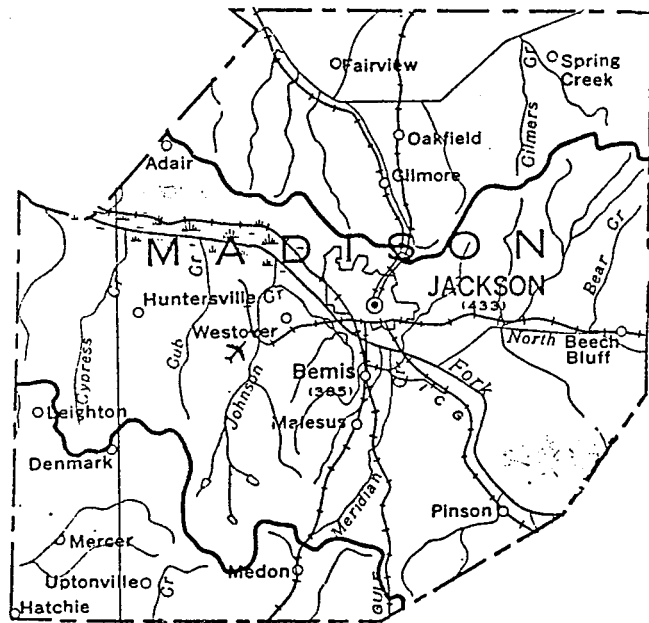


MADISON COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT
1988



SUPERVISORS

FRANKLIN JAMES
Chairman

WARING HAZLEHURST
Vice-Chairman

JIMMY BOND
Secretary-Treasurer

BILLY RAY JONES
Member

HAROLD WATSON
Member

In 1988 the District continued to direct its efforts toward the provisions of the 1985 Food Security Act. As required under the 1985 Farm Bill, all upland cropland must have a conservation farm plan by 1990 to be eligible for government benefits. A large part of the staff's time was utilized preparing conservation farm plans and applying conservation practices. To aid in this undertaken the District has purchased a new copy machine. The Soil Conservation Service also detailed three employees to Madison county this summer to help farmers in preparing their conservation farm plans. In meeting the provisions of the 1985 Farm Bill the staff planned over 70,000 acres on some 1,100 farms.

In conjunction with the 1985 Farm Bill there were two CRP sign-ups in 1987 in which our staff evaluated approximately 60 farms for eligibility. The process resulted in plans being prepared for some 2,000 acres. Although the District devoted considerable time to various aspects of the Farm Bill the staff managed to stay active in other projects.

During 1987 the District received and serviced over one hundred ACP referrals, including requests for terraces, waterways, grade structures, strip cropping, and pasture planting. In addition to ACP practices the District laid out and assisted in the construction of two water and sediment retention

structures for the Obion Forked Deer River Basin Authority in the Spring Creek community.

The District received over 25,000 dollars from the state and federal government for implementing conservation practices on the land in the Cypress Creek Watershed of Madison County. The funds helped to build grade structures, waterways, and terraces in the area. Funds were also used to establish permanent vegetative cover and aid in implementing minimal tillage. In another watershed, the Big Black Creek Watershed, the District provided technical assistance and utilized RC&D funds to help fund critical area work on two farms in the watershed.

During the year we lost the services of federal employee Richard Cooke. Richard is now stationed in Lake County where he is the District Conservationist. On the bright side, the District gained the services of two full-time federal employees; seasoned conservationist Steven Dobbs who came to the District from the Memphis field office and Leslie Aycok of Georgia. The District also utilized the services of Federal employee Terry Love for three months, and part time workers Cindy Wade and Bettye Anderson for three months.

In November the District held its annual awards banquet. Receiving awards were District cooperators Neely Robley; Cooperator of the Year, Dr. Alex Leech; TACD's West Tennessee Category II Award. Employees receiving awards from Madison

County for their efforts in implimenting FSA were Maxine Blankenship, Benton James, Bettye Anderson, Leslie Aycock, Steven Dobbs, and Brad Denton. The Northside FFA soil judging team was recognized as the top high school soil judging team in the county. The guests and honorees were served a catered meal and addressed by U.S. Congressman John Tanner of Union City, Tn.

**FRANKLIN JAMES
CHAIRMAN**