



United States Department of Agriculture

# IOWA CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

Summer 2020

**DERECHO DAMAGES  
MILLIONS OF CORN ACRES,  
LINN COUNTY SERVICE CENTER**

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**STATE CONSERVATIONIST  
KURT SIMON RETIRES**

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NATURAL RESOURCES  
CONSERVATION SERVICE  
[www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov)

*Photo by Joe Murphy, Iowa Soybean Association*



# Iowa State Conservationists



The NRCS State Office in Des Moines added portraits of all 10 State Conservationists. They include: Frank Mendell (1937-1965), Wilson Moon (1965-1975), William Brune (1975-1984), Michael Nethery (1984-1990), Jeff Vonk (1990-1994), Leroy Brown (1994-2004), Richard Van Klaveren (2004-2007), Rich Sims (2008-2012), Jay Mar (2012-2015), Kurt Simon (2015-2020).

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# IOWA CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

*Current Developments* is a product of the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service in Des Moines, Iowa, published bimonthly by the Iowa NRCS Public Affairs Staff in cooperation with NRCS and partner agency employees from across the state.

## CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS STORIES AND PHOTOS

Please submit your Current Developments story ideas and photos to Public Affairs Specialist Jason Johnson at [jason.r.johnson@usda.gov](mailto:jason.r.johnson@usda.gov). Past issues can be found at [https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ia/people/employees/nrcs142p2\\_008273/](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ia/people/employees/nrcs142p2_008273/).



United States Department of Agriculture

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## a **Message**

from the

## State Conservationist



*Kristy Oates,  
Acting State Conservationist*

Hello Iowa NRCS,

It is an honor to have the opportunity to serve as your Acting State Conservationist. Over the past couple of weeks, I have been able to engage with many of you virtually, and I am encouraged by the dedication and service that you are providing

to our customers across the state. On Monday, August 10, I experienced the derecho storm. Being from Texas, I am no stranger to natural disasters, but this type of storm was certainly new to me. I quickly learned that NRCS employees and partners have excellent working relationships which has proven to be instrumental in addressing the aftermath of the storm as well as ongoing coordination of COVID-19 business processes.

As we approach the end of the fiscal year, I want to thank all of you for working together to get more conservation on the ground. There is still a lot of work to be done, but you should all be proud of leading the nation in percentage of Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) applications obligated based on the allocations to the states. Your work is also noted for the progress being made in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and easement programs. One large workload remains in the development of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) plans. I have no doubt that you are all up to the challenge and will be successful in delivering all Farm Bill Program requirements.

It is great to see the organizational efforts underway in Iowa. As a former Resource Team Leader, I know and understand the value of working together in a team structure. Change is hard, and it will take time to become fully functioning as designed, but rest assured, the outcomes will outweigh the initial startup challenges. The Iowa NRCS reorganization is here to stay. The leadership team is diligently working to fill

## State Conservationist Message Cont...

vacancies, update leases, and secure equipment for increased operational efficiencies.

I will close with a little background on me. In my full-time capacity, I serve as the State Resource Conservationist for the USDA-NRCS in Texas. I lead the ecological sciences department who assists customers in addressing natural resource concerns through sound conservation planning, technical leadership in quality assurance, policy development and implementation, and training oversight. I serve as liaison with other state and federal agencies and develop information for a variety of clientele. A passion for agriculture and working with people was the driving force for me joining the USDA-NRCS in 1995 as a Soil Conservation Technician. Through

25 years of service, I promoted through multiple technical, supervisory, and leadership positions in Texas, as well as completing detail assignments in Florida, Minnesota, Washington, DC, and now Iowa.

I am a graduate of Sam Houston State University, and the US Department of Agriculture Emerging Leaders Development Program from The George Washington University Center for Excellence in Public Leadership. Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family and traveling to new destinations.

Sincerely,

Kristy Oates, Acting State Conservationist

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## THE BIG SHOW: CAMPAIGN EMPHASIZES WATER QUALITY

WHO Radio, featuring Bob Quinn's "The Big Show," which airs 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays on Newsradio 1040 WHO, kicked off a two-month campaign recently promoting water quality with a "Clean Water in Iowa Starts Here" campaign.

On Aug. 12, Quinn interviewed Iowa NRCS Soil Conservationist Josh Hawks at Mark Schleisman's farm near Lake City in Calhoun County. Hawks is a former soil conservation technician who has worked with Schleisman on several projects throughout the past decade.

