



United States Department of Agriculture

IOWA CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

Summer 2021

WOIDA WRITES BOOK ABOUT IOWA SOILS

PAGE 4

**COVER CROPS PAYING BACK
THROUGH CIG GRANT IN ALLAMAKEE**

PAGES 8-9

NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION SERVICE
www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov



A Monarch Butterfly enjoying milkweed. Photo by Jon Hubbert

WHAT'S INSIDE?

- 3 Message from State Conservationist Jon Hubbert
- 4 Wolda Produces New Book About Iowa's 'Remarkable Soils'
- 5 SWCS Announces Leaders in Conservation Award Winners
- 6-7 Adjoining Wetland Easements Form Wetland Complex
- 8-9 Cover Crop Payback
- 10 Back in the Day: RAGBRAI 2006
- 11 Employee Spotlight: Julie Hoefler
- 12 Employee Spotlight: Jeremy Hollingsworth
- 13 Video Spotlight
- 14 Personnel Changes
- 15 NRCS Golf Tournament Signup Information

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. Past issues can be found at https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ia/people/employees/nrcs142p2_008273/.



United States Department of Agriculture

www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
210 Walnut Street, Room 693
Des Moines, IA 50309
515-284-4769

An equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

a **Message**

from the

State Conservationist



Jon Hubbert,
State Conservationist

A new Administration brings a new set of priorities from the White House. That doesn't mean our general focus on *Helping People Help the Land* changes. In this case, it means targeting some non-traditional customers and promoting practices in a different way.

First, we are going to be hearing more and more about **climate-smart agriculture** on working lands. Though emphasizing climate change mitigation is new for us in the USDA, the practices that help accomplish it are familiar. Soil health, nitrogen stewardship, prescribed grazing, and energy generation and efficiency are practices we know and are comfortable establishing in Iowa.

Secondly, we are asked to work to advance the Administration's goals of ensuring that **equity for**

underserved communities is rooted in all of our activities. Once again, many of you have worked with historically underserved producers and other non-traditional landowners through the years. I am confident we will succeed in this area.

Lastly, the Biden Administration is emphasizing working with urban farmers. Many of our "experienced" staff members may have been involved with urban conservation or backyard conservation, but the Administration is looking more at **urban ag production**. This could be a more challenging area for us, but I encourage you to think outside the box about those who may be producing food in the urban sector. More information will be available soon about ways we can support these producers.

I hope everyone is having a good summer and taking appropriate time off to spend with your families.

Sincerely,
Jon Hubbert, State Conservationist

WOIDA PRODUCES NEW BOOK ABOUT IOWA'S 'REMARKABLE SOILS'



Kathy Woida

Kathy Woida retired as the Iowa NRCS State Geologist in 2019, but she hasn't been retired altogether. She recently wrote a new book, "Iowa's Remarkable Soils: The Story of Our Most Vital Resource and How We Can Save It."

ABOUT THE BOOK

Sometimes called "black gold," Iowa's deep, rich soils are a treasure that formed over thousands of years under the very best of the world's grasslands—the tall-grass prairie. They are diverse and complex, and hold within them a record not only of Iowa's prehistoric past, but also of the changes that took place after settlers came from the east and utterly transformed the land, and the changes taking place today in response to global warming. In language that is scientifically sound but written for the layperson, this book explains the physical and biological makeup of our soils, how they form and change, how they differ geographically, and why they are critically important to our future.

Its soils are what made Iowa a premier agricultural state, both in terms of acres planted and bushels harvested. But in the last hundred years, large-scale intensive agriculture and urban development have severely degraded most of our soils. For decades, Iowa has had the dubious distinction of leading the nation in soil erosion. The water running off fields and lawns—over soils too compacted and degraded to "drink" the rain—carry soil, fertilizers, and pesticides to our streams and lakes. But some innovative Iowans are beginning to repair and regenerate their soils by treating them as the living ecosystem and vast carbon store that they are. To paraphrase Aldo Leopold, they are beginning to see their soils as part of a community to which they and their descendants belong, rather than commodities belonging to them. And they are eagerly spreading the word.

