



September 8, 2016

Dear Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners,

If we missed you at the 2016 Iowa Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, here were some of the highlights!

▪ **335 Attendees**

- 156 Commissioners and Assistants represented 78 SWCDs
- 90% of attendees who went indicated that it was a good experience

▪ **28 Speakers**

- Farmers, Commissioners, Commodity Groups, District Employees, and Representatives from Government Agencies, Universities, Not for Profit Organizations and the Private Sector shared local, state and national information with attendees

▪ **16 Exhibits + 5 Watershed Projects on Display**

- Indoor exhibits by Government Agencies, Universities, Not for Profit Organizations and the Private Sector

▪ **9 Resolutions Passed**

- Deny State Cost Share to Farmers who Fall Till Soybean Stubble
- Water Quality Initiative Cost Share for Fall Application of Triple Superphosphate
- Limiting CRP Enrollment of Entire Farm
- CRP Re-Enrollment Payment Limits
- Allow Winter Grazing of Stockpiled Forages as an Option for Managed Grazing on CRP
- Incidental Grazing for Livestock Producers
- Reduced "T" Levels
- Require Conservation Compliance on Previous Crossable Gullies
- Conservation Districts of Iowa 2017 Proposed Policy Statement Handbook Changes

- **5 State Winning Conservation Posters**
  - State winning posters will be entered into the national poster contest for consideration for a national award and displayed at the 2017 NACD Annual Meeting
  
- **25 Individuals, Districts and Businesses Recognized for their Contributions to Conservation**
  
- **\$10,135 Generated for the CDI Scholarship Fund from Individual, District and Business Contributions to the Silent and Live Auctions**
  
- **Conference Photos are Available at [www.flickr.com/photos/cdiowa/albums](http://www.flickr.com/photos/cdiowa/albums) and Conference Presentations are Available at [www.cdiowa.org](http://www.cdiowa.org)**

Special Thanks to our Annual Conference Supporters: **Iowa's Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Commissioners** for attending and contributing, to **Agri Drain and Practical Farmers of Iowa** for their GENEROUS sponsorship and contribution to the program and exhibit area, to **Prairie Meadows** for hosting us, to **Jeff and Dylan Webb** for putting on a GREAT live auction and to the **Conference Planning Committee** for their efforts over the last 6 months. The conference planning committee is made up of **CDI Board & Staff, SSSC, IDALS-DSCWQ and NRCS.**

Sincerely,

*Conservation Districts of Iowa & the State Soil Conservation Committee*