

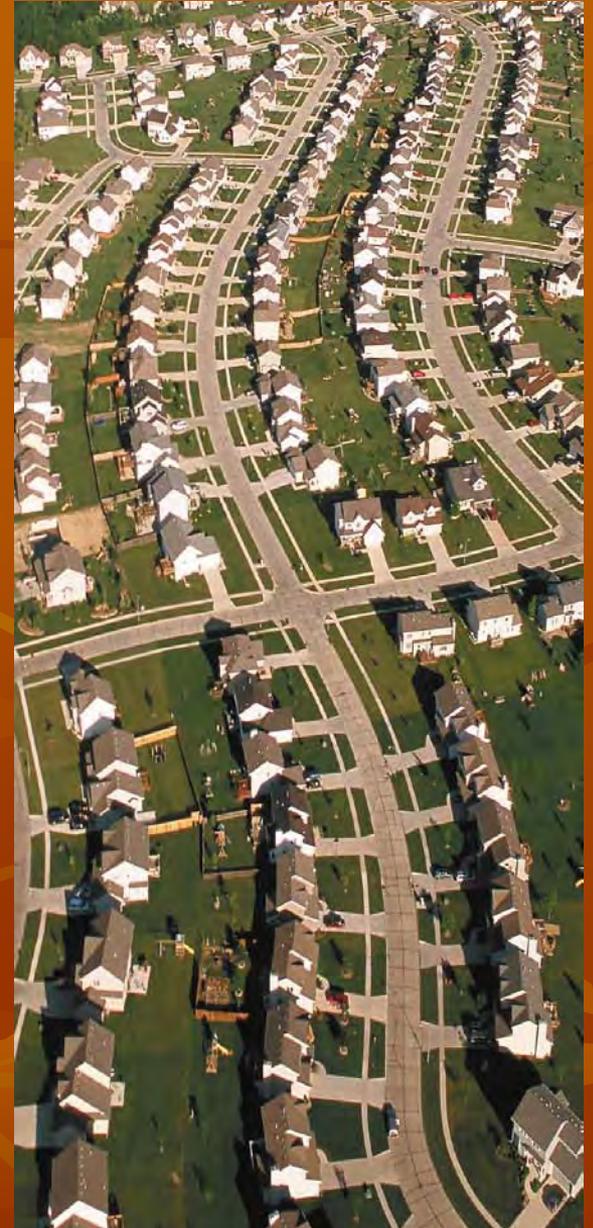
Taking Better Pictures

By
Lynn Betts, NRCS, Iowa



My experiences:

- ISU Photojournalism classes
- 1-year apprenticeship with Erv Cole
- Nikon School of Photography
- Missouri Photojournalism Workshop
- Work with SCS national photographers
- 35 Years of conservation photography



Why better pictures?

**AFTER TWO WEEKS WE
TEND
TO REMEMBER ...**

10% of what we read

READING

20% of what we hear

HEARING WORDS

30% of what we see

LOOKING AT PICTURES

PASSIVE

WATCHING A MOVIE/VIDEOTAPE

LOOKING AT AN EXHIBIT

50% of what we see and
hear

WATCHING A DEMONSTRATION

SEEING IT DONE ON LOCATION

70% of what we
say

PARTICIPATING IN A DISCUSSION

GIVING A TALK

ACTIVE

90% of
what we
say and
do

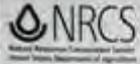
DOING A DRAMATIC PRESENTATION

SIMULATING THE REAL EXPERIENCE

DOING THE REAL THING

Adapted from: Edgar Dale *Audio-Visual Methods in Teaching*, Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

Which would you pick up?



Farm Bill 2002

Conservation Provisions Overview

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) represents the single most significant commitment of resources toward conservation on private lands in the Nation's history. The legislation responds to a broad range of emerging natural resource challenges faced by farmers and ranchers, including soil erosion, wetlands, wildlife habitat, and farmland protection. Private landowners will benefit from a portfolio of voluntary assistance, including cost-share, land rental, incentive payments, and technical assistance. The 2002 Farm Bill places a strong emphasis on the conservation of working lands, ensuring that land remains both healthy and productive.

The conservation provisions build upon past conservation gains and respond to the call of farmers and ranchers across the country for additional cost-share resources. The 2002 Farm Bill also ensures greater access to the programs by making more farmers and ranchers eligible for participation.

