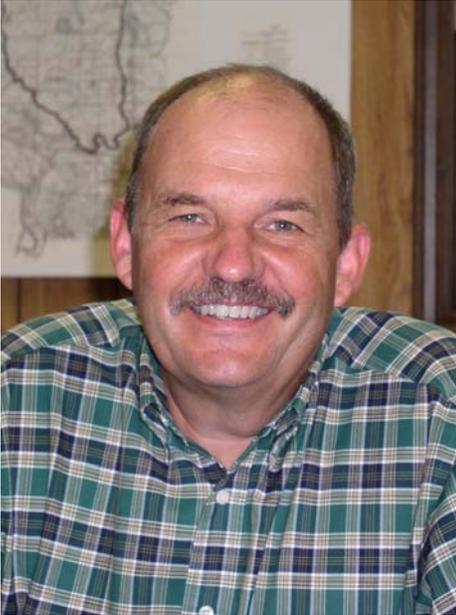


## Scott Martin — Illinois' Featured NRCS Employee

**Employee Job Title:** District Conservationist

**Location:** Murphysboro, Illinois

**Date:** May, 2008



**Scott Martin**  
District Conservationist

### Meet Scott Martin

According to Scott, “The project I feel most proud of is the shoreline erosion project at Kinkaid Lake.” Scott worked with partners such as the Kinkaid Conservancy District, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and a local work group named the Kinkaid Area Watershed Project. Scott and his Field Office team determined that seven miles of lake shoreline was receding at a rate of more than one foot every year. All the soil material was being deposited in the lake, thereby shortening the lifespan of an important reservoir for the county.

Instead of the traditional and costly practice of covering the entire slope with rip rap, Scott suggested that linear toe rock, a practice used to control stream bank erosion might protect the lake shore from the constant wave eroding action.

NRCS provided survey, design, and technical help for a quarter mile section of shoreline to demonstrate how protection of the toe of the shoreline would control the massive erosion. When the practice had proven itself, the partnership found a company with a barge that would install rock from the water. In the past five years, Scott has coordinated grants and local partner funds that have allowed protection of more than four miles of severely eroded shoreline. Now the water in the lake is actually clearer and areas near the shoreline provide new habitat for plants and fish. NRCS has been an integral part of this conservation success that will last several generations.

It's this type of passion that has made Scott Martin's NRCS 30 year career a positive endeavor for him, for clients, and for the natural resource base he works to protect.

