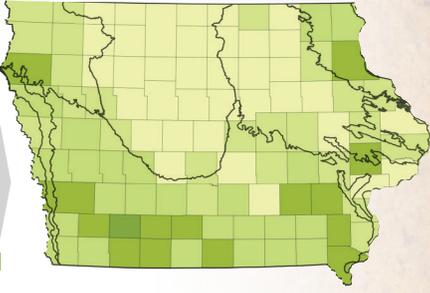




HOW COST SHARE WORKS

1 Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship (IDALS) receives appropriation from legislature.

Diverse landforms across Iowa directly affect the cost and type of conservation practice best for each field. Therefore, location affects the amount of funding a county needs and receives.



2 Funds are distributed to Iowa's 100 SWCDs based on land use, soil erodibility and landowner demand.

WHAT'S A SWCD?

A SWCD is a Soil & Water Conservation District, made up of State, District, and Federal staff, plus 5 Elected Commissioners.

State staff in some field offices include:

TECHNICIANS:
Work with landowners/contractors. Provide technical support, develop surveys, create layout, and design of conservation practices.

SECRETARIES:
Work with commissioners and landowners. Provide administrative support for district activities and process cost share applications and claims.



Local staff work directly with landowners.

3 Then, farmers and landowners apply for cost share by visiting their local SWCDs.



Applications are accepted year round.
Cost share can be used for both management and permanent practices.

4 The five Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners approve applications in each SWCD.

WHAT'S A Commissioner?

someone elected to promote conservation in their county, helps administer state and federal programs, directs activities such as field days, educational meetings, contests, and award programs.



5 Next, farmers hire a local contractor and get to work! Conservation practice plans are developed by staff working with landowners and local contractors.

Modern survey and design tools help in the design, customizing practices for each field.

6 Practices are installed and the soil conservation and water quality benefits begin!

Investing in soil conservation not only improves productivity on the farm by keeping soil in our fields, it also helps keep soil and nutrients out of the water.

PRACTICE EXAMPLES:



TERRACES



MANAGEMENT (COVER CROPS)



GRASSED WATERWAY



WATER AND SEDIMENT CONTROL BASIN



GRADE STABILIZATION