Bill and Tim Couser, who farm near Nevada, hosted the Aug. 19 show. Sean McMahon, who leads the Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance (IAWA) discussed the success of their Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) project with Quinn.



Quinn will conduct a series of interviews on "The Big Show" every Wednesday through Sept. 16. The campaign is sponsored by the Iowa Soybean Association and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.



## KURT SIMON RETIRES AFTER NEARLY 5 YEARS AS IOWA LEADER

After nearly five years as state conservationist for Iowa NRCS, Kurt Simon retired on July 31. Simon leaves a legacy of strong, bold leadership through years of change.

When Simon took the reigns in Fall 2015, he was introduced by then-US Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack in the midst of a water quality controversy as Des Moines Water Works filed suit against several drainage districts northwest of Des Moines.

From Day 1, Simon proclaimed that Iowa's water quality issues would be best addressed by first using soil health practices such as no-till, cover crops, conservation crop rotations, and rotational grazing systems. He put higher payment rates to fund many of these practices through Farm Bill conservation programs to increase adoption.

As the soil health movement continued, Simon focused new hiring on meeting the agronomic needs of our customers. He approved the hiring of area agronomists, and later area soil health specialists and a state soil health specialist. He even required soil health training for all employees.

Simon spent time in Washington D.C. on a detail assisting USDA Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) division Undersecretary Bill Northey. This experience allowed him to gain new perspectives and to meet with other agency leaders about better serving our customers.

In 2018, the state office in Des Moines underwent a downsizing and remodeling that temporarily moved staff to another floor in the Neal Smith Federal Building for nearly a year. The new state office, completed last year, has many new and modern amenities for staff.

Simon spent much of the last year with his leadership team restructuring field offices into a resource team concept. He was adamant about having 100 district conservationists managing our field offices. This restructuring is happening now!

One of Simon's other legacies was returning our staff record numbers. Iowa NRCS had less than 400 employees when he took over. In just the past year, staff numbers have risen to just less than 500.

Below is a message Simon sent to staff announcing his retirement:

*"In the summer of 1980, I began my career as a District Technician with the Huron SWCD in Ohio. After a couple of years, I returned to school and started my career as a Student Intern with NRCS. I now look back following 40*



**Shelly Grimmus and Kurt Simon** show off the new NRCS clocks they received in appreciation for their dedicated careers to NRCS. Grimmus retired on July 31. She served as Executive Assistant to the past five state conservationists.

*years of service to the conservation partnership and say that I have truly enjoyed the journey. The people have been amazing and the quality and character of the NRCS family speaks volumes.*

*My time in Iowa has been special, and your work ethic and passion for conservation is inspiring. I can think of no better place to finish my career.*

*We have been through a lot of change over the past 5 years, and your willingness and dedication bode well for the future of the agency and our customers. Your willingness to embrace Soil Health will leave a legacy that will continue for generations and ensure clean and safe drinking water for all Iowans. That is something you can be proud of.*

*Serving as your State Conservationist has been the most fulfilling and rewarding position during my 40-year career. You have made my time in Iowa a joy.*

*Keep Iowa strong,  
Thank You & God Bless,*

*Kurt"*



## DERECHO DAMAGES IOWA CROPS, LINN COUNTY SERVICE CENTER

2020 just keeps getting crazier and crazier!

Did anyone know what a derecho was before Aug. 10? We all do now. An unpredicted derecho windstorm blew through Iowa's midsection from the Missouri River to the Mississippi River from morning through early afternoon.

The damaging winds began 30 miles in front of the heavy rains seen on radar, catching many by surprise. "I happened to be teleworking that day and watching the CDI Annual Meeting online when I heard the sirens go off," said Jason Johnson, state public affairs specialist in Des Moines. "When I looked at radar, the storm appeared to be a full county from my home. But a few minutes later the winds started to roll in."

The storm left billions of dollars of structural damage across Iowa and millions of acres of corn left badly damaged or ruined.

The USDA Service Center in Marion was heavily damaged inside and out. The staff there are temporarily based out of the Jones County Service Center.

Jaia Fischer, assistant state conservationist for management and strategy, says several other offices had minimal damage, but many NRCS, Farm Service Agency, and partner employees were without power for many days.