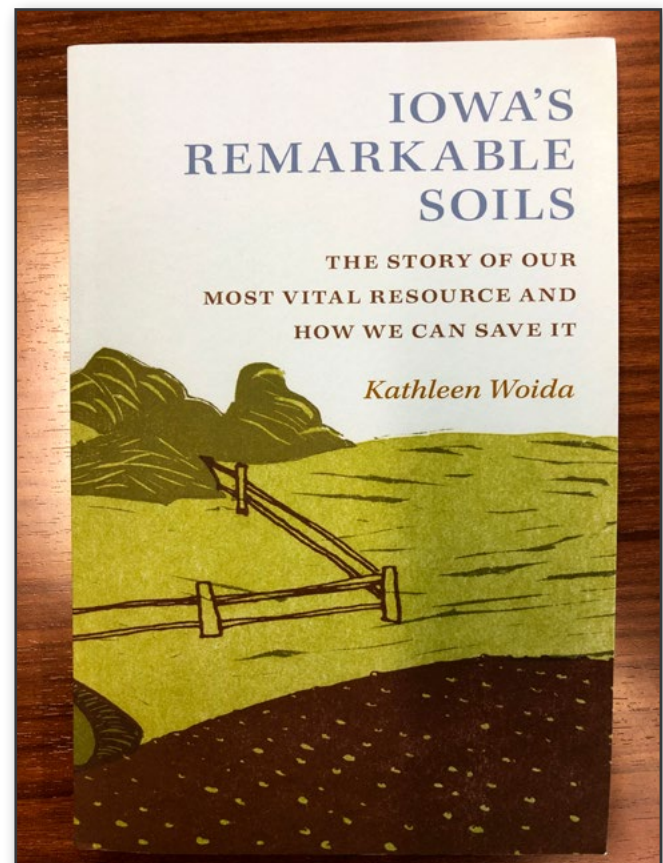
"The book acknowledges the dedicated NRCS soil scientists who mapped Iowa's soils over the years!" said Woida.

ABOUT KATHY WOIDA

Kathy grew up on a diversified sesquicentennial farm in Michigan. After a brief career in Chicago, heeding the calling of the land, she moved to Iowa and completed a PhD in geology at the University of Iowa. Her research into an ancient buried soil in southwestern Iowa led to soils classes at Iowa State University and engendered a deep love for the complex beauty of soils.

In 1993, she joined the Natural Resources Conservation Service, working first in Utah and then New Mexico. She returned with the agency to Iowa in 1999, where she worked with many dedicated people across the state, conducting numerous geologic investigations and evaluating soil erosion and soil health. She retired in 2019 and lives in Des Moines, where she enjoys bicycling, growing her backyard prairie, and occasional teaching.

(kathleen-woida@uiowa.edu)



SWCS ANNOUNCES LEADERS IN CONSERVATION AWARD WINNERS

The Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) announced the Leaders in Conservation Awards in June and several Iowans received high honors.

Awards are presented annually to individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions in advocating and advancing the conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources. All award winners were showcased within the SWCS 2021 International Annual Conference virtual platform during the July 26-28, 2021, event. Additional information about each recognition can also be found at www.swcs.org/awards.