Agriculture Management Assistance (AMA)

- Provides additional funding for AMA, in addition to funds provided through the Agriculture Risk Protection Act of 2001

Conservation Corridor Program

- Requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a conservation corridor demonstration program on the Delmarva Peninsula in the states of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia located on the east side of the Chesapeake Bay.

Conservation of Private Grazing Land (CPGL)

- Provides policy for technical assistance relating to conservation on private grazing lands, and mandates establishment of a separate funding line-item for this purpose

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

- Reauthorizes the program through 2007
- Raises authorization for enrollment to an overall acreage cap of 39.2 million acres
- Expands the Farmable Wetland Pilot Program to become available Nationwide with an aggregate acreage cap of 1 million acres
- Allows landowners to continue with existing ground cover where practicable and consistent with wildlife reserve benefits of CRP
- Provides for managed haying (including for biomass) and grazing

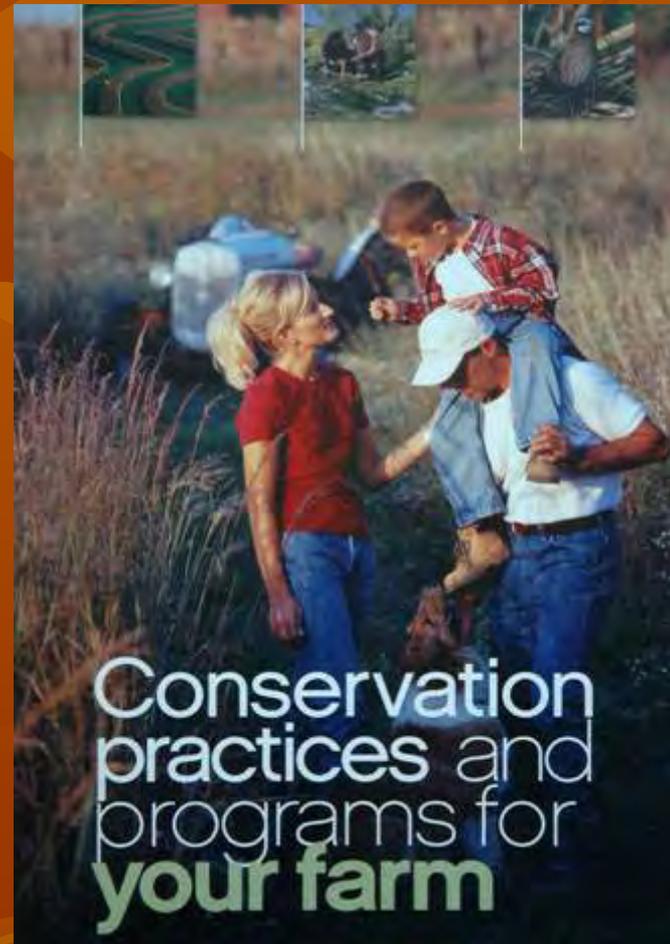
Conservation Security Program (CSP)

- Establishes CSP for fiscal years 2003 through 2007 to reward stewardship and provide an incentive for addressing additional resource concerns on agricultural working lands.

Desert Terminal Lakes

- Provides \$200 million in funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to be transferred to the Secretary of the Interior to provide water to at-risk natural desert terminal lakes; prohibits the purchase or lease of water rights with the funds

The general provisions of conservation assistance provided voluntarily to a participant apply to land owners, tenants, lessees, and trustees, not federal trustees and administrators.



Taking care of your camera

Store it :

---somewhere
other than
on the trunk
of a car or
the street!



