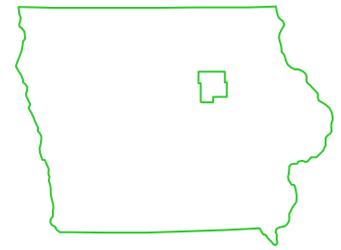




Visit our website at:
www.grundyiaswcd.com



Newsletter provided by the Grundy County Soil Water Conservation District

Attention!!

Cover Crop sign-up is happening now. New and previous users in the watershed project area can get \$25/acre for any type of cover crop. Outside of the project area, producers can get at least \$20/acre for up to 160 acres.

If you are planning on doing cover crops this fall, please call, email

Meghan at Meghan.koch@ia.nacdnet.net or

Arlyn at arlyn.wingate@ia.nacdnet.net

or stop by the office to sign up for cost share assistance, available on a first-come basis.

Important Dates!

• **Summer Workshop @ Grundy Co. Fair**

Wednesday July 23 8-noon

• **After you plant, FSA will certify your crops from now through July 15th**



Upcoming Events

Wetland and Saturated Buffer Event @ Fred Abels Farm

- June 26th, 12PM-3PM

*Join Fred and Vicki Abels, along with the IDALS and City of Cedar Rapids Watersheds & Source Water Program Manager Mary Beth Stevenson, as they discuss the process and multiple benefits of re-establishing wetlands on working farms.

Grundy County Fair Workshop

- July 23 8AM– 12PM light breakfast and Lunch Provided

*Attend this event to learn from experts on corn rootworm, new equipment opportunities for high residue, weather patterns and introductory knowledge for the use of drones.

Clark Porter– Saturated Waterway Event

- September 18th

Meet Arlyn Wingate Blackhawk Creek Watershed Coordinator

My name is Arlyn Wingate, and I am the new Black Hawk Creek Watershed Coordinator. I grew up in Ames, Iowa where I spent most of my childhood outdoors. This instilled a strong love for nature and outdoor recreation in me. When I got a bit older, my parents got me scuba certified in the Gulf of Mexico/America. I absolutely loved seeing the coral reefs, fish, and crystal clear water.

Through my adolescence, I continued scuba diving, hiking, backpacking, and canoeing. I went to the University of Iowa and majored in Sustainability Science. One of my favorite things to learn about was how agriculture impacts water quality in Iowa because Iowa is one of the biggest agricultural states and is one of the biggest contributors to the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico/America. While I was at the University of Iowa, I did a GIS internship which gave me valuable experience with mapping and analyzing geographical data. After I graduated, I was an environmental analyst where I did water and biologic sampling.

Now I am adjusting to my new position as the Black Hawk Creek Watershed Coordinator. Given my experiences in the Gulf of Mexico/America, this is a great way to help lessen the pollution contributing to the dead zone. I am so excited for this opportunity to improve water quality in Iowa and get more conservation on the ground.



Understanding the Wetland Symbols on Your FSA Map

The staff at FSA has been hard at work cleaning up their maps to match what producers are actually farming. Many times, it is discovered that people began farming areas that weren't previously cropped and this triggers a Highly Erodible Land determination and the need for a wetland determination to ensure compliance with the conservation provisions of the Farm Bill. Other times, they notice that people are farming areas that have wetland restrictions. Please look closely at your FSA maps before clearing areas to farm.

 Area is non-wetland and has no restrictions on tiling or clearing.

 Area has some old tile, but wetland characteristics. Can only maintain the tile there and not add new or shape the area to drain better. Can be farmed with normal tillage equipment.

 Area is a known wetland and has restrictions on adding new tile, earthmoving, and shaping. Consult NRCS wetland staff before doing any work.

Wetland Mitigation Banks

If there are areas on your farm that are known wetlands and you want to be able to farm them without restrictions, Iowa has mitigation banks set up to buy "credits" to offset the work you want to do on your farm. Currently credits are worth about \$15,000 per acre. Although expensive, this is a way you can remain in compliance with USDA Conservation requirements and have the option to do what you want with tile on your farm. Contact NRCS for more info.

Love Pheasants? If you are like us, you love a good rooster squawk in the morning this time of year. Here are few tips for improving pheasant nesting and habitat near you!

1. Don't mow ditches before July 15th. Iowa State Law actually prohibits mowing during this time, except around dwellings.
2. Don't fall VT or till corn stalks. Stalks at least 14" tall provide decent winter cover.
3. Plant a food plot now— sorghum, sunflowers, and corn are all good sources of grain that stay upright under snow cover.



2024 Conservation Club Members

Wayne and Judith Eilers

Elmaru Farms Inc.

Dr. Robert & Anne Morrison

Tripple E Farms

Garden Club

Richard & Yvonne Bertram

Jon and Teresa Keninger

James Everts

Rosemary Sicard

Clark Porter

Harlen Persinger

Pheasants Forever

Edward Juhl

Bonnie Beving

Don Davidson

Rodney Hartman

Kruger Farms

Foxdale Farm LTD

Gallentine Land Company

Wayne Holland

James Morrison

DeGene McMartian

Rollin Primus

William Kitzman

James Ahrenholz

Grain Farms Inc

John Oltman

Mark Buskohl

Michael Freed

Raymond Kirkdorffer

Andrew Hauser

Jim Richtsmeier

Phil Schildroth

Storjohann Farms

Darrell Sents

Keith Sheller

Kadner Farms Inc.