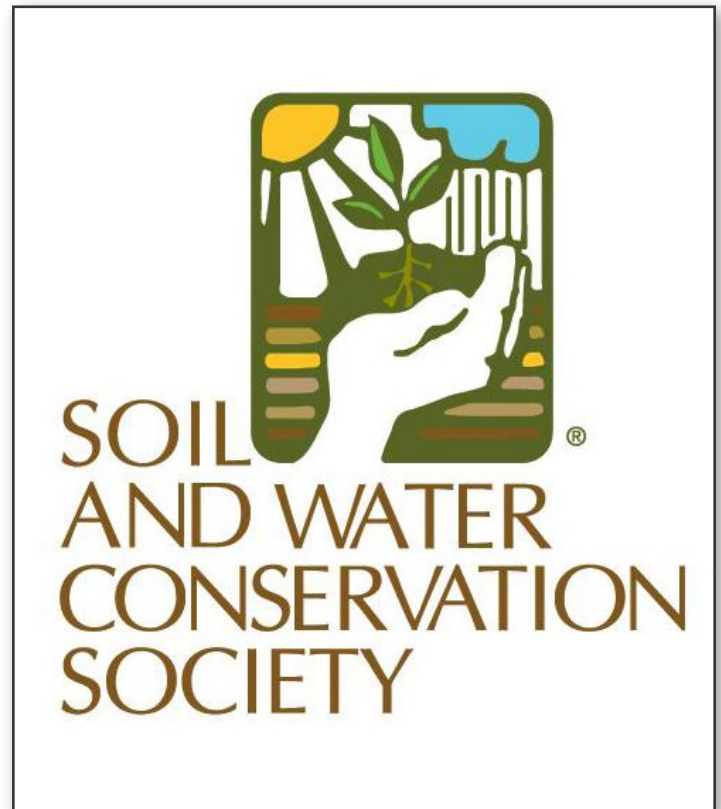
Three Society Fellow Awards were given this year, in recognition of SWCS members who have performed exceptional service in advocating the conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources. Fellowship is an honor bestowed upon the best in the conservation profession. This year's Fellow awardees include:

- » Craig Derickson, Nebraska
- » Don Wysocki, Oregon
- » **Lynn Betts, Iowa**

Betts was a longtime public affairs specialist for Iowa NRCS, retiring in 2005. He has been active in federal retirement, taking photographs, shooting video, and writing stories for several national agricultural magazines. He has also continued to do contract work for NRCS and other organizations, such as SWCS.



Lynn Betts



Other Iowans receiving SWCS awards this year include:

- » **Jean Eells, Conservation Professional of the Year Award:** In recognition of outstanding accomplishments in practicing and advancing the science and art of natural resource conservation.
- » **Catherine DeLong, Chair's Leadership Award:** In recognition of exemplary assistance in helping to carry out the goals and objectives of the Soil and Water Conservation Society.
- » **Mark Rasmussen and Jerry Hatfield, Best Research Paper for Impact and Quality Honorable Mention:** In recognition for the impact and quality of a research paper published in the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* in the previous five years.
- » **J. Arbuckle, Associate Editor Excellence Award:** In recognition of associate editors for their contributions to the success and development of the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*.
- » **Iowa SWCS Chapter, Outstanding Chapter Award:** In recognition for the chapter's success in carrying out its overall program during the past year.

ADJOINING WETLAND EASEMENTS FORM WETLAND COMPLEX



by Jason Johnson, State Public Affairs Specialist

A collaborative effort between rural Winnebago County landowners, local, state, and federal government agencies, and non-profit conservation groups have helped restore nearly 1,000 contiguous acres of prairie and wetlands to form a wetland complex.

The wetland complex includes 14 conservation easements entered into by local landowners voluntarily throughout the past several decades to restore once problematic cropland frequently subject to seasonal ponding into a haven for wildlife and recreational opportunities for private landowners and in some cases, the public.

Three U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) conservation easement programs were utilized to develop the wetlands:

- » Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)
- » Agricultural Conservation Easement Program-Wetland Reserve Easement (ACEP-WRE)
- » Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership (WREP)

Winnebago County is a prime location for the

Vegetation and surface water begin to take shape on Bob Buffington's new easement outside Forest City.

wetland complex. It lies in the Prairie Pothole region that extends from Canada south and east through several states including the north central portion of Iowa. Potholes naturally produce moist soil plants which are valuable sources of forage and cover for waterfowl. Similarly, uplands adjacent to these pothole wetlands provide habitat for nesting and rearing.

Also referred to as the Des Moines Lobe, standing water from farmed potholes is often drained through tiling for row crop production. However, even with the installation of drainage tile and surface ditches, some areas remain too wet to successfully farm year-to-year. For decades, landowners in these situations have sought alternatives to drowning out crops. That's where NRCS conservation easement programs can be a viable alternative.

