



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Friends of Conservation

Earth Team Volunteer . . .

Twila Anderson



Area 2

Friends of Conservation volunteers are often landowners who assist NRCS on their own property.



Earth Team Volunteer Categories

- Individual
- Recurring Group
- Friends of Conservation
- One-time Group
- Hosted

Celebrate Volunteers

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Third in a series featuring. . .

Earth Team Volunteers in Missouri

Contributing author, Stacey Williams, Earth Team volunteer

Twila Anderson's interest in conservation goes way back.

"My dad helped organize the Schuyler County Soil and Water Conservation District in 1961 and taught me that we should be good stewards of the land," Anderson explains.

Anderson has lived on a farm her entire life but purchased her own in 1987 after retiring from teaching. Since then, she has expanded it piece-by-piece. It is diverse and includes timber, cropland, hay ground and a natural area for wildlife habitat.

Since purchasing her farm, Anderson has sought assistance from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to make improvements. She says it is very important to "leave land better than when you got it" and to improve soil health and water quality. With financial and technical assistance from NRCS, Anderson has built ponds, cleaned up foundations, built terraces and installed fencing on her property.

"As a 'Friend of Conservation' volunteer, Twila assists the office by offering information and being actively involved in her personal farming operation including both cattle and row crop," Terri Bruner, Schuyler/Putnam County District Conservationist, said. "She is an active participant in making decisions."

In addition to NRCS, Anderson is involved in various volunteer programs and committees associated with agriculture. "Her active participation in programs that fit her personal needs make her a good resource to NRCS," Bruner said.

Anderson is involved in the Schuyler County local work group. She is a member of the Farm Service Agency Committee and a special watershed committee. Anderson has also been a Schuyler County nominee for the "Women in Agriculture" award. Anderson stresses the importance of being involved, especially when it comes to making the land more productive for the next generation.

It is plain to see that Anderson's love of the land and involvement in agriculture has made her a real "steward of the land" and "Friend of Conservation."