP/LWRM County Cost Share

Memberships

- SW Badger Resource, Conservation & Development (RC&D)
- Rural Development (RD)
- PL-566 Watershed Coalition
- WI Land and Water Conservation Association (WLWCA)
- National Association of Land Conservation Districts (NACD)

Other Activities

- Nutrient Management Workshops with UW-Extension
- Working Lands Initiative—Education Workshops
- Blackhawk Lake Liaison
- Implementing a Land & Water Resources Mgt Plan
- DATCP/FSA CREP Program Delivery
- Storm Water Study Committee
- Blackhawk Lake Study
- Conservation Partners "Green Sheet" Newsletter
- Wisconsin Buffer Initiative
- Birch Lake Study
- Smith-Conley & Pleasant Valley Project

Iowa County Land Conservation Department 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.

2011 Land Conservation Committee Priorities

In 2007 a public hearing was held and a Land and Water Resource Management Plan was developed.

The following priorities were established:

1. Soil Erosion
2. Ground Water
3. Animal Waste Management
4. Nutrient Management
5. Forestry
6. Riparian Corridors
7. Agriculture Productivity
8. Rural Land Use Issues/Conflicts
9. Agriculture Sustainability
10. Loss of Ag Lands

Financial Benefits to Iowa County Landowners Through Conservation Programs in 2011

Cons. Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP – State)	\$ 29,837
Conservation Reserve Program (FSA/CRP/CREP) -	\$ 2,264,027
Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) -	\$ 1,163,793
Environmental Quality Incentive Program (NRCS/EQIP) -	\$ 243,836
Wetland Reserve Program (NRCS/WRP) -	\$ 88,327
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	\$ 38,671
Conservation Security Program (CSP)	\$ 16,913
Farm & Ranchland Protection Program	\$ 427,500
Land & Water Cost Share Program (DATCP/LWRM/SEG) -	\$ 63,231
Wildlife Damage Program (DNR/WDP) -	\$ 12,711
Commodity Loans (FSA/CCC) -	\$ 910,240
Direct and County Cyclical Program (FSA/DCP) -	\$ 4,102,263
Farm Ownership/Operating Loans (FSA/FOL) -	\$ 4,495,210
Milk Income Loss Contracts MILC -	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	\$ 13,856,559

2011 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
 \$ 107,314
 LWRM & NMP Cost Sharing to Landowners
 \$ 63,231
 CREP Cost Sharing & Incentive to Landowners
 \$ 29,837

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)
 APHIS Wildlife Damage Administration/Claims
 \$ 17,862

TOTAL GRANTS TO LCD \$ 218,244

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 Natural Resources (WDNR)
- Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (WDATCP)
- 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 Feasibility Effort
- Iowa County Groundwater Study Committee
- Village of Barneveld
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- Sustainable Iowa County
- Driftless Area Conservancy
- Dane Co. Pleasant Valley Project
- Highland, Barneveld, & Mineral Point Elementary Schools

2011 NRCS and LCD Accomplishments

1308	Farm Visits/Landowner Appointments
765	Landowner Files Updated
2500 ac	New Conservation Plans Written/Revised
5	WLI Educational Events
908	WLI Participants Assisted
14	Wildlife Damage Participants Assisted
200	WLI/FPP Spot Checks
38 visits	PL-566 Watershed Dams Inspected and Maintained
12	Dam Break Analysis and Assistance
80.000	Trees Planted with assistance of DNR Forestry
136.6 ac	New CREP Contracts (Buffers-Grassland-Wetland)
1 Project	Heavy Use Areas
16 Sites	Roof Runoff
1 Project	Animal Waste Storage Site Feasibility
30	New NMP Checklists
7 Projects	Ground Water Well Abandonment
8700 ft	Rock Rip Rap/Stream Bank Protection
5 Projects	Rock Stream Crossings
12.7 ac	Grassed Waterways
400 ac	Contour Strips
2 Projects	Watering Facility
1000 ft	Underground Outlet
8,400 ft	Stream Habitat Work
4 Projects	Toewall
1 Projects	Spring Development
107 ac.	Prescribed Grazing
2100 ft	Pipeline
2,700 ft	Subsurface Drain
1 Project	Surface Inlet
11	Wetland Scraper
46	New CRP Contracts
74	Revised/Reviewed CRP Contracts
700 ft	Access Road
11	Brush Management
4200 ft	New Wetland Embankment
1200 ft	Wetland Embankment Repair
300 ft	Wetland Ditch Fill
100 ft	Wetland Ditch Plug
30 ft	Prairie Plantings
108 students	Youth Conservation Field Day (3 schools)
19	NMP UW-Ext Participants
1	PACE Contract

Land Conservation Committee 2011 Award Winners

- Calvin & Victor Williams, Brigham Township
Conservation Farmer of the Year
- Otis, Mark & Eric Gilbertson, Moscow Township
Water Quality Leadership
- Helen Kirch, Ridgeway Township
Wildlife Habitat Development (Private)
- Burr Oak Deer Management
Wildlife Habitat Development (Club)
- Don Winch, Arena Township
Tree Farmer of the Year