Overall, Iowa has 1,664 conservation easements that cover about 190,00 acres statewide. Winnebago County has 107 wetland easements – more than any other Iowa county – that cover 8,870 acres.

ADJOINING WETLAND EASEMENTS CONT...

WREP Agreement with DNR

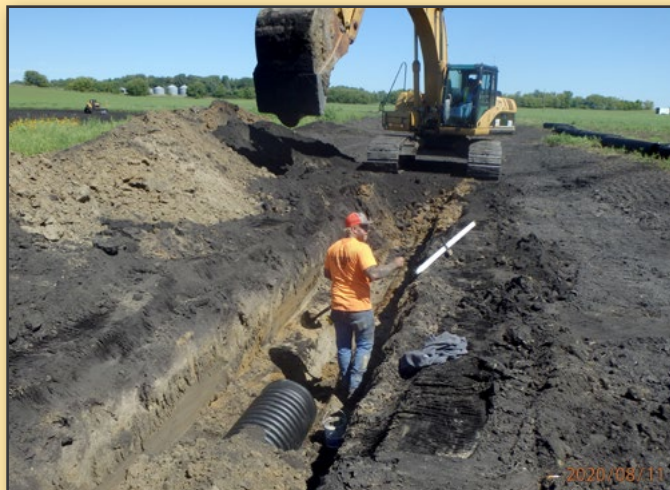
John Paulin, wetland restoration specialist for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Des Moines, says two WREP agreements in collaboration with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2015 and 2017 triggered an expansion of the wetland complex. He says the easements enrolled through WREP filled voids in and around previously enrolled WRP easements now held by the DNR and the Winnebago County Conservation Board, helping to create the nearly 1,000 contiguous acre complex.

The DNR's goal in the WREP agreement was to improve breeding and migration habitat in the area for migratory birds, improve water quality in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, and to reduce flooding to benefit people living in the Cedar River Watershed. Through WREP, NRCS signed an agreement with the Iowa DNR in which the DNR provides 25 percent of the restoration costs and long-term management of the enrolled easements.

Nine of the 14 easements in the wetland complex project were completed during the past seven years, including Bob Buffington's family farm he shares with his three siblings. Buffington's parents purchased the farm near Forest City in 1951. Now in retirement, Buffington and his siblings agreed in 2016 it was the right time to voluntarily enter their land into a



NRCS Civil Engineering Technician J.D. Goemaat talks to Easement owner Bob Buffington about his newly seeded wetland.



Contractors lay tile to move water strategically to a location throughout a Winnebago County wetland easement. Photo by Lynn Kluver

permanent easement.

Through the NRCS administered ACEP-WRE option, Buffington's family receives 100 percent of the easement value for the purchase of the easement. NRCS pays at least 75 percent of the restoration costs.

An added landowner benefit is retaining rights under the easement, including the right to sell the property, the right to private access, and the right to recreational uses such as fishing, hunting, and birdwatching.

Contractors completed the restoration on Buffington's 146-acre easement in Fall 2020. "I never dreamed we would see so much water so soon," he said. "I thought that would be a slow process since we are in a bit of drought."

Buffington says his easement already attracts deer, pheasants, turkeys, ducks, and geese. "Enrolling our land into an easement was one way for our family to get money for our farm now and still have the farm," he said. "It worked out well for our family."

Find more of this story and photos at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ia/newsroom/stories/d8c69344-e7df-4275-aea5-8bc2cdba375f/>.

COVER CROP PAYBACK

by Eric Novey,
Project Coordinator, Allamakee Soil and Water
Conservation District



Do you ever sit and wonder if all the expense that goes into cover crops is worth it? You already know what they are costing you, but do you know what cover crops are giving back to you? With the cost of production continually increasing, thoughts of how to trim expenses take over.

