



Crawford County Land Conservation Department

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2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Conservation Office Staff



Back row: Travis Bunting, LCD Conservation Specialist, David Troester, LCD County Conservationist, Adam Achenbach, NRCS Conservation Technician.
Seated: Carol Wolcott, LCD Clerk, Karyl Fritsche, NRCS District Conservationist.

Land Conservation Committee Members



Back row: Wade Dull, Buzz Esser (LCC Chair), David Olson, Stephen Kvigne
Seated: Harriet Behar

Land Conservation Dept. Activities Programs:

- Crawford County Farmland Preservation
- Crawford County PL566 Dam Maintenance
- Elementary School and Outdoor Classroom Education
- WDATCP Nonpoint Water Quality
- Animal Waste Storage Ordinance Oversight
- USDA Conservation Reserve (Enhanced)
- Crawford County Tree Planting
- DATCP/LWRM County Cost Share
- Snowmobile Trail cost-share
- Wildlife Damage Program – Deer Donation Program
- Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Program
- Ag Clean Sweep and E-Recycling Event
- Cover Crop Program

Memberships:

- Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association
- National Association of Land Conservation Districts
- Southwest Badger Resource Conservation and
- Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission
- PL-566 Watershed Coalition

Other Activities:

- WLWCA Conservation Speaking
- WLWCA Poster Contest
- Map Making/ GIS Services
- Private Land Prairie Tour
- Youth Conservation Day
- Spring Tree Sales
- County Fair Booth
- Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring
- LiDAR Imaging

Land Conservation Committee 2014 Award Winners

Wildlife Conservation

Jim & Joyce Czajkowski

Educator

Ed Ruff

Farm Family of the Year

The Wedeberg Family

Conservation Forestry

Bill & Melissa Hendrickson

Water Quality

Brian & Vicki Campbell

Conservation Legacy

Rick Lange

Cooperating Agencies

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- University of Wisconsin Extension
- Valley Stewardship Network
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)
- Wisconsin Department of Ag, Trade, and consumer Protection (DATCP)
- Crawford County Planning and Zoning Department
- Crawford County Highway Department
- All Crawford County School Districts
- Southwest Badger RC&D
- US Fish and Wildlife Service



At the Crawford County Youth Conservation Day, over 250 area students learned about a wide variety of topics, including stream life.

The 2014 Ag Clean Sweep and Electronics Recycling event was a major success. Over 36,000 pounds of electronics were dropped off and almost 8,000 pounds of hazardous chemicals were safely collected.



Farmland Preservation Program

The Wisconsin Working Lands Initiative was passed as a part of the state's 2009 – 2010 budget process. Since that time, the Crawford County LCD has worked to document close to 50 farms as being in compliance with the new state conservation standards, and thus eligible to claim the FPP tax credit. The biggest component of this program is the need to have an active Nutrient Management Plan that gives manure and fertilizer recommendations based upon current soil samples.

Aerial Cover Crop Seeding Project

In the fall of 2014, the Crawford County LCD partnered with the local NRCS office on a cover crop seeding project. NRCS provided EQIP cost-share dollars to producers for the establishment of cover crops. The LCD took this one step further by contracting with Ag-Tech Air, an aerial seeding firm out of northwest Illinois. With the NRCS cost-share dollars, 1773 acres were seeding into cover crops at a minimal cost to producers. Seeding mixes were either a winter cereal rye or an oats and radish mix.

Cover crops reduce soil erosion and nutrient runoff, improve soil health, and provide forage opportunities for producers with livestock.

