

ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE MADISON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
FOR
1971

Nineteen and Seventy one was a year for important events in the Madison County Soil Conservation District. We saw the passing of our Chairman, J. Harris Smith. Mr. Smith, known as the "Dean of Conservation Districts in Tennessee, " had served faithfully on our board since its origination in 1941. He was also very active in the conservation effort on the state and national levels. We shall not soon forget his contributions to our county.

Jackson and Madison County continued its rapid growth pace this year. Residential, commercial and industrial development saw a good year in 1971. Naturally, these developments do much to increase the already taxing pollution and environmental problems of the area. In view of these facts, 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 1971 had as its supervisors: J. Harris Smith, Chairman; Harold McLeary, Vice-Chairman; John S. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer; J. R. Azbill, and J. B. Spencer, Members.

Our board has been active in meetings on the local, area, and state level. Our district has been represented in numerous meetings of interest to conservation this year. But our greatest pride is in the actual conservation accomplishments we realized during the year.

A change in the Rural Environmental Assistance Program and an unusually good crop year both made their effects known. The late spring REAP signup cut into our spring application season but a good fall season surely made up for any spring delays. We are pleased to list some of the more significant accomplishments as follows:

PRACTICE -----	NUMBER -----	AMOUNT -----
REAP referrals serviced	74	
Critically eroded areas planted		36 ac.*
Diversion channels installed		10,230 ft.**
Underground drainage installed		9,100 ft.
Main or lateral surface drains installed		2,300 ft.
Field surface drainage ditches installed		3,150 ft.
Grade stabilization structures built	3	
Pasture or haylands receiving initial management		763 ac.
Pasture or haylands established		923 ac.
Ponds built	40	
Gradient terraces built		750 ft.
Parallel terraces built		600 ft.
Trees planted		154 ac.
Field border established		10,000 ft.

In addition to these, 21 farmers were given technical assistance in developing or revising overall conservation plans for their farms. Eleven new farmers joined the almost 1600 cooperating farmers in requesting assistance from our district in combating conservation problems on their lands.

We continue to promote conservation at every opportunity. We again provided assistance to FFA Chapters and 4-H Clubs in land judging training.

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.

Our Affiliate Membership grew to 25 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 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 spent \$4,549.20 for operation and maintenance on lakesites and channel in their watershed. *→ Mission Creek W/S District spent \$1,438.46 on a rm.* These costs were higher than normal due to extra maintenance work carried out on the channels in both watersheds.

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 cotton and soybeans and with the rapid industrial development of our area we must broaden our scope of assistance and education of our people concerning conservation.

In order that we may get our message across to all of our land-owners 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 a 5 minute program each week over radio station WTJS, we provide monthly spot announcements to 3 radio station in Jackson and the Soil Conservation Service provides monthly slides and film strips to local television stations WBBJ and JCA. We hope to add some conservation films to the Cable TV station program.

Cooperation between landowners and the district is good. In order that we may provide a good service to our cooperators we have obtained \$3,600.00 from our County Court to provide a full-time office secretary. Mrs. Maxine S. Blankenship has served this year as our District Secretary.

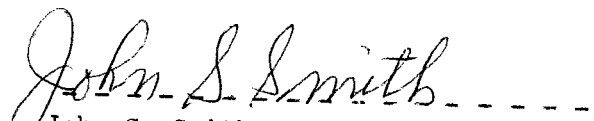
Our technical staff for this year has been Cecil W. Settle as District Conservationist and Clint L. Jordan as Soil Conservation Technician. Troy Taylor was employed during the summer months on a temporary basis.

We appreciate the assistance 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 WDXI, WJAK and WTJS, Television Stations JCA and WBBJ, The Extension Service, Farmers Home Administration, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Tennessee Department of Conservation,

The Madison County Court, The City of Jackson, The Jackson Regional Planning Commission, 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 1971.


John S. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer
Madison County Soil Conservation
District.

* Ac. = Acres

** Ft. = Feet

Financial Statement
Annexed to our Annual Report
1-11-71 to 1-10-72

On deposit January 11, 1971 \$1,079.08

Receipts during the year

Affiliate Members	\$625.00	
Madison Co. Court	\$3,525.00	

Total receipts	\$4,150.00	+\$4,150.00

		\$5,229.08

Expenditures

District Secretary	\$2,715.84	
Internal Revenue	374.40	
Old Age & Survivors Ins.	359.50	
TACD & NACD Dues	230.00	
J. Harris Smith	201.74	
NACD (booklets & placemats)	63.02	
Sidney David Florist	31.35	
Postmaster	22.00	
Bank service charge	15.65	
Camera Shop	5.42	

	\$4,018.92	-\$4,018.92

Net on Deposit January 10, 1972		\$1,210.16