Recent research conducted by the Allamakee SWCD, through the NRCS-funded conservation innovation grant (CIG), shed some light on the subject. The CIG grant involves interseeding cover crops into V4-

However, as much as 82 lbs./ac. of nitrogen and potassium was captured by the cover crop at one plot location.

The average cost of fertilizer inputs has been on the rise again this year, with most forms of nitrogen costing between .40 and .60 cents per unit and potassium around .35 cents per unit. If you seeded a cover crop and achieved the trial average of 21 pounds of nitrogen and potassium, that would be saving you roughly \$10.50/ac in nitrogen and an additional \$7.35/ac in potassium.



Allamakee County farmer Aarik Deering (left) talks about his corn and cover crop trials with project manager Eric Novey, with the Allamakee Soil and Water Conservation District.

V7 corn. Cover crop species interseeded included buckwheat, annual rye grass, cow pea, and brassica. Cover crop nutrient uptake is one data point that was collected from fifteen producers research plots late last fall. Four 1 square foot samples were collected from each plot and submitted to the lab for plant tissue analysis. On average, 21 lbs./ac of nitrogen and potassium were found in the cover crop tissue.

Rick Clark, a Williamsport, Indiana, farmer was recently featured in *No-Till Farmer* magazine for performing a similar experiment on his 12" tall cereal rye. His results showed 82 lbs./ac. of nitrogen, 32 lbs./ac. of phosphorus, and 133 lbs./ac. of potassium. The following year he performed the same experiment but allowed the rye to reach a height of 18 inches. Lab results showed 120 lbs./ac. of nitrogen and 213 lbs./ac. of potassium were captured. Even at the 12" height, the cereal rye would protect roughly \$41/ac. on nitrogen and \$47/ac. of potassium from leaching out of the soil profile.

Both Clark's experiment and the CIG project research shared a common theme. The more growth or biomass cover crops were able to achieve, the more nutrients they captured. Practicing delayed termination of covers capitalizes on this allowing for the maximum nutrient capture. As the cover crops decompose, they provide crops a form of slow release fertilizer. However, it is important to note when practicing delayed termination, captured

COVER CROP PAYBACK CONT...

nutrients may not be readily available to newly planted cash crops.

"The N accumulated in the cover crop biomass will be available to crop absorption after mineralization, which depends on soil moisture and temperature, soil type, and the carbon to nitrogen ratio (C:N ratio) of the biomass" (Gil and Fick, 2001).

According to the Midwest Cover Crop Council, "Cereal rye residues often have high C:N ratios and may immobilize soil N. Because of that starter fertilizer is typically recommended to overcome immobilization, with a rate between 30–50 pounds of actual N per acre."

In addition to capturing nutrients, cover crops also attract soil microbes which play a vital role in making nutrients available for plant uptake. According to Dave Stark, a molecular biologist and biochemist who serves as the president of Holganix, "A plant will spend 30% of its energy to secrete food in the root zone just to attract microbes."

Additionally, if soil microbes become too far out of balance it can cause plants to show nutrient deficiencies even when nutrients are indeed present in the soil. "For example, yellow corn can be caused by too much bacteria in the microbiome. Developing diverse crop rotations and using cover crops promotes the growth and balancing of soil microbes," Stark says.

Costs of implementing cover crops are readily apparent to producers however the benefits can be much harder to realize, especially in the short term. Continual increases in farm input expenses leads to difficult decisions for producers. Please consider what cover crops can give back the next time you look to trim expenses.

Below: Allamakee County farmer Brady Kruger (left) talks to soil and water conservation district employee Eric Novey about his 30" inch corn rows which he planted in late April 2020 no-tilled into a living cereal rye cover crop.



BACK IN THE DAY

RAGBRAI 2006

The Iowa Conservation Team handed out free bananas and education-themed postcards again this year during the Des Moines Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa (RAGBRAI). The partnership of the Iowa Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS), Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS), local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) and NRCS have been teaming up for this event annually since 2003. The exception was last year, when RAGBRAI was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2006, the Iowa Conservation Team set up near Parnell (south of Williamsburg).



