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## Madison County Soil Conservation District

### Supervisors

FRANKLIN JAMES  
Chairman

JIMMY STANFORD  
Vice Chairman

JIMMY BOND  
Secretary-Treasurer

J. E. MULLIS  
Member

ANNUAL REPORT - 1981

JOHNNY WOOLFOLK  
Member

Forty years ago the Madison County Soil Conservation District was organized to fight a massive soil erosion problem. Recent years have seen the return of soil erosion and, again, the district supervisors are leading the way for improved soil conservation.

### THE STAFF

Through an agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture, the office is staffed with professional conservationists from the Soil Conservation Service. Paul Aydelott serves as district conservationist; and Bobby Clifford, Phillip Wilson, and Melinda Turner are soil conservationists. Madison County provides a technician, Benton James, and a secretary, Maxine Blankenship.

### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Again, we showed a healthy increase in our work over the preceeding year. We helped 300 landowners last year, 22 per cent more than in 1980. We increased the number of technical services by one-third to a total of 870.

We helped people make conservation plans on over 18,000 acres of land in 1981, three times as many as in 1980. Over twice as many acres of cropland, 9734 acres, were treated with conservation measures. For example, we helped build 107,000 feet of terraces, about 65,000 feet more than in 1980.

Construction was completed at McKellar Field to stop a massive gully. This major source of sediment to Johnson Creek and a threat to an airport runway was eliminated at a total cost of about \$360 thousand dollars. Seventy-five percent of the project costs were paid through Resource Conservation and Development funds from the Soil Conservation Service.

The district continued to promote conservation tillage as one of the best new practices available to farmers for erosion control. The district hosted a major no-till clinic sponsored by Chevron Chemical Company. Scale model farms were prepared to show the effects of conservation and no-till and were displayed at the Milan No-Till Field Day, at the Tennessee Association of Conservation Districts convention in Memphis and on other occasions.

Madison County was honored again this year by the selection of the "Conservation Farmer of West Tennessee." Last year John S. Smith was selected as the best conservationist in West Tennessee; this year Bill Woods of Oakfield was honored.

Efforts continued to secure authorization of Madison-Cypress Creek as a small watershed and flood protection project. Overwhelming support was voiced in public meetings. Although approval is pending, conservation plans have already been prepared on the majority of the land in the watershed area.

Other activities of importance during the year included increased newspaper coverage, participation in farm management classes sponsored by the Ag. Extension Service, an awards banquet, sponsorship of 4-H and FFA soil judging contests, and farm-city week activities.

#### A WORD OF THANKS

We recognize that much of the District's progress is due to the financial support of the Madison County Commission, the State Legislature, and our Affiliate Members.

Equally worthy of thanks are the people, churches, groups, industries, news media, and other agencies that offered the support essential for success.

#### AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Affiliate members are those people, groups, and firms that support the District financially. Annual dues are \$25.00. These are the affiliate members of 1981:

Terry Moore  
Federal Land Bank  
First Tennessee Bank  
Madison Co. Farm Bureau  
Madison Co. Co-Op  
Southern Gas Corp.  
Jackson Sun

Duane McGill  
Production Credit Association  
First National Bank  
S. M. Lawrence Co.  
Madison Co. Milk Association  
Wayne Monks Farm Service



Franklin James  
Chairman