

Grundy County Soil and Water  
Conservation District  
805 W 4th Street, STE #2  
Grundy Center, IA 50638



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GRUNDY CENTER, IA  
50638  
PERMIT #9

## 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.*





## CONSERVATION FARMER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Pictured above is Fred and Vicki Abels



### IOWA ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER AWARD WINNERS

PICTURED LEFT IS DOUG CHRISTIANSEN & PICTURED RIGHT IS VERNON AND GRANT JOHNSON

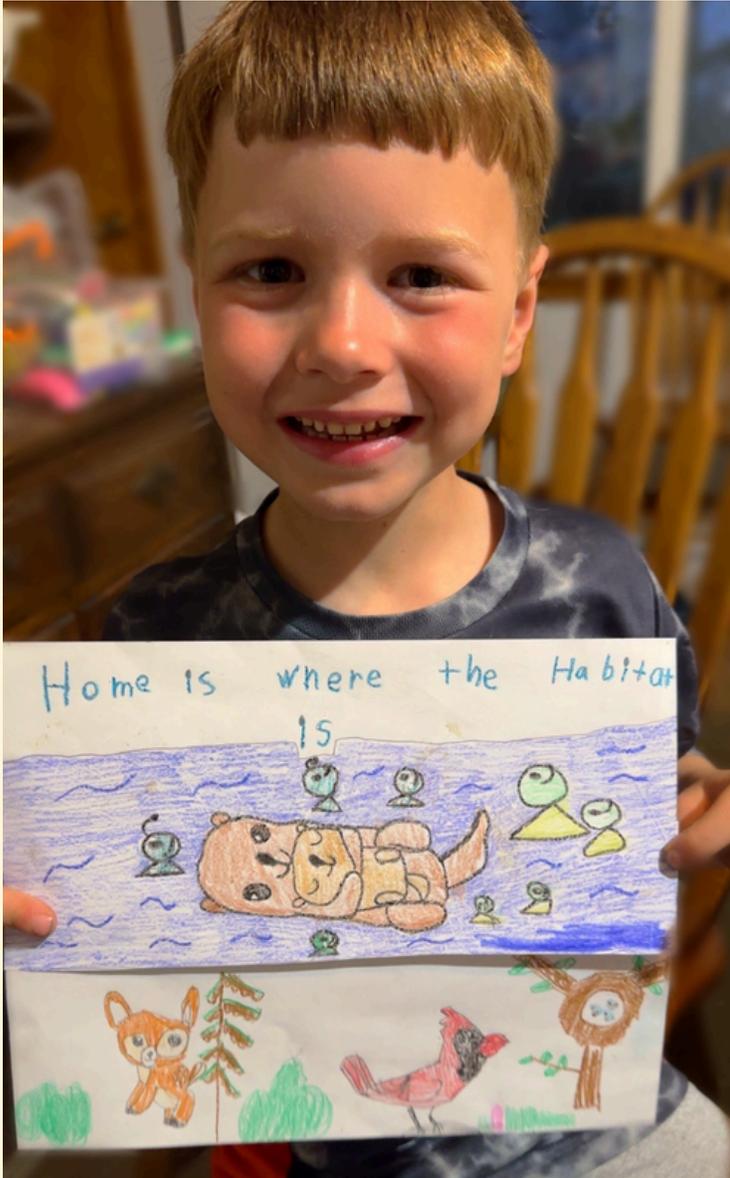


Pictured left is Jerry and Lance Moeller & Pictured right is Michael and Jason Murphy





# POSTER CONTEST Winner



## WYATT KOCH



Wyatt Koch, a First-grade student at Grundy Center Elementary School, was the winner of Grundy County's 2025 Conservation Districts of Iowa poster contest. Wyatt then proceeded to the Region 3 finals, where he also secured first place, advancing to the Iowa finals. Be on the lookout for information on the 2026 CDI poster contest this Spring!



## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Grundy County SWCD will have two scholarship opportunities available this fall. One \$1,000.00 scholarship for a high school Senior majoring in any field of Agriculture or Conservation. A second \$1,250.00 scholarship will be awarded to one high school senior or college student enrolled in the 2026/2027 academic year, with a major in any agriculture or life science major. For more

Information email Meghan at  
Meghan.koch@ia.nacdnet.net  
Or call us at 319-824-3634. Ex.3

# FY25 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & SWCD FINANCIALS

## Annual Financial Report

## State Cost Share

### GRUNDY COUNTY SWCD F.Y. 2024 REPORT ON ANNUAL USE OF DISTRICT FUNDS

July 1, 2024 -- June 30, 2025

#### RECEIPTS

Commissioners Expense Income	\$	3,000.00
BHCWS 24	\$	68,546.75
Grundy Co Supervisors Allocation		
Black Hawk Creek Travel Training	\$	4,014.05
Black Hawk Creek Info/Ed	\$	2,274.68
Black Hawk Creek Supplies		
Black Hawk Creek Water Monitoring		
Black Hawk CPA Fees/LattaHarris		
Transfers	\$	1,402.38
Interest	\$	17.52
BHCWS 21 WQI		
Conservation Club	\$	6,895.00
Miscellaneous	\$	4,911.36
Tree Sales	\$	4,811.60
Voided checks		
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>95,873.34</b>

#### EXPENDITURES

Commissioner Expenses	\$	9,765.74
Prior FY Commissioner Expenses		
480 employee	\$	4,119.88
Bank Service Fees		
CPA Fees	\$	3,550.00
Donations	\$	675.00
Dues Not Comm Eligible		
ISU Foundation - Water Rocks	\$	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$	5,609.58
Sales Tax	\$	351.01
Scholarships		
Subscriptions	\$	876.41
Tree Sales	\$	2,868.55
Water Monitoring Equipment		
Black Hawk Creek Info/Ed	\$	4,696.43
Black Hawk Creek Supplies	\$	547.47
Black Hawk Creek Water Monitoring		
Black Hawk Watershed Payroll	\$	44,754.67
Black Hawk Creek Travel/Training	\$	2,032.32
Payroll taxes/contributions	\$	28,878.44
Voided Checks		
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>109,725.50</b>

Beginning balance July 1, 2024	\$	62,234.18
Receipts	\$	95,873.34
Total Receipts	\$	158,107.52
Less Total Expenditures	\$	109,725.50
Balance June 30, 2025	\$	48,382.02

## Cover Crops

Total Cover Crop: 19,774.83 ac

Watershed Funds: 11,389.22 ac

Federal Cover Crop: 7,586 ac

Water Quality Initiative Funds:  
596.82 ac

IFIP Funds: 202.79 ac

## No-Till/ Strip Till

No-Till Acres: 0 ac

Strip Till Acres : 235.24 ac

Nitrification Inhibitor: 116.06 ac

## Windbreaks

Windbreaks: 1

# IDALS Streamside Buffer Initiative



## IDALS Streamside Buffer Initiative

Two buffer scenarios are available; one is non-harvestable and the seconded is harvestable. Eligible acres must be cropland adjacent to streams with a minimum average width of 30' for the entire length of the buffer. Width is measured from the top of the bank. Maximum average width is 100'. Width limits are based on each side of the stream.

### Funding

Onetime payment of \$500/ac Establishment & \$3,000/ac forgone income



### Non- Harvestable Seeding Plan

-Native Warm season grass/ or forb or native pollinator mix (ie. CP2, CP25, CP42) or tree planting.

-No harvesting allowed (unless in emergency drought situations)

### Harvestable Seeding Plan

- Cool or warm season perennial grass/forage mix

- One cutting per year can be taken off the buffer after the nesting season ends on August 1st.