Iowa Conservation Team volunteers hand out free bananas at a farm in rural Parnell along the RAGBRAI route in 2006. Pictured (L-R): Lucas Frobish, Tom O'Connor (red), and Corey Brink (light blue).



A young Corey Brink fills up a water jug for RAGBRAI riders. Brink is now the district conservationist in Osage.



Resource Conservationist Kevin Kuhn (left) stopped by the Iowa Conservation Team tent in 2006 as a participant in the ride.

**EMPLOYEE
SPOTLIGHT**

**Julie
Hoefler**



Julie Hoefler

Title: Soil Conservationist
(Epworth)

Education:

B.S., Iowa State University (1991),
Agricultural Education and
Coaching Endorsement

Where did you grow up?

I was raised on a 100-acre dairy
farm in Castalia, Iowa, in Winnesh-
iek County.

Career Background:

- » Summer internship in Allamakee
County, Waukon
- » WAE in Lucas County, Chariton
- » Production Assistant in Dubuque
County, FSA, Epworth
- » WAE in Dubuque County, Ep-
worth
- » Soil Conservation Technician,
Dubuque County, Epworth,
August 2001
- » Soil Conservation Technician,
Delaware County, Manchester,
December 2011
- » Soil Conservation Technician,
Dubuque County, Epworth, May
2020
- » Soil Conservationist, Epworth,
June 2020

**Why did you choose to join
NRCS and become a soil
conservationist?**

For the great people, it's a great

place, and opportunities to
advance. Having been a tech
gave me the knowledge and
background to transition to a soil
conservationist. I also wanted to
work with additional producers.

**What do you enjoy most about
your job?**

Being able to use my teaching
degree to educate farmers and
the future producers and going
to Western Dubuque High School
to give soils, soil health, and
agronomy presentations and
helping the ag program in anyway
I can.

What are your career goals?

I want to continue to help farmers
be good stewards of the land. I
would also like to move closer to
my mother in Winneshiek County
to help her with the farm. I want to
go back to the area I started in to
give back anyway I can, and work
as long as I can and enjoy what I
am doing. Lastly, help educate the
future conservationists by sharing

my knowledge.

**Has anyone strongly influenced
your career?**

First, my dad; and second, Luann
Rolling and the Allamakee field
office. The way they worked
together as a family and a well
oiled machine

What are some of your hobbies?

Substitute teaching, fishing,
hunting, camping, watching
sports, going to concerts and
hanging out with family.

Do you have a family?

I have four children:

- » Devyn (23), graduated from
Iowa State in Dairy Science and
Agronomy. He farms with his
father.
- » Austin (21) farms with his father.
- » Jenna (20) is a junior at UNI. She
plans to be a special education
teacher.
- » Ethan (17) is a freshman at
UNI and wants to be a history
teacher.

**EMPLOYEE
SPOTLIGHT**

**Jeremy (J.D.)
Hollingsworth**

Title: Area Soil Health Specialist
(Fairfield Area Office)

Education:

B.S., Iowa State University (2003),
Agronomy

Career Background:

- » Bounced around between WAE, District Employee, Watershed Coordinator in Jefferson County [Fairfield] (June 2006 until September 2008)
- » Soil Conservation Technician in Jefferson County [Fairfield] (September 2008 until June 2015)
- » Civil Engineering Technician for the SE Area, [Ottumwa] (June 2015 until November 2020)
- » Area Soil Health Specialist for the SE Area, Fairfield Area Office (November 2020 – Present)

Why did you become a Soil Health Specialist?

I was interested in a job in the agricultural field that would allow me to continue to farm with my dad on the side. I worked on a research farm right out of college and it was an interesting job, but it was a lot of long hours during our busy seasons on our family farm. I wasn't able to help as much as I wanted to on our family farm, so when a position became available in our local NRCS office, I decided to make the change.