Taking care of your camera

The good news:
Inexpensive
camera bag



Taking care of your camera

Store above Zero

Not in dusty, hot pickup

Batteries cause severe damage at 110 degrees

Lens is coated- use only special lens agents, cloths

Use Bulb blower brush

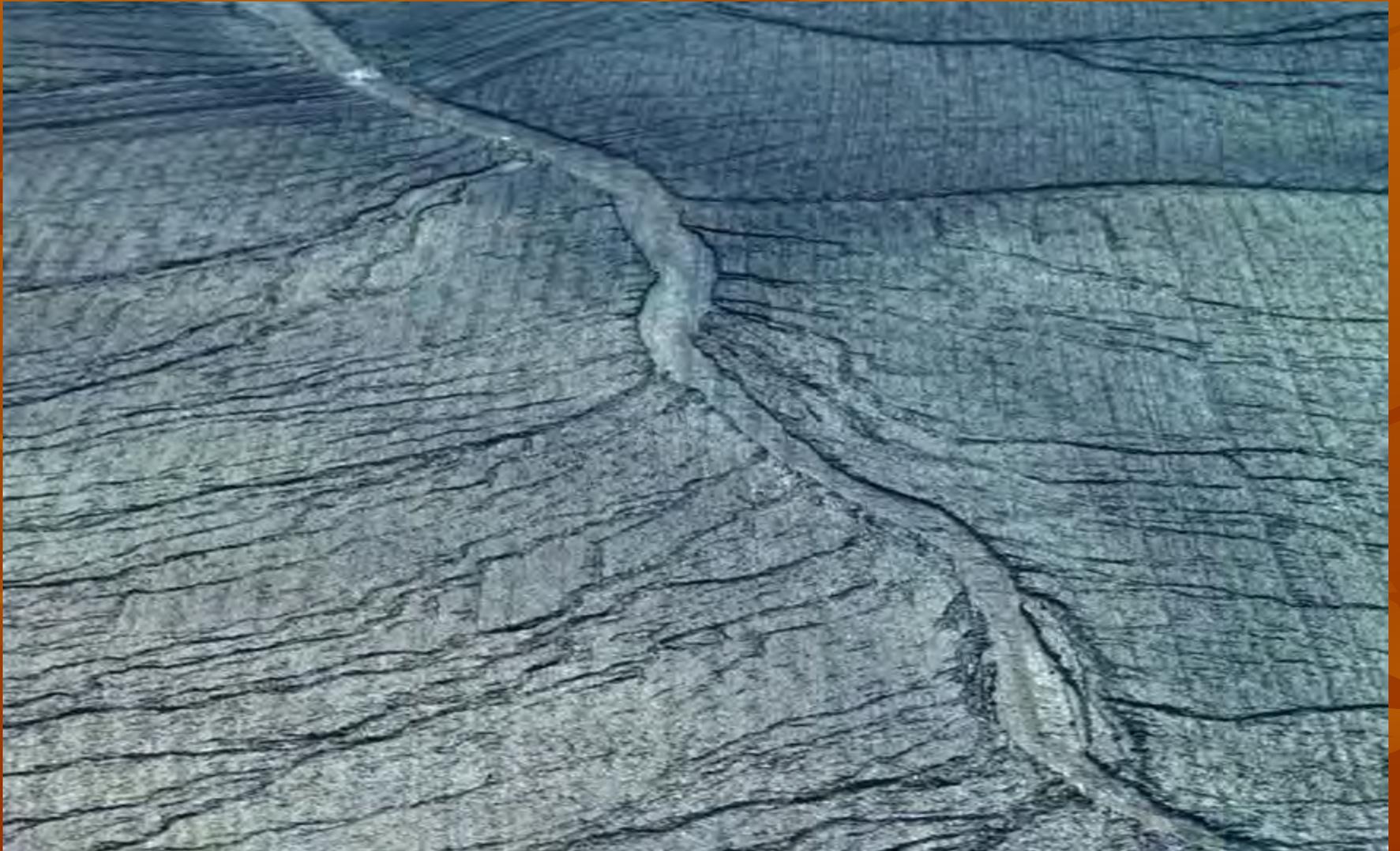


How to hold your camera



Composition Tip #1

Fill the Frame with your subject



Composition Tip #2

Compose for a Center of Interest



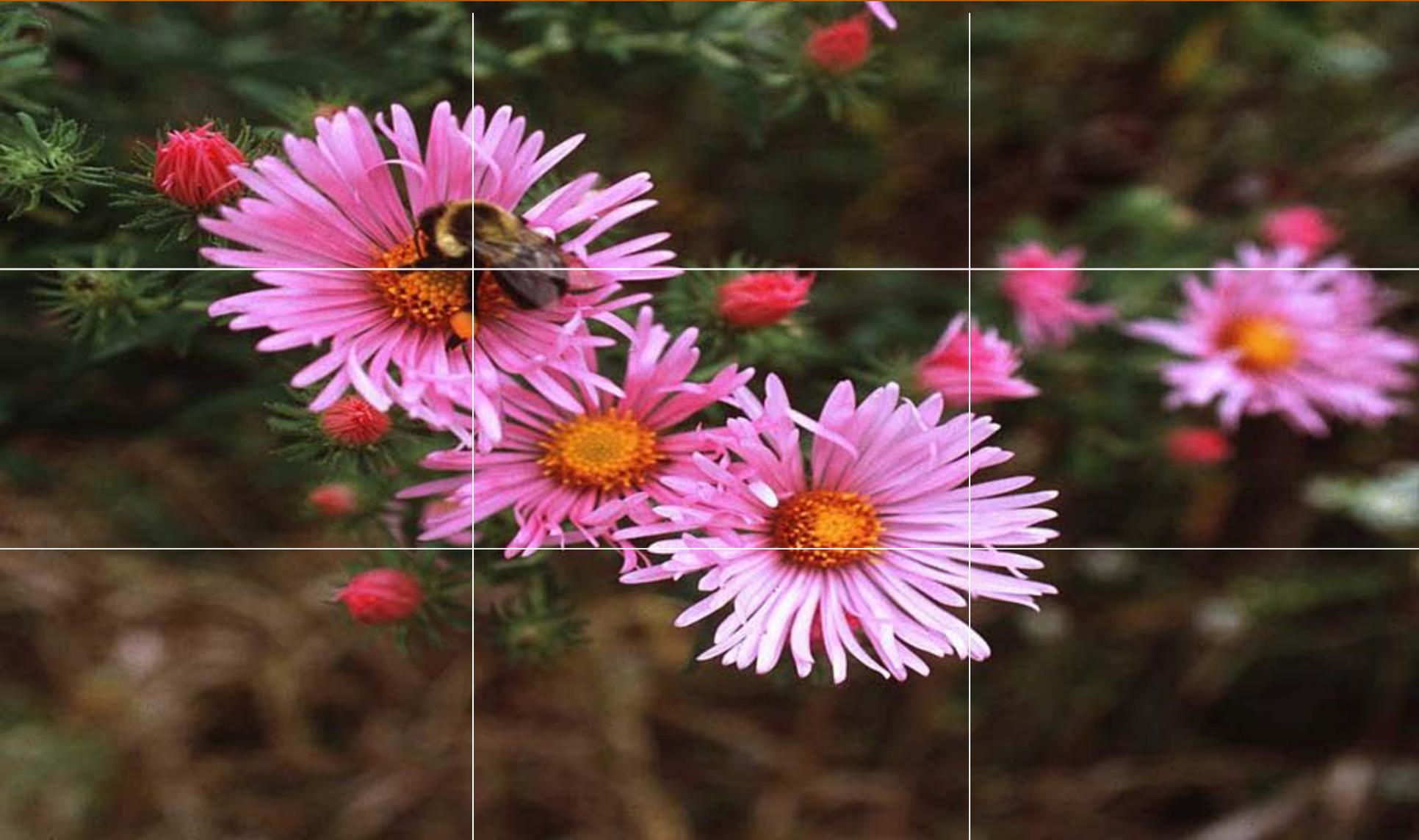
Composition Tip #3

Get the Clutter out!