### Funding

Onetime payment of \$250/ac Establishment & \$1,500/ac forgone income

**Both Scenarios require a 10-year Maintenance Agreement**

**Stop in or give us a call for more information**



# Women, Land, And Legacy

Grundy, Black Hawk, | Butler, Bremer

## Succession Planning Workshop

**In July we held our succession planning workshop. We had a good turn out and it was very informational.**



## Upcoming Events

### ***Fall Networking @ South Porch Cider Co.***

#### **Topics**

- Choose Iowa Grants
- Ag Tourism with Silos & Smokestacks
- Barn Quilt Program

#### **Details**

TBD at this time  
4:00 PM- 8:00PM  
625 G Ave  
Grundy Center, IA

# GRUNDY SWCD NO-TILL DEMONSTRATION FARM

By Don Davidson

When the Grundy County SWCD created its 5-year plan in the spring of 2021, we came up with a goal of demonstrating the economics of innovative and practical conservation practices versus the conventional way of Grundy County farming practices. I chose to use my farm as a demonstration farm for this project. I have two major fields on my Palermo Twp farm that are somewhat evenly divided by a large, grassed waterway. The East Field is 67.19 acres. The West Field is 60.75 acres (my farmstead comes out of that field.) Soil types are Tama B and C Slopes, with also some Muscatine B and Colo B soil types. CSRs are approximately 87 for the East Field and 84 for the West Field (it has a little more Tama C soils.) All fields were tilled in the fall of 2021 following corn harvest and some extensive tiling that was done. And tilled again in the springs of 2022 and 2023, to keep leveling out the tiling humps. The demonstration project started in Crop Year 2024, with the East Field being the conventional tillage field and the West Field being completely no-tillage.

Following the corn harvest of 2023, the East Field was tilled with a vertical-tillage tool that disturbed much of the soil yet left a good amount of residue on the soil. The West field was untouched. In the spring of 2024, both fields were planted in 15-inch rows. My tenant decided to not do an additional pass with a soil finisher, as the VT tool left the field very smooth and level. The West Field, being left untouched, was directly-planted with bubble coulters on the planter and staggered closing wheels, into the standing cornstalks. Both fields emerged at the same time. Same variety was used for both fields and the same herbicide program was used on both fields. The results at harvest? 4,932 bushels harvested from the East Field for a yield of 73.40 BPA and 4,541 bushels from the West Field for a yield of 74.75 BPA. I'd say that's a wash.

Now, on to the more important Corn Yield year for 2025. The commissioners have acknowledged that the conventional thinking is that corn yields are affected by the no-tillage practice. Let's see what my results were for 2025.

## East

After soybean harvest in September of 2024, liquid hog manure was applied to both fields with no-till injectors in November of 2024. Little of the soybean residue was disturbed. The East Field was tilled a week prior to planting with the same VT tool that was used in the fall of 2023, which again left a good amount of residue cover. The West Field was left untouched as it was, following the application of the liquid manure. My tenant does have a liquid starter fertilizer attachment on his planter, and the same bubble coulters ahead of the disc-openers and staggered closing wheels. Same variety was planted on both fields and same herbicide program on both fields. Both fields also received a fungicide spraying. The yield results? The East Field produced 8,684.32 bushels for a yield of 258.50 BPA; the West Field produced 7,837.45 bushels for a yield of 258.02 BPA. Again, I would say that's a wash. My tenant and I will keep this up again for the Crop Years of 2026 and 2027 and will report back in after those harvests!

## West



# Grundy County SWCD

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

## Staff

- Courtney Myers: District Conservationist
- Meghan Koch: Conservation Assistant
- Justin Hahn: Natral Resource Specialist
- Hunter Filloon: Soil Conservation technician
- Heather Kitzman: Team Resource Conservationist
- Arlyn Wingate: BHCW Project Coordinator

## Commissioners

- Fred Abels : Chair
- John Oltman: Vice Chair
- Don Davidson: Treasurer
- James Everts: Co-Treasurer
- Steve Henze

## Assistant Commissioners

- Hartley Meyer
- Crystal Davis