I really liked the engineering aspect of my jobs as a technician and as a CET. I often said if I had to do things all over again, I would have gone to school for engineering. However, Jason Steele and Jenny Stewart got me interested in soil health back in 2012/2013, so when the Area Soil Health position



J.D. Hollingsworth

opened, I felt like it was time to make another change!

What are your career goals?

If you would have asked me a year ago, I would have told you I was going to be a CET the rest of my career. I would have been completely happy with that. Now, as the Soil Health Specialist for the SE Area, I can see myself in this position the rest of my career. I've learned to always keep an open mind when new opportunities present themselves. Prior to my NRCS career, I had jobs that were just steppingstones along the way, but I learned things that I will carry with me the rest of my life.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

There really isn't much NOT to like about my job. I get to share one of my passions with farmers and fellow coworkers, and I get PAID for it! Jason Steele and I have known each other since we were kids, and as the SE Area Soil Health Specialist, I get to work closely with him almost every day. I think we make a great team getting the soil health message out there.

Anyone who knows me knows that I'm not the most outspoken person, so I do get a little nervous presenting to groups on some of the more technical aspects of soil health, but when anyone asks about the practical aspects and how we utilize soil health principles on our family farm, watch out! I can talk for hours!

Who has been an influence on your career?

My experiences on the farm with my dad got me thinking about conservation. Seeing erosion occurring on our farm got me thinking about the need to change how we did things. Once I started with the NRCS, my passion for conservation grew even more. When I first started with the NRCS, my DC was Dave White and Wilma Johnson was the State Technician in our office at the time. They helped develop my passion for conservation early on in my career. Doug Morningstar (Area Engineer) and Nick Schaefer (Engineer that served as my mentor when I first started with the NRCS) influenced me the most as I became more experienced and focused more on the engineering aspect of conservation. I credit Jason Steele and Jenny Stewart for introducing me to soil health and for helping me start my personal soil health journey. Even though I've been around for 15 years now, I still view Jason as a mentor as I continue down the soil health path.

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy working with my dad on our family farm. Farming has always been an out for me. There are always challenges in farming, but it's hard to beat a beautiful fall day planting cover crops behind the combine listening to a Hawkeye football game! I'm very family oriented, so I like to spend time with wife and kids as well as extended family. I especially enjoy bonfires and hosting our family's annual hayride. I really enjoy college football as well, mainly Iowa Hawkeyes, but I'll watch about any game, even if it's D3.

Tell us about your family.

My wife Becky is a teacher in Fairfield. She helps with the home school assistance program with an emphasis in elementary education. We have 2 kids, Noah (3 years old) and Emma (5 months old [born 2.18.21]). I already have my son started on soil health. There are times when he'll be playing tractors and I'll ask him what he's doing. Sometimes he will say he's planting rye like dad.

SPOTLIGHT VIDEO

'Diving Into Wetlands' Virtual Field Day

Check out the recording of a June 18 virtual field day from Prairie Rivers of Iowa, "[Diving Into Wetlands](#)." The field day was co-sponsored by Heartland Co-op, IDALS, NRCS, and the Story Soil and Water Conservation District.

Speakers include:

- » David Stein, Watersheds and Wildlife Program Coordinator at Prairie Rivers of Iowa
- » Ruth McCabe, Conservation Agronomist at Heartland Co-op
- » Clark Porter, Environmental Specialist at IDALS
- » Shane Wulf, Environmental Specialist with IDALS



SARE: Sustainable Grazing and Pasture Management

["Sustainable Grazing and Pasture Management,"](#) the sixth video in SARE's "What is Sustainable Agriculture?" series shows how farmers can improve soil health and plant vigor by focusing on the health of their pastures and rangelands. This simple animation is a great introduction to the basic principles of sustainable livestock management and is intended to complement more detailed training materials.

The animation illustrates how proper land and animal management are related to productivity, healthy soil and water quality. Producers can improve the success and sustainability of their farms by:

- » Setting long- and short-term goals
- » Taking inventory of grazing resources
- » Deciding on an optimum stocking rate
- » Creating a grazing schedule
- » Rotating animal grazing
- » Monitoring pasture health



"Sustainable Grazing and Pasture Management" is now available for viewing and sharing at www.sare.org and on YouTube. Farmers, ranchers, educators and other agricultural professionals may download the video and/or embed it without modification into websites or other fair use educational presentations. This video series was produced through a collaboration of the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program and Pixeldust Studios.