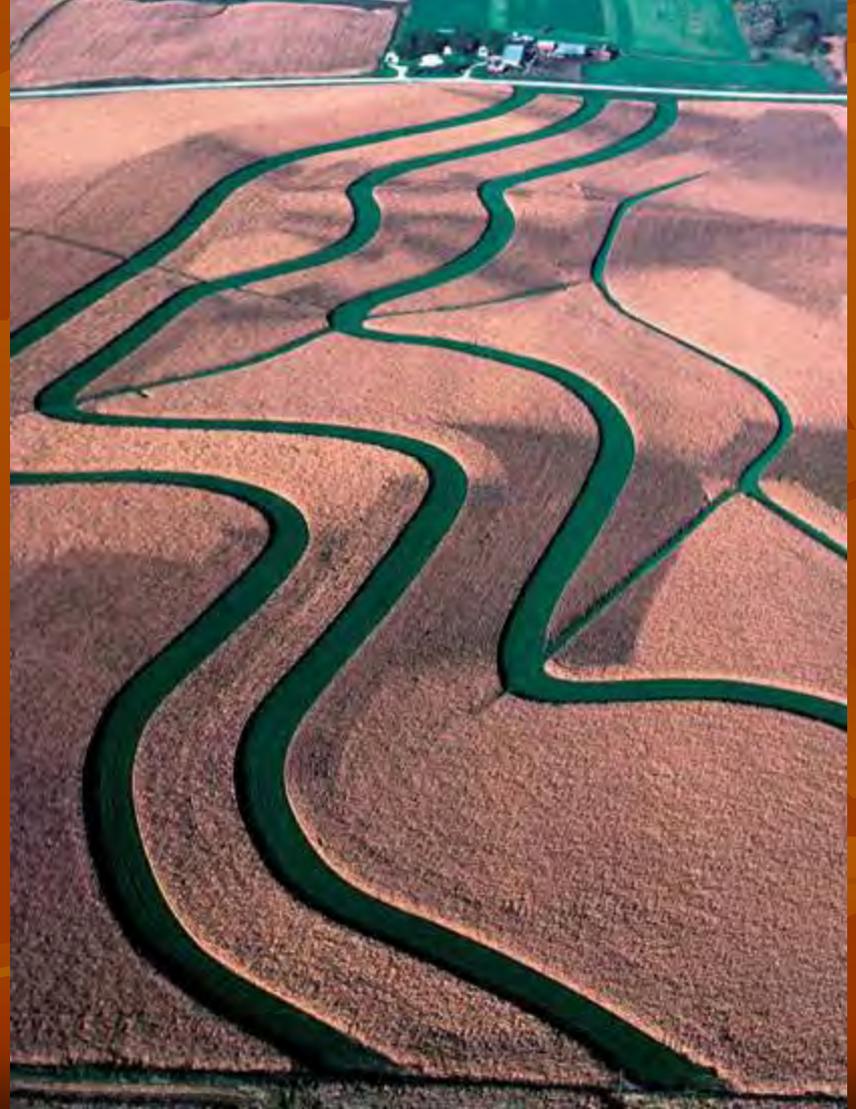
Composition Tip #4

Follow the Rule of Thirds



Composition Tip #5

Use curves for depth



Composition Tip #6

Look for Frames



Composition Tip #6

Look for Frames



Composition Tip #7

Use repetition in lines, patterns





Composition Tip #8

Include people, naturally



Composition Tip #9

