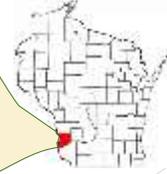




Crawford County Background

- ▶ Founded in 1818
- ▶ Population: 16,739
- ▶ Size: 586 sq. miles
- ▶ Roughly 50% agriculture, 50% forested



LCC and LCD

- ▶ LCD Staff
 - ▶ County Conservationist
 - ▶ David Troester
 - ▶ Conservation Specialist
 - ▶ Travis Baasing
 - ▶ 1/2 Time Administrative Assistant
 - ▶ Carol Wolcott
- ▶ LCC Members
 - ▶ Henry Esser, Chairman, Co. Board Member
 - ▶ David Olson, Co. Board Member
 - ▶ Wade Dull, Co. Board Member
 - ▶ Don Dudenbostel, FSA Committee Rep
 - ▶ Harriet Behar, Citizen Member

CRAWFORD COUNTY FACTOIDS

- ▶ Agricultural snapshot
 - ▶ 1,105 active farms
 - ▶ 8,400 dairy cows, 35,500 head of cattle
 - ▶ 1 Dairy operation over 500 animal units
 - ▶ 1 Hog farm over 1,000 animal units
- ▶ Water Resources
 - ▶ Bordered by the Mississippi River to the west, Wisconsin River to the south, also Kickapoo River
 - ▶ 51 trout streams totaling 294 miles
 - ▶ DNR has designate 8 Exceptional Resource Waters

CRAWFORD COUNTY FACTOIDS

- ▶ County ordinances
 - ▶ Animal Waste Storage Permit
 - ▶ Livestock Facility Siting Permit
 - ▶ Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Permit
- ▶ LCD Staff
 - ▶ 1 County Conservationist
 - ▶ 1 Conservation Specialist
 - ▶ .5 Administrative Assistant



Conservation Issues

- ▶ Soil Erosion
 - ▶ Majority of farms have HEL designation
 - ▶ Reduced numbers of livestock and associated pasture and hay
 - ▶ Increased acres of corn and soybeans
- ▶ Water Quality
 - ▶ Steep slopes of the driftless region have a higher potential for surface runoff
 - ▶ High intensity storms have led to increased surface water degradation
 - ▶ Karst topography



Farmland Preservation Program

- ▶ 2 townships, 1 village with FPP Zoning
- ▶ Currently updating our Farmland Preservation Plan
- ▶ 22 active FPP Agreements
- ▶ 66 COC's issued



Nutrient Management Planning

- ▶ Crawford County acreage covered by NMR, according to DATCP annual NMP Reports...
 - ▶ 2011 <1%
 - ▶ 2015 11%
- ▶ \$43,656 SEG funding spent
 - ▶ 2,232 acres



2011-2015 Bond Cost-Share Projects

- ▶ 27 Well Decommissionings
 - ▶ \$25,800
- ▶ 18 Streambank Restorations
 - ▶ \$86,800
- ▶ 5 Grade Stabilizations
 - ▶ \$29,200
- ▶ 3 Access Roads
 - ▶ \$12,500
- ▶ 1 Manure Storage Closing
 - ▶ \$5,600
- ▶ 3 Waterways
 - ▶ \$16,500



2011-2015 Bond Cost-Share Projects

- ▶ 18 Streambank Stabilization
 - ▶ \$86,800
- ▶ 3,422 feet of streambank stabilized!!



Clean Sweep Event

- ▶ 2013
 - ▶ 34,453 lbs e-waste
 - ▶ 2,159 lbs flammable liquids
- ▶ 2014
 - ▶ 36,588 lbs e-waste
 - ▶ 1,047 lbs poisonous liquids
- ▶ 2015
 - ▶ 75,565 lbs e-waste
 - ▶ 1,509 fluorescent bulbs



****Very important event that generates a lot of good publicity for our department, and conservation in general**

2012- The Year of Frac Sand

- ▶ County-wide moratorium
- ▶ Frac Sand Study Committee
- ▶ Worked with towns and villages to create a Licensing Ordinance template
- ▶ 1 frac sand mine- Bridgeport Twsp
- ▶ 1 rail load-out facility- City of PDC
- ▶ Spent almost 25% of my time on NMM that year



Aerial Cover Crop Seeding Project 2014, 2015, 2016



Planning

- ▶ Gauging producer interest
 - ▶ Introductory outreach meeting held late June 2014
 - ▶ Outreach to some of the larger individual producers
- ▶ Project feasibility
 - ▶ Can the plane successfully apply to fields in rugged bluff country?
 - ▶ How many acres are necessary to justify the project
 - ▶ Contractor availability/ interest
- ▶ Contractor requirements for such a project
 - ▶ GIS, acres, seeding mixes and rates