*The Aug. 10 derecho storm nailed the Linn County USDA Service Center with straight winds in excess of 100 MPH. Portions of the roof were blown off, leaving insulation scattered about like a snowy winter storm.*



*Iowa NRCS is requesting emergency conservation practice funds from National Headquarters to help producers treat resource concerns in 42 counties.*



# IOWA CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Iowa Conservation Partnership Award winners for 2020 were announced during the Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI) Virtual Business Meeting on Aug. 10. Congratulations to the following winners:

## **Iowa Soil Conservation Award Program Conservation Farmer of the Year**

Mark Jackson, Mahaska County

<https://www.iowafarmbureau.com/Article/Mahaska-County-farmer-Mark-Jackson-celebrated-as-Iowa's-Conservation-Farmer-of-the-Year>

## **Conservation Woman of the Year**

Maggie McQuown, Montgomery County

## **Outstanding Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner**

Hubert Staggs, Wayne County

## **Ruth Wagner Award (Asst. Commissioner)**

Ken Freund, Scott County (Posthumously)

## **Outstanding Watershed**

Black Hawk Lake (Sac SWCD)

## **Izaak Walton League Windbreak Awards**

- » Newly Established - Chad Hoffman (Carroll County)
- » Farmstead - Dale and Laura Ludwig (Carroll County)
- » Field Shelterbelt - Robert and Kathryn Camarata (Grundy County)

## **Woodland Owner of the Year**

Rick Trotter, Fayette County

## **CDI Honorary Member Award**

Kurt Simon, NRCS

Jerry Crew, Clay County (Posthumously)

## **Exemplary Use of Cost-Share**

Taylor SWCD Staff and Commissioners

## **Outstanding Contributions to the Water Quality Initiative**

Buena Vista SWCD Staff and Commissioners

## **CDI President's Award**

Jon Gisleson, Floyd County



*Hubert Staggs (middle) was named Iowa's 2020 Outstanding Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner. L-R: Will Myers, IDALS-DSCWQ Bureau Chief; Webb Flowers, Wayne County District Conservationist for NRCS; Staggs; John Whitaker, Executive Director of the Conservation Districts of Iowa; and John Sellers, Wayne County SWCD Commission Chair, presented the award to Staggs. Staggs has been a commissioner for 51 years and "provides leadership to many conservation efforts in Wayne County. Hubert is a humble, soft-spoken gentleman who leads by example with plenty of conservation experience," says Flowers.*



*Maggie McQuown of Red Oak was named 2020 Iowa Conservation Woman of the Year by the Iowa NRCS Federal Women's Program Committee. McQuown is a former businesswoman who moved to Iowa from Texas in 2012. She and her husband, Steve Turman, installed a riparian forest buffer, two prairie strips, pollinator plots, and grassed waterways. They also have a vegetable garden for selling produce at the Red Oak Farmers Market. McQuown dedicated her award to a friend and mentor who recently passed away.*



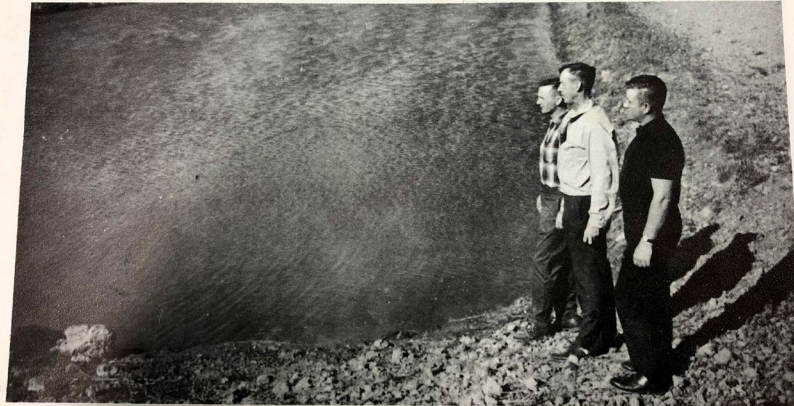
# BACK IN THE DAY

## PALO ALTO SWCD COMMISSIONER'S "CONSERVATION CALENDAR FOR 1968"

### THE PALO ALTO COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

PROUDLY PRESENT

### " CONSERVATION CALENDAR FOR 1968 "



COMMISSIONERS GERALD NORLAND, KENNETH KASSEL AND EDMUND HERKE TAKE A CLOSE LOOK AT THE JOHN NOLAN POND NEAR GRAETTINGER.