Face subjects into the scene





Composition Tip #10

Focus selectively



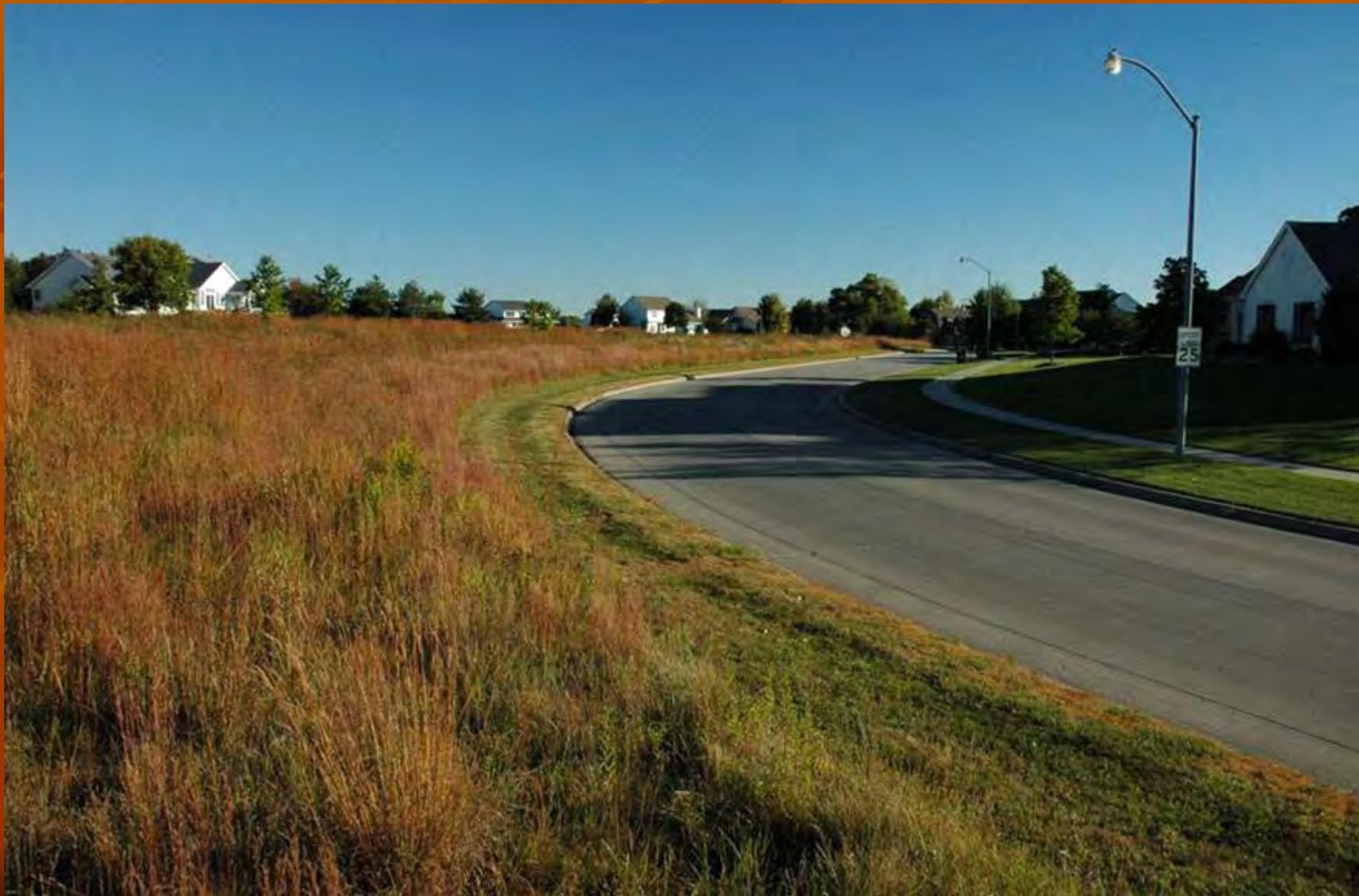
Lighting Tip #1

Avoid overhead light



Lighting Tip #2

Sidelight: very effective



Lighting Tip #3

Backlight: dramatic



Lighting Tip #4

Shoot early morning, late day



Lighting Tip #5

Use a polarizing filter