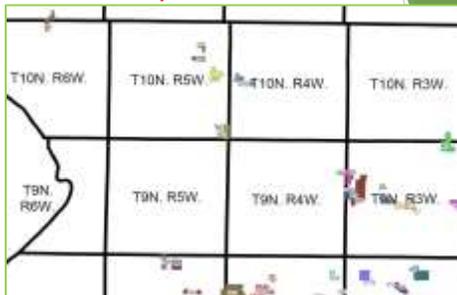
Feasibility

- ▶ Concluded that aerial seeding could be conducted in SW WI
 - ▶ Larger fields, cannot logistically apply to strips
 - ▶ -1,500 acres necessary to draw interest from contractors
 - ▶ Several firms express interest in bidding for the project
- ▶ Unknown factor at this time was still the expenses
 - ▶ Could this be done for a reasonable cost to producers?

Project prep-work

- ▶ Determine seed mix options and seeding rates
 - ▶ Solicited suggestions from producers
 - ▶ Needed to limit options to 2 or 3 seed mixes
 - ▶ Seeding dates determined
- ▶ Application process
 - ▶ Used to determine which producers are interested and for how many acres
 - ▶ We stated that if project costs would be more than \$10/ acre out of pocket costs for producers, project would not move forward
 - ▶ Develop a mapping database for each producer, which farms/ fields they want seeded, and to which seed mix

Example of Field Locations



Bidding Process

- ▶ Solicit bids from approximately 8 different aerial seeding companies within a reasonable distance to Crawford County
 - ▶ We send them the mapping database, including GIS shapefiles for the entire project
- ▶ Once bids are received, LCC selects the aerial seeding company
 - ▶ LCC also determines what our administrative fee will be
- ▶ Contracts are then signed with each producer
 - ▶ If a producer's per acre cost is more than their EQIP cost-share, the additional money is collected from them at that time
 - ▶ NRCS Assignment of Payment form deposits producers' cost-share to County's account

Project Takes Flight



Project Takes Flight



Project Takes Flight



Project Takes Flight



Project Takes Flight



Project Summary

- ▶ 2014 Totals
 - ▶ 8 Producers
 - ▶ 1,773 acres
- ▶ 2015 Totals
 - ▶ 12 Producers
 - ▶ 2,223 acres
- ▶ 2016 Totals
 - ▶ 17 Producers
 - ▶ 3,210 acres



Youth Outreach



2015 Speaking Contest



2014 State Poster Contest winner

2016-2025 Goals

- ▶ **Soil Erosion**
 - ▶ Goal 1: Maintain soil erosion on all cropland to "T".
 - ▶ Goal 2: Reduce erosion on land other than cropland.
 - ▶ Goal 3: Increase money available for cost sharing to install practices to prevent erosion.
- ▶ **Water Resources**
 - ▶ Goal 1: Preserve, protect and enhance surface water, groundwater and riparian areas.
 - ▶ Goal 2: Implement Waters Strategy outlined in Section 4 of this plan.
 - ▶ Goal 3: Increase funding for cost-sharing and administration projects.
- ▶ **Land Use Planning**
 - ▶ Goal 1: Work with the towns on the implementation of their comprehensive plans.
 - ▶ Goal 2: Promote and support local land use planning to protect the natural resources of the county.
 - ▶ Goal 3: Improve and protect the quality of natural resources by the judicious and economic use of nutrients.
- ▶ **Land Management**
 - ▶ Goal 1: Encourage sustainable forestry practices that respect our unique ecosystems.
 - ▶ Goal 2: Protect and enhance important wildlife habitat areas.
 - ▶ Goal 3: Limit wildlife damage to crops.
- ▶ **Waste Disposal**
 - ▶ Goal 1: Provide hazardous waste recycling/disposal opportunities.



Agricultural Performance Standards Strategy

- ▶ **Priority Farms**
 - ▶ Farmland Preservation Zoned farms
 - ▶ Farmland Preservation Agreements
 - ▶ Farms with formal complaints filed
 - ▶ Farms located in targeted watersheds (or with impaired waters)
 - ▶ Cropland and livestock facilities located in WQMA's



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 - ▶ Cropland and livestock facilities located in WQMA's
- ▶ **FPP Farms**
 - ▶ Visit all farms once every 4 years
 - ▶ Issue COC's and NON's when necessary



2016-2025 Projects

- ▶ Improve NR151 compliance
- ▶ Continue to promote Cover Crops!
- ▶ Increase NMP acres
- ▶ Adaptive Management
- ▶ Mississippi River Basin Initiative
 - ▶ 2016-2018 EQIP Projects



Questions??



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