Changes In IOWA NRCS PERSONNEL

NAME	TITLE	NATURE OF ACTION	EFFECTIVE DATE	LOCATION
Cope, Margaret	Resource Team Leader	Retirement	4/30/21	Ottumwa RT
Baker, John Tyler	Soil Conservationist	Resignation	5/21/21	Fort Dodge RT
Hulstein, Ashilyn	Student Trainee	Appointment	5/23/21	Clarinda
Strauser, Carly	Student Trainee	Appointment	5/23/21	Greenfield
Waltz, Mackenzie	Student Trainee	Appointment	5/23/21	Orange City
Wegmann, Zachary	Student Trainee	Appointment	5/23/21	Elkader
Willhite, Brett	Soil Conservationist	Resignation	5/28/21	Guthrie Center
Schwalbe, Lori	Soil Conservationist	Retirement	5/31/21	Chariton RT
Snakenberg, Bryce	Soil Conservationist	Resignation	6/4/21	Fairfield
Fischer, Amy	Asst. State Conservationist (Field Operations)	Promotion	6/20/21	Fairfield Area Office
Streeter, Ricky	Soil Conservation Technician	Retirement	6/30/21	Indianola RT
Stonebrook, Mankato	Soil Conservationist	Resignation	7/2/21	Webster City RT
Meyer, Bill	District Conservationist	Reassignment	7/4/21	Independence

RT = Resource Team

Changes In IDALS-DSCWQ PERSONNEL

NAME	TITLE	NATURE OF ACTION	EFFECTIVE DATE	LOCATION
Riggins, Crystal	Conservation Assistant	Resignation	4/22/21	Story SWCD
Staebler, Jennifer	Conservation Assistant	New Hire	5/17/21	Emmet SWCD
Uhl, Jayme	Conservation Assistant	Resignation	6/2/21	Woodbury SWCD
Sunderman, Chenoa	Conservation Assistant	New Hire	6/25/21	Mills SWCD
Erbes, Jennifer	Conservation Assistant	New Hire	6/28/21	Adair SWCD
Shehan, Leanne	State Conservation Tech.	New Hire	6/28/21	Wapello SWCD
Mathes, Chanse	State Conservation Tech.	New Hire	7/9/21	Clarke/Decatur SWCD
Theesfeld, Grant	Conservation Assistant	Appointment	7/16/21	Calhoun/Webster SWCD
Stevens, Robbi	Conservation Assistant	Retirement	7/21/21	Franklin SWCD
Hullinger, Debby	Conservation Assistant	Transfer	7/23/21	Decatur to Woodbury SWCD
Noble, Catherine	Conservation Assistant	New Hire	7/26/21	Story SWCD
VanDooren, Katie	Environmental Spec.	Resignation	7/26/21	Mines & Minerals Div.

2021 Iowa NRCS Golf Tournament



When: Friday, August 27, 2021 (9 a.m. Shotgun Start)

Where: Fox Ridge Golf Club, 355 Country Club Lane, Dike, Iowa

Format: 2-Person Best Shot
(Open to NRCS staff, conservation partners, friends and family)

Cost: \$55 Per Player
(Includes 18 holes of golf, cart, food and drink, and prizes!)

Hosts: Jason Johnson, NRCS State Public Affairs Specialist
(jason.r.johnson@usda.gov)
Jim Allen, NRCS Retiree (jim.allen@cfu.net)

2021 Iowa NRCS Golf Tournament Registration

Please return this form by Wednesday, Aug. 18, with a check payable to:
Jason Johnson (Venmo @Jason-Johnson-238)
8575 Century Drive
West Des Moines, IA 50266

Name: _____ **Golf Partner:** _____

Twosome you would like to play with? _____