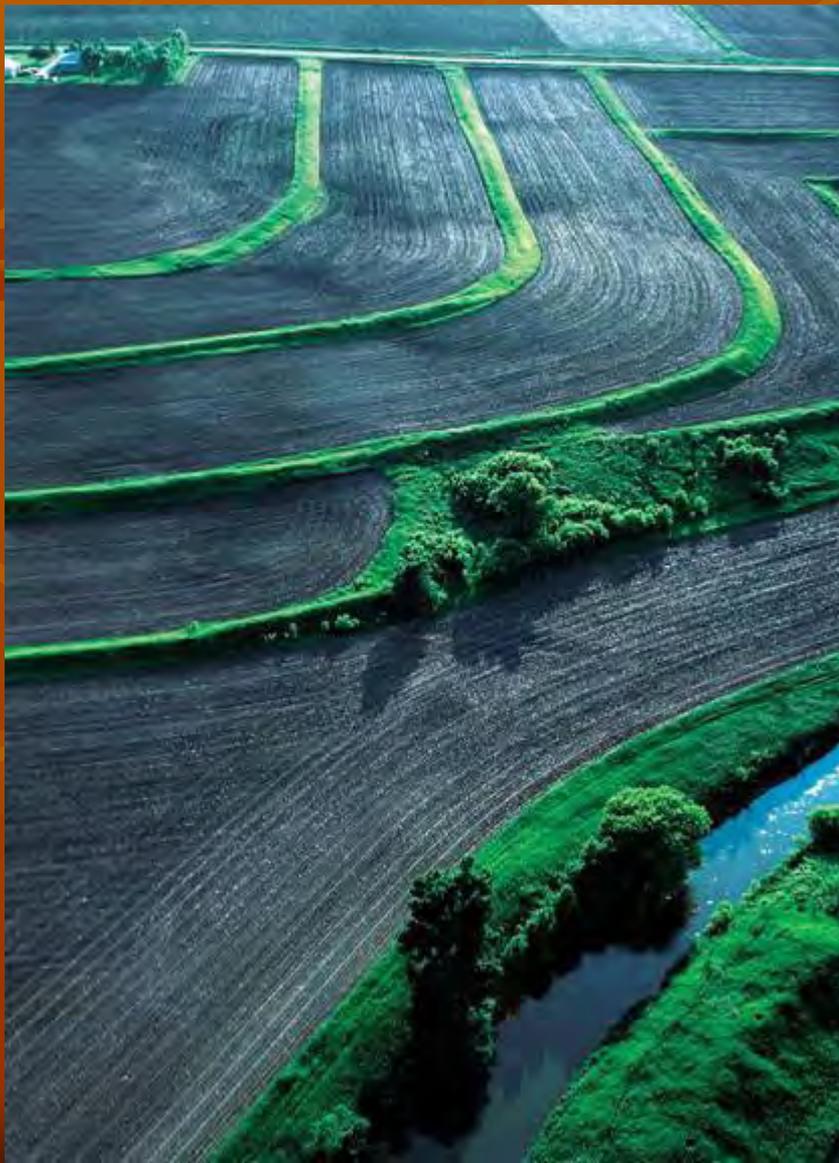
Lighting Tip #5

Use a polarizing filter



Lighting Tip #6

Landscapes need shadows



Taking conservation photos

Tip #1– Plan ahead. Timing is critical.



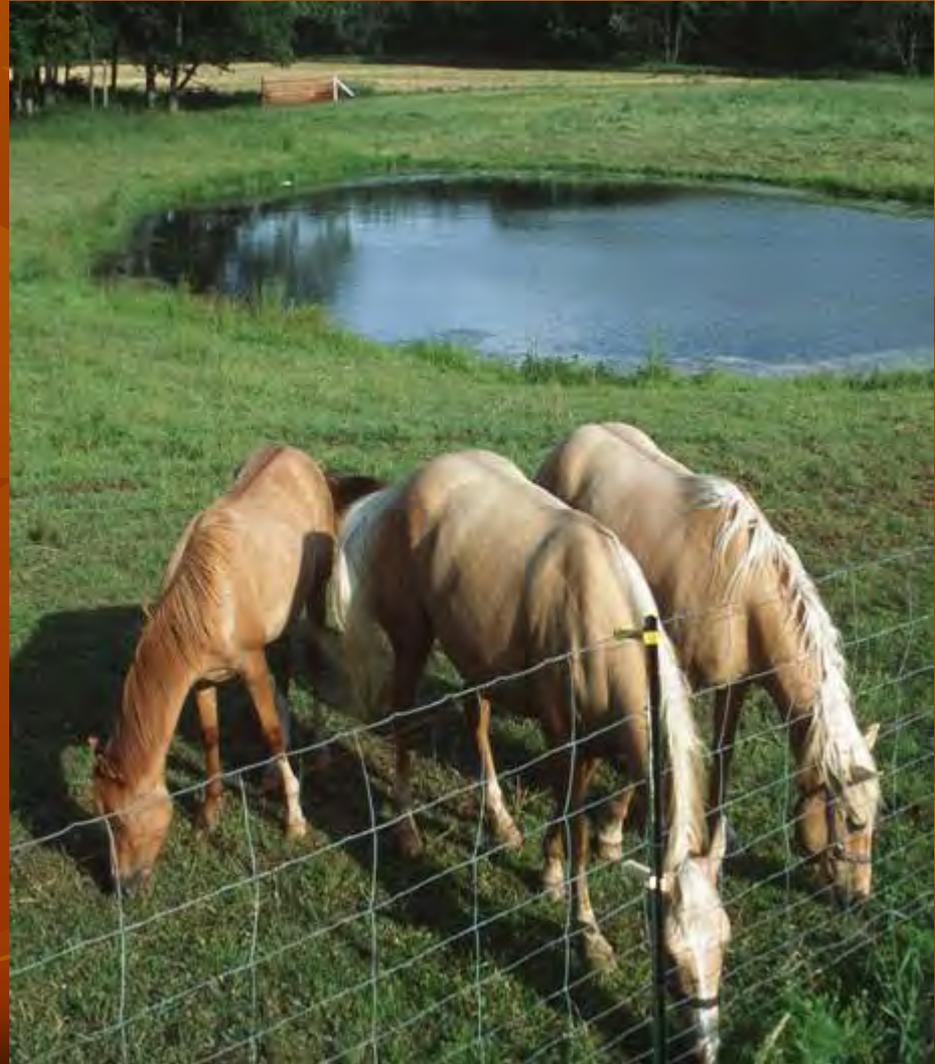
Taking conservation photos

Tip #2– get off the ground for a storytelling view.



