

WINNEBAGO COUNTY SWCD

PROGRAM MEASUREMENT DATA - FISCAL YEAR 2011

ACRES BENEFITTED THROUGH SWCD & USDA-NRCS/FSA PROGRAMS

Active Cropland Acres – 179,200 (approximately **100,000** acres considered “Highly Erodible Land”)

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) –

- Seeds down and stabilizes highly erodible land and Field Borders providing habitat; establishes filter strips along creeks and wetlands filtering nutrients from farmland runoff; and wetland restoration storing flood waters
- Several waterway projects addressing gully erosion are also enrolled in the program
- **836** total contracts covering **9,300+** acres, which has remained constant with new contracts replacing expiring ones
- Manage mid-management practices required including: burning, inter-seeding, light disking
- Over **\$1,000,000** in federal dollars brought into the County thru annual cropland payments, plus seeding costs, mid-management costs, etc.

Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) – continue to monitor **6** parcels with **1,631** acres enrolled in the program

- **\$1,030,398** in payments made for easement purchases and restoration
- **3 new applications were evaluated totaling 736 acres**

Conservation Security Program (CSP) – Annual monitoring of **5** older contracts covering **3,500** acres & **6** more recent contracts covering **3,600** acres with **\$110,000** in annual payments

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) - Restoration of degraded woodland and pastureland

- Continue to administer **16** contracts on over **560** acres, with federal funding of approximately **\$95,000** in cost-share

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) – Various programs for soil and water quality improvements

- 2 CNMP (Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan) - **\$7,500**
- 1 Forestry Management Plan - **\$3,859**
- Total applications/interest for these programs was higher, but not all participants followed thru with the application process, did not want to follow contract requirements, or did not want meet eligibility requirements.

Conservation Practices Program (CPP) State Cost-share program for conservation practices—provides 60% cost share

- FY11 – over **\$27,500** in cost-share for **6** waterway construction projects – Over **1000** tons of soil saved from the reduction of gully erosion and improvements made to surrounding cropland, plus the reduction in phosphorus and nitrogen loading is surface waters; and sealing of **1** abandoned wells - protection of groundwater resources

FISCAL YEAR 2011 CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

Workshops, Tours, & Meetings

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Illinois Envirothon – LUC 16 - Northeast & LUC 1 - Northwest events - Youth Groundwater Festival - Illinois Extension Master Naturalist - Ogle County Outdoor Stewardship Days | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erosion & Sediment Control Workshops (2) - Municipal/Government EPA MS4 workshop - Natural Lands Institute – Land Ethics Conservation Camp - Four Rivers Environmental Coalition - River Gathering - County Watershed Improvement workshops/tours |
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Other Group and Organization Participation

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AISWCD Community Assistance Committee - Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois - Community Assistance committee (NE Illinois) - Cherry Valley Library Public Programs - Environmental Educators Association of Illinois - Four Rivers Environmental Coalition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Executive Committee - Illinois Environmental Protection Agency - Illinois Urban Manual Update Committee - Kishwaukee River Ecosystem Partnership - Natural Lands Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Science Advisory Committee ▪ Education Committee - Northern Illinois Groundwater Protection Planning Committee (Board Member) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pheasants Forever – Winnebago County Chapter - Rockford Park District - Sugar/Pecatonica River Ecosystem Partnership - Severson Dells - University of IL – Cooperative Extension Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ II Extension Master Gardeners & Master Naturalist - Upper Rock River Ecosystem Partnership - US Fish and Wildlife Service - Winnebago County Planning Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2030 Land Use Plan - Winnebago County Health Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water Testing drop-off location - Winn. Co Watershed Improvement Committee - Winnebago – Boone Co Greenways planning Com. - Winnebago County Forest Preserve District |
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