Iowa NRCS retiree Henry Tordoff submitted this edition's *Back in the Day* with the Palo Alto commissioner's 1968 Conservation Calendar. Tordoff says he took every picture in the calendar, except for one, when he was the District Conservationist there. He says his favorite photo is the one of Roger Will, above.



The West Bend Vocational Agriculture Soil Judging Team is shown here with their instructor Robert Cost, on the right. Mr. Clifford Chapman, area chairman for the Soil Conservation Society of America, stands with them on the left. The SCSA sponsors a soil judging contest each year by the West Bend Team. Team members are left to right, top row Lloyd Thigpen, Mike Stewart and Jim Nicks. Insetting - Don Stewart and Dave Miller.

| SEPTEMBER 1968 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| SUN            | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
| 1              | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   |
| 8              | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  |
| 15             | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  |
| 22             | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  |
| 29             | 30  |     |     |     |     |     |

#### IOWA STATE BANK

COMPLETE BANKING AND INSURANCE SERVICE  
MEMBER OF FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION  
West Bend, Iowa Phone 837-2343

"TOMORROW'S FARMERS NEED THE SOIL---SAVE IT"



EMPLOYEE  
SPOTLIGHT

**Lori  
Altheide**



**Title:** Assistant State  
Conservationist for Field  
Operations,  
Southwest Area Office (Atlantic)

**College Education:**

Truman State (1987) - Agricultural  
Science Degree

**Tell us about your background in  
conservation.**

I grew up living and working on a  
500-acre diverse crop and livestock  
farm in Davis County in southeast  
Iowa. We raised beef cattle, farrow  
to finish hogs, sheep, corn, soy-  
beans, small grain and hay.

Even though we had livestock, my  
passion was raising row crops and  
alfalfa hay production. My father  
was one of the most conserva-  
tion-minded people I have ever  
known. He was one of the first  
to adopt no-till planting in Davis  
County and a conservation leader  
in applying grassed waterways,  
field borders, forage production  
and intensive grazing.

I credit this way of life for my  
strong conservation ethic and inter-  
est in helping others adopt con-  
servation practices. I am a self-pro-  
claimed soil health geek.

**How did you become interested  
in working for NRCS?**

My first experience working in the  
field of soil conservation was as an  
Earth Team Volunteer with the Soil  
Conservation Service (SCS) for a  
college internship class. The work  
that summer was very rewarding  
and I decided then that I wanted to  
pursue a career in conservation.

In more than 30 years with NRCS,  
I have worked in five field offices  
and two areas in southern Iowa as  
a Technician, Soil Conservationist  
and as a District Conservationist  
(DC) for the Ottumwa-Bloomfield  
Management Unit (MU).

I was a District Conservationist for  
23 years before I began my current  
ASTC-FO position in Southwest  
Iowa in 2017.

**Tell us a little about yourself.**

I have two sons, Luke and  
Mason, and two grandchildren,  
Ella and River. Luke is enrolled  
in Engineering Design at Iowa  
Western Community College and  
Mason is the Executive Chef at  
Alba Restaurant in Des Moines,  
East Village District.

I enjoy walking, snow skiing,  
cooking, camping, and spending  
time with my family.

EMPLOYEE  
SPOTLIGHT

**Caleb  
Schnoor**

**Title:** Soil Conservationist,  
Ringgold County

**College Education:**

Bachelor's Degree:  
Iowa State University (Agricultural  
Studies)

**Where did you grow up?**

I grew up outside the little town of  
Mount Ayr, which is located in the  
southwest region of the state.

**How did you get interested in  
conservation?**

Growing up on a farm, I have  
always have enjoyed the opportu-  
nities that Mother Nature has given  
me. If I can just do a little part in  
the big picture of conservation,  
maybe the next generation will  
be able to enjoy it the way I have  
been able to.



*Caleb Schnoor*

**How did you become interested  
in working for NRCS?**

I first became exposed to the work  
the NRCS did when my grandfa-  
ther retired and acted as a TSP  
(Technical Service Provider), put-  
ting together Conservation Nutri-  
ent Management Plans. From there  
on, I was excited about conserving  
the land and connecting produc-  
ers with conservation practices to  
ultimately make the world a better  
place to live.

**What are your career goals?**

As I am just starting out, my first  
goal is simply trying to soak in as  
much as possible, learning as much  
as I can. I am also looking forward  
to meeting with more producers  
and learning how I can help them  
address any concerns they might  
have on their farm.