Freese Farms

Wayne Aukes

Wayne Eilers

Fairview Farms

Greg & Brenda Shine

Frazer Farms

Jerry & Sue Green

Beth Thompson

Theodore Junker

Melvin Schildroth

Robert Abels

Harlen Persinger

MEMBERSHIP FORM (CLIP AND RETURN TO OUR OFFICE TO MAKE A DONATION)

The SWCD Commissioners would like to thank everyone who donated to the district. Your funds are used to help with the district's activities and programs in education, classroom activities, WaterRocks, scholarship, field days, and Stewardship Week, etc. Remember all donations are tax deductible. The SWCD commissioners are elected officials but to not receive any compensation for their duties.

2025	MEMBERSHIP	2025
GRUNDY COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION CONSERVATION CLUB		
Name _____		
Donation Amount _____		
CONSERVATION CLUB MEMBER		
Please make checks payable to Grundy SWCD		

Woman, Land and Legacy Upcoming Events

TAKE CARE OF YOUR SOIL & YOURSELF

TUESDAY, May 20, 2025 WAVERLY CIVIC CENTER

SUCCESSION PLANNING SERIES

Tuesdays July 1st, 8th & 15th @ Barn Happy west of Cedar Falls

Two session times are offered: 9AM-11:30AM or 5:30PM-8PM

Our workshop series on succession planning will help you develop the skills and resources needed to start conversations with family and tenants while working through the Iowa State Extension Office Succession Planning Workbook. A copy of this book will be provided. Space is limited to 25 people per session.

Contact Jenna @ #319-296-3262 x 3 with any questions.

Tickets are \$75 per person and covers all three sessions and meals.

Purchase tickets online at
www.blackhawkswcd.org

Speakers

- **Week 1: July 1, 2025**
Kiley Fleming, Communications Specialist and Author of *Conflict Imagery, A Reflective Framework*
- **Week 2: July 8, 2025**
Joseph Lensing, Iowa State Extension
- **Week 3: July 15, 2025**
Kristine Tidgren, Director for the Iowa State Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation

Fall Networking @ South Porch Cidery

Tuesday, November 4th, 4PM– 8PM

This is a free social networking event. There will be brief presentations from Choose Iowa Specialty Ag Business grants and Silos and Smokestacks at 5:30 PM. You are encouraged to bring in outside food from a local eatery.

Love the Idea of Women, Land and Legacy?

Our collective funds for all four counties are held by the Black Hawk SWCD. You can donate to help with future events at www.blackhawkswcd.org

Conservation Farmer of The Year



Pictured is right Paul Neher and left Commissioner Don Davidson. Neher Acres was awarded Conservation Farmer of the Year. Thank you Neher Acres for you dedication in preserving our farmland!

2025 SCHOLARSHIPS



The 2025 Davidson Scholarship was awarded to Drew Eilers from Gladbrook– Reinbeck High school



The 2025 CDI Scholarship was awarded to Danielle Wagner from Dike- New Hartford High School



The Grundy SWCD wishes both of the recipients the best of luck in their future plans!

The “*Partners in Resource Management*” newsletter is provided free to owners and operators of land in Grundy County, Iowa, and others interested with issues involving resource management.

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Send questions or comments to: Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District

805 West Fourth Street, STE 2

Grundy Center, IA 50638-1069

Phone: (319) 824-3634, ext. 3

Office Hours: 8:00 to 4:30, M-F

Commissioners

Fred Abels: Chair

John Oltman: Vice Chair

Don Davidson: Treasurer

James Everts

Steve Henze

Assistant Commissioners

Crystal Davis

Hartley Meyer

Staff

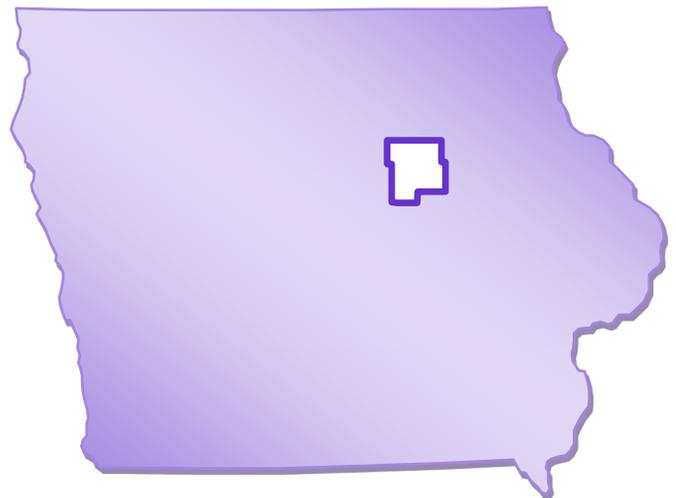
Courtney Myers (District Conservationist)

Meghan Koch (Conservation Assistant)

Hunter Filloon (Soil Conservation Technician)

Heather Kitzman (Team Resource Conservationist)

Arlyn Wingate (BHCW Project Coordinator)



Grundy County Soil and
Water Conservation District
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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District is to provide leadership to people regarding technical, educational, and financial assistance that conserves natural resources.

