

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE
MADISON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
for 1970

The year 1970 was a growth year for the Madison County Soil Conservation District. It was also a year of problems generally for the mass of our farmers. Extremely wet weather both in the spring and fall took its toll on farm production. Most corn crops were hit by the Southern corn leaf blight drastically reducing yields. Most other crops made a better than average yield.

The district witnessed a good growth rate this year considering the general economic situation. According to economic reports some 637 new industrial jobs were created during the year. Naturally, these advancements are adding to the already taxing pollution and environmental problems of the area. Our district will continue to obtain interim conservation measures on these developing areas as a means of preserving the environment.

Our board of supervisors continued to be active in leading the conservation effort in Madison County. We held regularly scheduled meetings each month last year. Our board for 1970 had as its Supervisors: J. Harris Smith, Chairman; Harold McLeary, Vice-Chairman; John S. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer; Arthur Johnson, Sr; and J. B. Spencer, Members.

We are proud of our record of representation at meetings of various levels of our Association of Conservation Districts. Our district was represented at the winter and summer area meetings. We were also represented at the State Convention in Chattanooga and the National Convention in San Francisco. But our greatest pride is in the actual conservation accomplishments we realized during the year;

Some of the more significant accomplishments we are listing.

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ACP referrals serviced	105	
Critically eroded areas planted		65 ac.
Diversion channels installed		3,300 ft.
Farm ponds built	40	
Grassed waterways shaped and vegetated		5 ac.
Main or lateral drains installed		10,135 ft.
Drainage field ditches		7,950 ft.
Open channels improved		1,450 ft.
Pasture and hayland planting		604 ac.
Gradient terraces		4,500 ft.
Parallel terraces		15,830 ft.
Trees planted		207 ac.

Our district sponsored the land judging contest for FFA Chapters and 4-H clubs in Madison County.

We distributed 150 calendars to pertinent businesses and supporters of our district. We enjoyed our association with 15 Affiliate Members this year. We depend greatly on our Affiliate Members for their advice and financial assistance in carrying out our program of soil and water conservation.

We participated again this year in the Soil Stewardship observance by providing 3,500 placemats imprinted with a conservation message to restaurants in the county. We also had one minister participate in the sermon contest.

We fully supported the Tennessee and National Association of Conservation Districts. Our dues to these associations were paid early in the year.

Our watershed districts continued their notable progress this year. The directors of the Johnson Creek Watershed District are concerning themselves with the operation and maintenance of their project.

The Directors of the Meridian Creek Watershed District saw their project reach completion this year with the establishment of vegetation on the last section of stream channel.

Clover Creek Watershed District Directors continued development of a plan for the improvement of that watershed. We will continue to support this much needed project.

We realize that conservation of our renewable natural resources is critical and more so now than ever before. With more land, previously left in pasture, now being row cropped in soybeans and with the rapid industrial development of our area we must broaden our scope of assistance and education of our people concerning conservation.

We feel that perennial grasses and legumes will and must assume its place in our total farming effort especially in the face of declining cotton and soybean prices. We agree with predictions that livestock will take the lead in agricultural growth in the 70's.

In order that we may get our message across to our landowners and operators, we believe we must have a full and well-rounded information program. To accomplish these goals we have weekly news articles in The Jackson Sun, we present two 5 minute programs each week over radio station WTJS, we provide monthly spot announcements to 3 radio stations in Jackson and the Soil Conservation Service provides monthly slides and film strips to Television Station WBBJ in Jackson. We also initiated a "scanner card" service to the local cable TV station. Further plans call for conservation films to be shown on a regular basis through the Cable TV facilities.

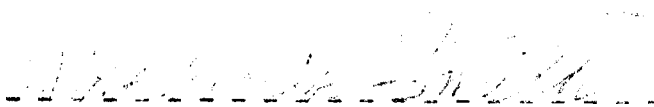
Cooperation between landowners and the district is good. In order that we may provide a good service to our cooperators we have obtained \$3,300 from our County Court to provide a full-time office secretary. Mrs. Maxine S. Blankenship has served this year as our District Secretary.

Our technical staff for this year has been Cecil W. Settle as District Conservationist and Clint L. Jordan as Conservation Technician. Michael White was employed during the summer months on a temporary basis.

We appreciate this assistance that we receive from the Soil Conservation Service under the leadership of Messrs Paul M. Howard as State Conservationist and D. F. Luckey as Area Conservationist.

We also appreciate the invaluable assistance and promotion of our efforts given to us by The Jackson Sun, Radio Stations WTJS, WDXI and WJAK, Television Station WBBJ, The Extension Service, Farmers Home Administration, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Tennessee Department of Conservation, and County Court, The City of Jackson, our Affiliate Members, our County Schools, and all other business and individual supporters named and unnamed.

We respectfully submit this report as witness for our record in 1970.



J. Harris Smith, Chairman of the Board
Madison County Soil Conservation District.

Financial Statement
 Annexed to our Annual Report
 1-14-70 to 1-11-71

On deposit January 14, 1970

1,305.24
 +3,615.00

Receipts during the year

Affiliate Members	\$375.00
Madison Co. Court	\$3,225.00
Drink Box	15.00
Total receipts	----- \$3,615.00

 \$4,920.24

Expenditures

District Secretary	\$2,523.60
Internal Revenue	396.00
Old Age and Survivors Ins.	303.00
TACD	190.00
J. Harris Smith	350.61
Place mats & certificates	65.95
Postage	12.00
Total Expenditures	----- \$3,841.16

-\$3,841.16

Net on Deposit January 11, 1971

\$1,1079.08