## Soil Health Academy: Four Founders Round Table

A new video from the Soil Health Academy features a round table discussion with the Academy's four founders: Ray Archuleta, Gabe Brown, Dave Brandt and Dr. Allen Williams. In this thought-provoking discussion, the men talk about regenerative agriculture, the changes in their outlook on the soil over the past couple decades, and how they can enhance life in the soil. Catch the video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/jlOx3FXgWYQ>.



## REORGANIZATION AND STAFFING UPDATE

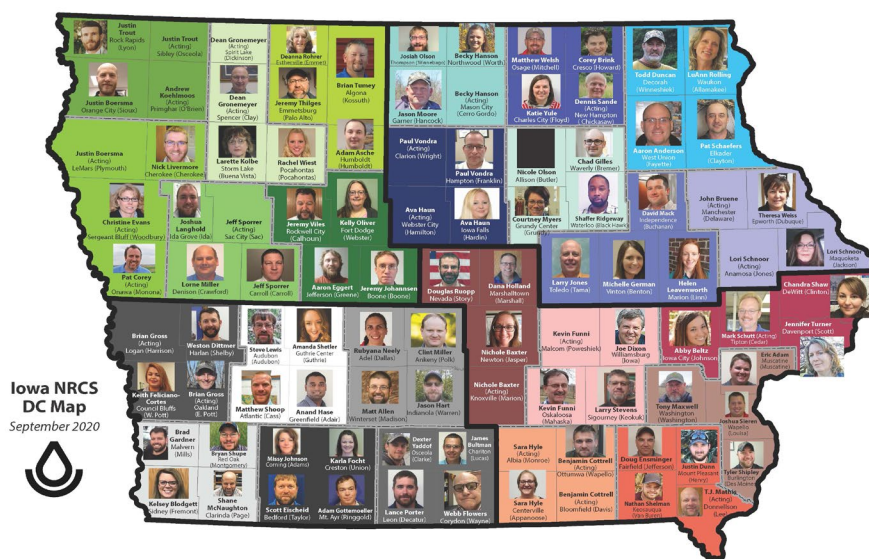
Much progress was made over the summer to increase Iowa NRCS staffing numbers and to continue to fill vacant positions on our new Resource Teams.

Most notably, all 100 of the Direct Hire soil conservationist positions have been filled, with the final five new staff beginning soon.

Currently, 78 out of 100 District Conservationist positions are filled (Click on the map at the right to see a larger pdf version.) and 19 of the 25 Resource Team Leader positions are now filled as of Aug. 25, 2020.

Overall, Iowa NRCS currently has about 490 staff - about 100 more than this time last year. Mission critical positions will continue to be advertised as needed.

The Iowa Personnel Changes report on pages 15-18 identify many of the staffing changes over the last several months. If you have questions



about the reorganization or other staffing, contact your immediate supervisor, the assistant state conservationist for field operations (ASTC-FO) at the Area Office, or Jaia Fischer, assistant state conservationist for management and strategy (ASTC-MS), at the State Office (515-284-4525).



## EARTH TEAM VOLUNTEER SARAH HUBERT'S PHOTOGRAPHY

Northwest Area Easement Specialist Lee Gravel knows talent when he sees it, so he did the smart thing and recruited Sarah Hubert to be an Earth Team Volunteer.

Hubert is a skilled photographer who has helped Gravel and the Northwest Area staff on some projects by taking photographs.

"I was thrilled when Lee mentioned that an Earth Team Volunteer at NRCS was something I could get in on," said Sarah. "I was asked to help with a project taking some photos of progress happening down in Owego and could not wait to get started."

Hubert says her photographs can help NRCS conservation efforts. "I would like to think that inspiration to preserve and conserve would spread with every photograph," she said. "Sometimes the macro photography world can bring objects in view that the naked eye can't see. I feel like when all of the magical forest life is put out there for everyone to appreciate, it can't help but push more effort towards conservation and growth."

Hubert says she has always been drawn to hiking and the forest, but her fascination in finding the smaller details began in the fall of 2017 when she began noticing tiny pops of yellow and reds that caught her eye on the trails.

She says her favorite thing to photograph is a caterpillar. "They are one of the slower moving objects to try and capture and even a singular species can vary so much in color and shape," said Hubert.

