

**Madison County Soil Conservation District**  
**Jackson, Tennessee**  
**Supervisors' Annual Report**  
**1961**

The year 1961 saw the realization in many ways of benefits from the long range program of work which the Madison County Soil Conservation District has attempted over the past few years. In many ways we were heartened by the accomplishments, yet in other ways we realize there is a great need for vision and planning if our great heritage of strong soils and fruitful production are to be maintained.

In looking back over the year, we cannot but be proudly impressed with the overall organized efforts and accomplishments of our watershed programs. This year saw the fifth and final flood water retarding structure completed in the Johnson Creek watershed. The results have been evidenced by the fact that flooding has not occurred in the lower reaches of the creek in the year 1961. Profitable crops have been grown on land that heretofore flooding hazards have prevented the risk of planting. Of the 229 landowners in the watershed, 221 are cooperators with 191 having active basic farm conservation plans.

Once again Madison County officials have shown their interest in, and willingness to aid Soil Conservation in the County by furnishing labor for the sodding of roadsides throughout the Johnson Creek Watershed. With the watershed Directors furnishing materials and fertilizer, and with SCS personnel supervising the work, about 15 miles of roadside were sodded during the year.

There remains to be carried out channel improvement slated for early 1962 and this project will be complete.

In the Meridian Creek watershed, the second flood water retarding structure was built, 97 acres of trees were set, and approximately 7 miles of roadside was sodded as needed.

Some channel work has been done between the completed water retarding structures and the overall channel work is scheduled for completion in 1962 along with completion of the third water retarding structure. 113 farmers are cooperators in the program with 103 active basic conservation plans.

The discouraging part of the program might well be mentioned as the tendency to overlook sound conservation measures on the part of many farmers in an effort to keep pace with the ever increasing mechanization of farm operations. The use of 4-row equipment on large scale has caused many fields to be plowed in such a way as to encourage soil loss and water damage while giving more efficient use to larger equipment. This must be visualized as one of our most pressing problems.

The present board composed of J. Harris Smith, Chairman; Burns Hicks, Vice Chairman; Kenneth Johnson, Secretary; Harold McLeary, Member; and elected this year for his first term was Mr. L. T. Bryan, and outstanding farmer from the Mercer community. The board is proud to have as a member a strong supporter of the Soil Conservation District as well as a recognized leader in many county activities.

The District again sponsored Soil Stewardship week in the county and with the assistance of the FFA chapters of North Side, South Side, and Beech Bluff, Rural ministers preached approximately 45 sermons on soil stewardship.

Sixty-five new District Cooperators were added in 1961 with 52 farm conservation plans prepared and 21 old plans revised and brought up-to-date; making a total of 1,528 farms of the 3,100 in the county that now have basic farm plans.

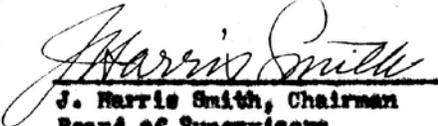
In 1962 we plan to continue to assist the completion of the two watershed programs and to assist farmers in developing ways and means of establishing and maintaining needed soil and water conservation practices throughout the county.

Those who have supported our work financially through affiliate memberships, we would like to give a special and most grateful expression of thanks.

They are:

Adair Gin Company  
Blackmon & Hopper Gin Company  
Blue Ribbon Milling Company  
Coca Cola Bottling Company  
The First National Bank  
Hub City Sportsman's Club  
Hub Land Builders  
Hicksville Gin and Lott Oil Company  
Jackson Lumber Company  
Jackson Packing Company  
Jackson Truck and Tractor Company  
Jackson Production Credit Association  
John H. Johnson and Sons  
W. B. Kirby, Contractor  
Madison Farmers Cooperative  
Madison County Lime Company  
Madison Tractor Company  
Model Mill Company  
Murphy Tractor Company  
National Bank of Commerce  
Sadler Oil Company  
Schaefer Lumber Company  
Second National Bank  
Atlas Turner

Respectfully submitted,

  
**J. Harris Smith, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors**

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**K. J. Johnson  
Secretary**