Taking conservation photos

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Taking conservation photos

Tip #3– use a polarizing filter.



Taking conservation photos

Tip #4– include people for interest and perspective.



Taking conservation photos

Tip #5– fill the frame with the subject.



Taking conservation photos

Tip #6— shoot with good light.



Taking conservation photos

Tip #7– shoot multiple angles, & closeup to wide scene.



Taking conservation photos

Tip #8— select good scenes that tell a story.



Taking conservation photos

Tip #9– include farmsteads if possible to add interest.



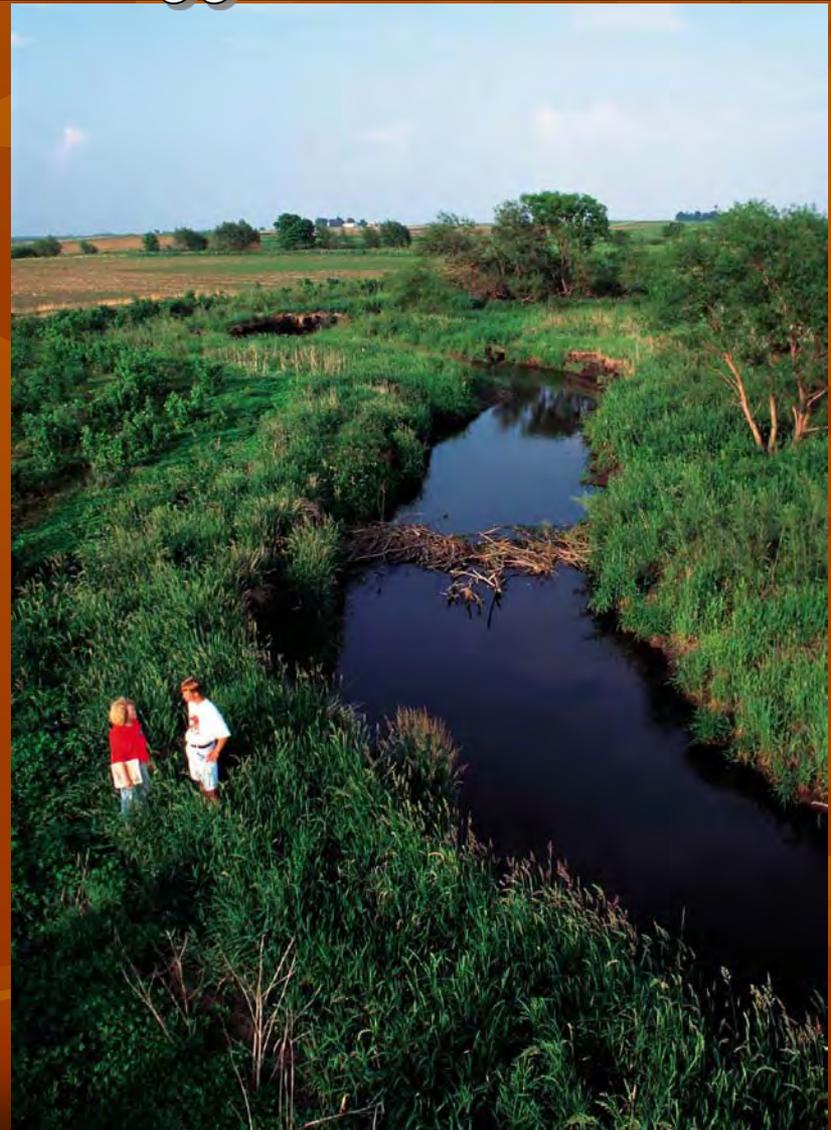
Taking conservation photos

Tip #10— study photos on the NRCS photogallery.



Taking conservation photos

Riparian Buffer



Taking conservation photos

Ponds



Taking conservation photos

Terraces



Taking conservation photos

Grasses



Taking conservation photos

Wetlands



Taking conservation photos

Wildlife habitat



Taking conservation photos

Filter strip



Taking conservation photos

Conservation Tillage



Taking conservation photos

Windbreak



Taking conservation photos

Aerial Tip #1



Taking conservation photos

Aerial Tip #2



Taking conservation photos

Aerial Tip #3