Stone Park in Sioux City is her "go-to" location for taking pictures. "It is less than 10 minutes from home and work, so many times I get the opportunity to explore over lunch," she said. "It's also kind of in the sweet spot where range of things usually found north, east, west and south of here overlap in an entomological, mycological melting pot."



**Sarah Hubert**

### SARAH HUBERT PHOTOGRAPHS





## STRESS ON THE FARM: STRATEGIES TO HELP EACH OTHER

With so much going on in the world today, particularly here in Iowa, we should all be looking out for each other.

Mental illness is as common as the flu, but there is no preventative vaccine. So, how do we prepare ourselves to take care of our families, neighbors and customers?

When to be concerned:

- » Lack of social support/lack of friendships
- » Unusual or sudden changes in routines, appearances, hygiene, demeanor or relationship
- » Bizarre or alarming behavior
- » Feelings of hopelessness or depression

How to help:

- » Listen attentively and provide support.
- » Be direct and professional.
- » Acknowledge distress.
- » Be aware of resources.

Engage, offer support, refer a person to helplines and local resources, and never leave a person in distress alone.

**Iowa Concern**, a source of help for Iowans in need, is a talk line and referral service that grew out of the 1980's Farm crisis:

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/iowaconcern/> or 1-800-447-1985

- » Legal - Easy-to-understand facts and where to go to get help.
- » Finance - Tips about family finances, unemployment, and more.
- » Stress - Test your stress and learn about depression, parenting, and wellness.
- » Crisis/Disaster - Resources related to homeland security, illness, and recovery.

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>  
or 1-800-273-8255



We encourage all employees and partners to save the Iowa Concern Hotline and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline numbers into your cell phones, so they are easily accessible if you are with someone who needs help. You may help to save a life!

### Federal Occupational Health (FOH) (NRCS Employees)

Personal and family problems can diminish your health, your happiness, and your ability to be at your best for yourself and your family.

**FOH4YOU.COM** provides valuable information, educational materials, resources, and self-assessments on key behavioral health topics, including depression, anxiety, relationship issues, alcohol abuse, and health and wellness, to help you live healthy and work well. The employee assistance program is offered as a free benefit and services are confidential within the limits of the EAP.

<http://foh4you.com/>  
1-800-222-0364 (888-262-7848 TTY)



## Changes In IOWA NRCS PERSONNEL

| NAME                   | TITLE                    | NATURE OF ACTION | EFFECTIVE DATE | LOCATION        |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Lerum, Brooke          | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 5/24/2020      | Charles City RT |
| Jackson, Halie         | Soil Conservationist     | Excepted Appt.   | 5/24/2020      | Washington      |
| Jensen, John           | Soil Conservationist     | Excepted Appt.   | 5/24/2020      | Atlantic Area   |
| Wasson, Brooke         | Soil Conservationist     | Excepted Appt.   | 5/24/2020      | Fairfield Area  |
| Williams, Delaney      | Soil Conservationist     | Excepted Appt.   | 5/24/2020      | Fairfield Area  |
| Wilson, Haley          | Soil Conservationist     | Excepted Appt.   | 5/24/2020      | Waukon          |
| Hyle, Sara             | District Conservationist | Reassignment     | 5/24/2020      | Centerville     |
| McMichael, Julie       | Soil Scientist           | Reassignment     | 5/24/2020      | Des Moines      |
| Shipley, Connor        | Civil Engineer           | Excepted Appt.   | 5/27/2020      | Atlantic Area   |
| Allen, Nicholas        | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Creston         |
| Arment, Jakob          | Soil Conservation Tech.  | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Spencer RT      |
| Barber, Kevin          | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Spencer RT      |
| Busick, Krista         | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Greenfield      |
| Caltrider, Kelsey      | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Carroll         |
| Castillo, Carolyn      | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Wapello RT      |
| Childs, Dylan          | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Vinton RT       |
| Cole, Amanda           | Soil Conservation Tech.  | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Wapello RT      |
| Couchman, Ty           | Soil Conservation Tech.  | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Chariton RT     |
| Crumrine, Michele      | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Vinton RT       |
| Davelaar, Troy         | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Sibley RT       |
| Davison Roeder, Hannah | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Maquoketa       |
| Dera, Joshua           | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Wapello RT      |
| Dolphin, Collin        | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Epworth RT      |
| Durbin, Hayes          | Soil Conservation Tech.  | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Newton RT       |
| Ewoldt, Brianna        | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Vinton RT       |
| Flowers, Jaliyah       | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Tipton RT       |
| Franzen, Samuel        | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Cresco          |
| Galles, Aubra          | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Fort Dodge RT   |
| Hertling, Desirae      | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Algona RT       |
| Hilgersen, Samuel      | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Elkader         |
| Holt, Jacob            | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Red Oak RT      |

