



# Conservation Districts of Iowa

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## Iowa Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Commissioners

- ❖ 100 SWCD
- ❖ 500 SWCD Commissioners plus Assistant Commissioners

SWCD Commissioners are at a minimum required to hold monthly meetings to uphold their oath of office (Iowa Code 161a.7). By law, they cannot receive compensation for services, but are entitled to receive actual expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of their duties (Iowa Code 161.6).

### The Statutory Powers include but are not limited to:

- Make determinations in soil loss complaints
- Sue and be sued, enter into contracts and make rules
- Develop and publish comprehensive resource conservation plans for the control and prevention of soil erosion, floodwater and sediment damages
- Develop soil and water conservation resource plans for the districts

### They are expected to lead or participate in:

- Local Work Groups
- Watershed groups/councils
- RC&D meetings
- Many others

### They are strongly advised to attend learning opportunities:

- ✓ Annual Conference (2-3 day meeting)
- ✓ Spring Regional Development Module and Meeting
- ✓ Fall Regional Meeting
- ✓ New Commissioner Orientation
- ✓ Other educational events such as the Water Summits and Ag & Environment Conference



*Iowa's Prairie Rose*

### They promote conservation efforts through:

- One-on one contacts
- Newsletters
- Annual Reports
- Participation in local events and meetings
- Letters and mailings

**TOTAL**  
**SWCD EXPENSES = \$400,000 ANNUALLY**  
**Support the Locally Led Process**