

Conservation Districts of Iowa

Informing, educating and leading Iowans through our local soil and water conservation districts to conserve our natural resources

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Book your hotel room(s) today!

Iowa Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners 69th Annual Conference
September 1 & 2, 2015 – Prairie Meadows Conference Center, Altoona

Reserve a room at Prairie Meadows by **August 7** to get the \$93 rate. Call **515.957.3000** and ask for the **CONSERVATION DISTRICTS OF IOWA** block, or reserve on-line at www.prairiemeadows.com and use the group code **08312015CON**.

If your plans change, you **MUST** cancel your room reservation **by 4pm the day of check in** or your District will have to pay for your room if you do not cancel the reservation. Be sure and book two nights if you choose to arrive the night prior to the start of the conference.

2015 Summer Tour in Northeast Iowa

This year, Conservation Districts of Iowa, State Soil Conservation Committee and others toured Northeast Iowa during the Annual Summer Tour, June 23rd. The tour included a bioreactor; urban conservation practices at the University of Northern Iowa, the Wesley Foundation and in the City of Cedar Falls and agricultural practices in Delaware County. Forestry information was delivered at Backbone State Park, a visit to Edgewood Locker was made and Kendrick Forest Projects was toured.

The group also enjoyed lunch from Edgewood Locker at Iowa's first state park and dinner at Lost Island Water Park.



INITIATIVES OF INTEREST:

Field Days!

Field days are in full swing across Iowa. These events offer a unique opportunity to see conservation in action and fully comprehend the details of implementing new practices and methods.

In Iowa, we are lucky to have Practical Farmers of Iowa and Iowa Learning Farms. Both organizations offer numerous field days on a variety of topics from cover crops to specialty crops and pollinators to prairie!

How can Commissioners and Districts become involved in field days?

- ⌘ **Attend!** Simply attending is a great way to garner information to use on your farm and share with others.
- ⌘ **Promote!** Share field day information with those in your county.
- ⌘ **Offer to host a future field day!** You can become a member of Practical Farmers of Iowa or an Iowa Learning Farms farmer partner and host a day on your farm.



At the Lynch family field day July of last year, attendees take a stroll into one of the Lynch family's soybean fields in search of any remaining cereal rye cover crop residue. The rye was knee-high the day soybeans were planted and scarcely any residue could be found. A sign of good soil health!

Photo from PFI Facebook Page.

Dates of Importance

July 1- September 30, 2015

July 1: Most conservation awards due

July 9: Farm Bill XIII Applications due

July 10: Pre conference resolution voting ballots due

July 10-July 13: NACD Summer Board Meeting, Conservation Forum and Conservation Tour, Spokane, WA

July 15: Farm Bill Period 9 Report Due

August 7: Reserve your hotel room under the "Conservation Districts of Iowa" block for the 69th Annual Conference & Business Meeting, Prairie Meadows Conference Center, Altoona

August 31-September 2: CDI/SSCC Joint Meeting, CDI Board Meeting & Iowa Soil and Water Conservation Districts 69th Annual Conference & Business Meeting, Prairie Meadows Conference Center, Altoona

Next CDI Bulletin, October 1, 2015

Find the Practical Farmers of Iowa Field Day Guide at,
www.practicalfarmers.org/news-events/events/field-days/

Find Iowa Learning Farms field days at,
www.extension.iastate.edu/ilf/page/events