RT = Resource Team

## Changes In IOWA NRCS PERSONNEL

| NAME                       | TITLE                                      | NATURE OF ACTION | EFFECTIVE DATE | LOCATION        |
|----------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Hurtz, Nicholas            | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Audubon RT      |
| Irwin, Michael             | Soil Conservation Tech.                    | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Webster City RT |
| Jacobson, Nathan           | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Spencer RT      |
| Jones, Nichole             | Soil Conservation Tech.                    | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Vinton RT       |
| Kirsch, Brittany           | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Sgt. Bluff RT   |
| Krueger, Rachel            | Soil Conservation Tech.                    | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Williamsburg RT |
| Ludovico, Jonathan         | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Charles City RT |
| Maurer, Sheila             | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Indianola RT    |
| Moore, Austin              | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Mt. Pleasant RT |
| Myrtue, Jacob              | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Denison RT      |
| Neal, Ryan                 | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Red Oak RT      |
| O'Bryan, Taylor            | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Fort Dodge RT   |
| Onstot, Cameron            | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Indianola RT    |
| Rouse, Ricky               | Soil Conservation Tech.                    | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Tipton RT       |
| Santiago-Lopez, Arlene     | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Newton RT       |
| Schwartz, Levi             | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Williamsburg RT |
| Snakenberg, Bryce          | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Mt. Pleasant RT |
| Stevens, Jess              | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Charles City RT |
| Stirtz, Marshal            | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Oakland RT      |
| Summers-Hunerdosse, Jordan | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Chariton RT     |
| Swanson, Joel              | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Williamsburg RT |
| Vogel, Jeffrey             | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Tipton RT       |
| Wilkinson, Bradley         | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Wapello RT      |
| Reichter, Jeffrey          | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Algona RT       |
| Chavez, Reyna              | Soil Conservationist                       | Appointment      | 6/7/2020       | Indianola RT    |
| Craig, Sydney              | Soil Conservationist                       | Promotion        | 6/7/2020       | Chariton RT     |
| Bro, Eric                  | Soil Conservationist                       | Reassignment     | 6/7/2020       | West Union      |
| Brunner, Darcy             | Soil Conservationist                       | Reassignment     | 6/7/2020       | Clarinda        |
| Klimesh, Derrick           | Asst. State Conservationist for Compliance | Reassignment     | 6/7/2020       | Des Moines      |
| Prichard, Randi            | Soil Conservationist                       | Reassignment     | 6/7/2020       | Le Mars         |



## Changes In IOWA NRCS PERSONNEL

| NAME                      | TITLE                    | NATURE OF ACTION | EFFECTIVE DATE | LOCATION        |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Slifka, Kyle              | Soil Conservation Tech.  | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Decorah RT      |
| Benson, Rebekah           | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Sibley RT       |
| Henderson, Dawn           | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Sibley RT       |
| Huddleston, Brendan       | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Mt. Pleasant RT |
| Jones-Hughes, Patrick     | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Garner RT       |
| Klindt, Sara              | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Tipton RT       |
| Klooster, Crystal         | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Garner RT       |
| Lapham, Kevin             | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Decorah         |
| Morrison, Don             | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Ottumwa RT      |
| Ronnebaum, Evan           | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Vinton RT       |
| Showalter, Mallory        | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Indianola RT    |
| Stonebrook, Mankato       | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Webster City RT |
| Swanson, Brett            | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Webster City RT |
| Welch, Andrew             | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Red Oak RT      |
| Wernimont, Marshall       | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Spencer         |
| Willhite, Brett           | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 6/21/2020      | Guthrie Center  |
| Hoefler, Julie            | Soil Conservationist     | Promotion        | 6/21/2020      | Epworth RT      |
| Donohue, Curtis           | District Conservationist | Retirement       | 6/30/2020      | Newton          |
| Anderson, Andrew          | Soil Conservation Tech.  | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Creston RT      |
| Boehm, Madalyn            | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Ottumwa RT      |
| Bornstein, Mikhala        | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Waterloo RT     |
| Carrasquillo Diaz, Noelia | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Newton RT       |
| Eatwell, Quinlan          | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Garner RT       |
| Enger, Jackson            | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Sibley RT       |
| Gathje, Casey             | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Creston RT      |
| Lawler, Abbey             | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Ottumwa RT      |
| Lecuyer, Laura            | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Oakland RT      |
| Santiago Vazquez, Caleb   | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Storm Lake      |
| Baker, John               | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Fort Dodge RT   |
| Bolsinger, Trace          | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | Wapello RT      |

## Changes In IOWA NRCS PERSONNEL

| NAME                    | TITLE                    | NATURE OF ACTION | EFFECTIVE DATE | LOCATION        |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Grove, Mitchell         | Civil Engineer           | Appointment      | 7/5/2020       | West Union Area |
| Benitez Ayala, Elisa    | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/19/2020      | Epworth RT      |
| Ebeling, Trevor         | Soil Conservation Tech.  | Appointment      | 7/19/2020      | Webster City RT |
| Neideigh, Erica         | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/19/2020      | Waterloo RT     |
| Oeltjenbruns, Owen      | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/19/2020      | Denison RT      |
| Pothoven, Andy          | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/19/2020      | Waterloo RT     |
| Velazquez, Yohel        | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 7/19/2020      | Garner RT       |
| Ehley, Ruth             | District Conservationist | Retirement       | 7/31/2020      | Webster City    |
| Grimmius, Shelly        | Executive Assistant      | Retirement       | 7/31/2020      | Des Moines      |
| Parry, Terri            | Soil Conservation Tech.  | Retirement       | 7/31/2020      | Tipton RT       |
| Simon, Kurt             | State Conservationist    | Retirement       | 7/31/2020      | Des Moines      |
| Wichman, Bonnie         | Area Management Asst.    | Retirement       | 7/31/2020      | Sioux City Area |
| Abban, Rosemary         | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 8/2/2020       | Webster City RT |
| Pate, Robert            | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 8/2/2020       | Corydon         |
| Portz, Abbie            | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 8/2/2020       | Carroll         |
| Velez Morales, Cristian | Soil Conservationist     | Appointment      | 8/2/2020       | Charles City RT |
| Debebe, Joseph          | Soil Scientist           | Promotion        | 8/2/2020       | Sgt. Bluff      |
| Jensen, Brian           | Soil Conservationist     | Promotion        | 8/2/2020       | Elkader         |



## Changes In IDALS-DSCWQ PERSONNEL

| NAME               | TITLE                    | NATURE OF ACTION | EFFECTIVE DATE | LOCATION                   |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Palmquist, Mark    | State Conservation Tech. | Retirement       | 5/28/2020      | Red Oak                    |
| Davison, Hannah    | State Conservation Tech. | Resigned         | 6/5/2020       | Maquoketa/<br>Anamosa      |
| Durbin, Hayes      | State Conservation Tech. | Resigned         | 6/5/2020       | Knoxville                  |
| Benson, Rebekah    | State Conservation Tech. | Resigned         | 6/19/2020      | Orange City                |
| Klindt, Sara       | State Conservation Tech. | Resigned         | 6/19/2020      | Muscatine                  |
| Rohrbaugh, Deborah | Conservation Assistant   | Retirement       | 6/25/2020      | Primghar                   |
| Shifflett, Scott   | State Conservation Tech. | Retirement       | 6/26/2020      | Sigourney                  |
| Warner, Rochelle   | Conservation Assistant   | New Hire         | 7/13/2020      | Rock Rapids                |
| Hickey, Marsha     | Conservation Assistant   | New Hire         | 7/14/2020      | Fort Dodge                 |
| Swenson, Kristi    | Conservation Assistant   | Transfer         | 7/24/2020      | Estherville to<br>Primghar |
| McLaren, Shelley   | Conservation Assistant   | New Hire         | 7/27/2020      | Adel                       |
| Steele, Dallas     | State Conservation Tech. | New Hire         | 7/28/2020      | Red Oak                    |
| Holan, Ruth        | Conservation Assistant   | Retirement       | 8/6/2020       | Greenfield                 |
| DeMoss, Amy        | State Conservation Tech. | New Hire         | 8/7/2020       | Maquoketa/<br>Anamosa      |
| White, Riley       | State Conservation Tech. | New Hire         | 8/7/2020       | Orange City                |
| Kelchen, Sarah     | Conservation Assistant   | New Hire         | 8/17/2020      | Manchester                 |