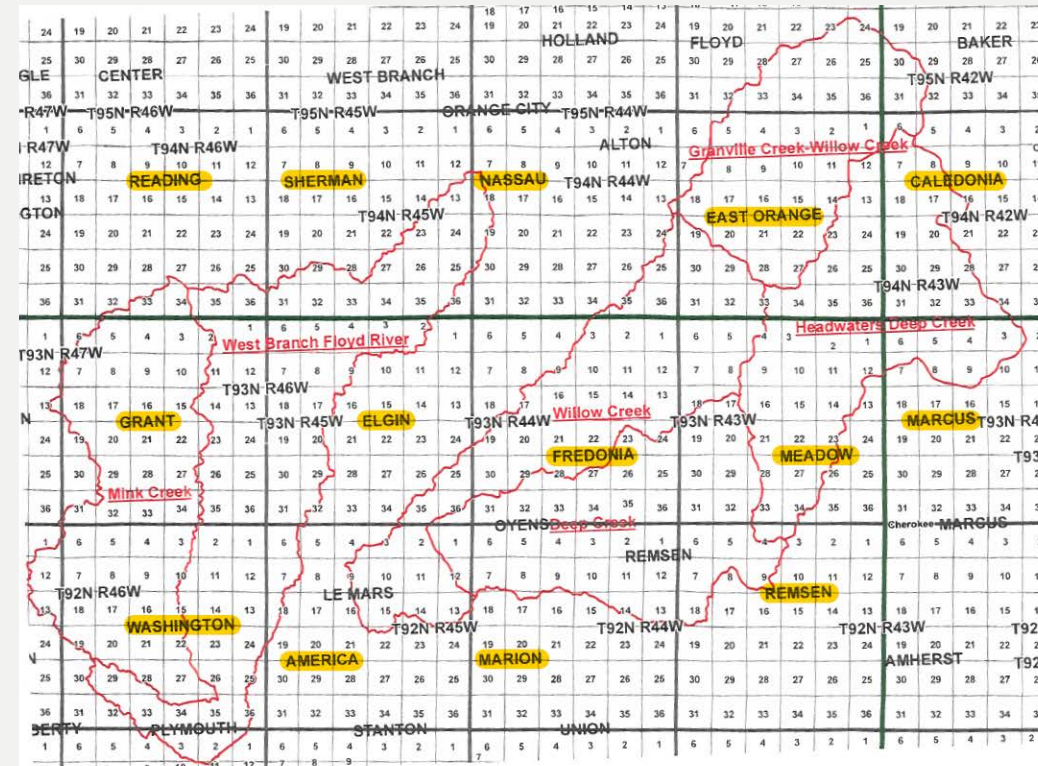


Plymouth County Priority Watersheds Map



Do you farm or own land in the
 Plymouth County Priority
 Watershed?

Be sure to follow our Facebook
 page!
 Plymouth County Soil and Water
 Conservation District

Plymouth County SWCD
 1100 12th St SW STE A
 Le Mars, IA 51031
 Phone: (712) 546-8858 ext. 3
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00-4:30

These organizations are
 partnering with the Plymouth
 County Priority Watersheds
 Water Quality Initiative to
 help you decide which
 conservation practices are best
 for you, your operation and
 your land:

Iowa Department of
 Agriculture & Land
 Stewardship, Iowa Soybean
 Association, Iowa Corn
 Growers Association, Iowa
 State University, Iowa Farm
 Bureau, Plymouth County
 Pheasants Forever, Le Mars
 Agri-Center, Iowa Pork
 Producers Association,
 Remsen Farmers Coop,
 Farmers Coop of Hinton,
 Oyens, Akron & Le Mars



July 2023

PLYMOUTH COUNTY PRIORITY WATERSHEDS NEWSLETTER

Project Focus OUR MISSION

We strive to increase awareness of
 water quality and resource concerns in
 the Plymouth County Priority
 Watersheds. We encourage the use of
 conservation practices to address
 resource concerns which in turn helps
 develop a protective, sustainable and
 profitable agricultural landscape.

Our project engages local, public and
 private partners to foster voluntary
 adoption of conservation practices. We
 believe in using a cooperative approach
 to the improvement of water quality
 while protecting the health and
 productivity of our soils and our
 community.

We welcome input from producers and
 stakeholders. If you have any
 suggestions, comments or questions,
 please feel free to contact the Plymouth
 County Soil and Water Conservation
 District.

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Project Focus
- New Project Coordinator
- Additional Cost Share Opportunities
- 2023 Iowa Environmental Leader Award

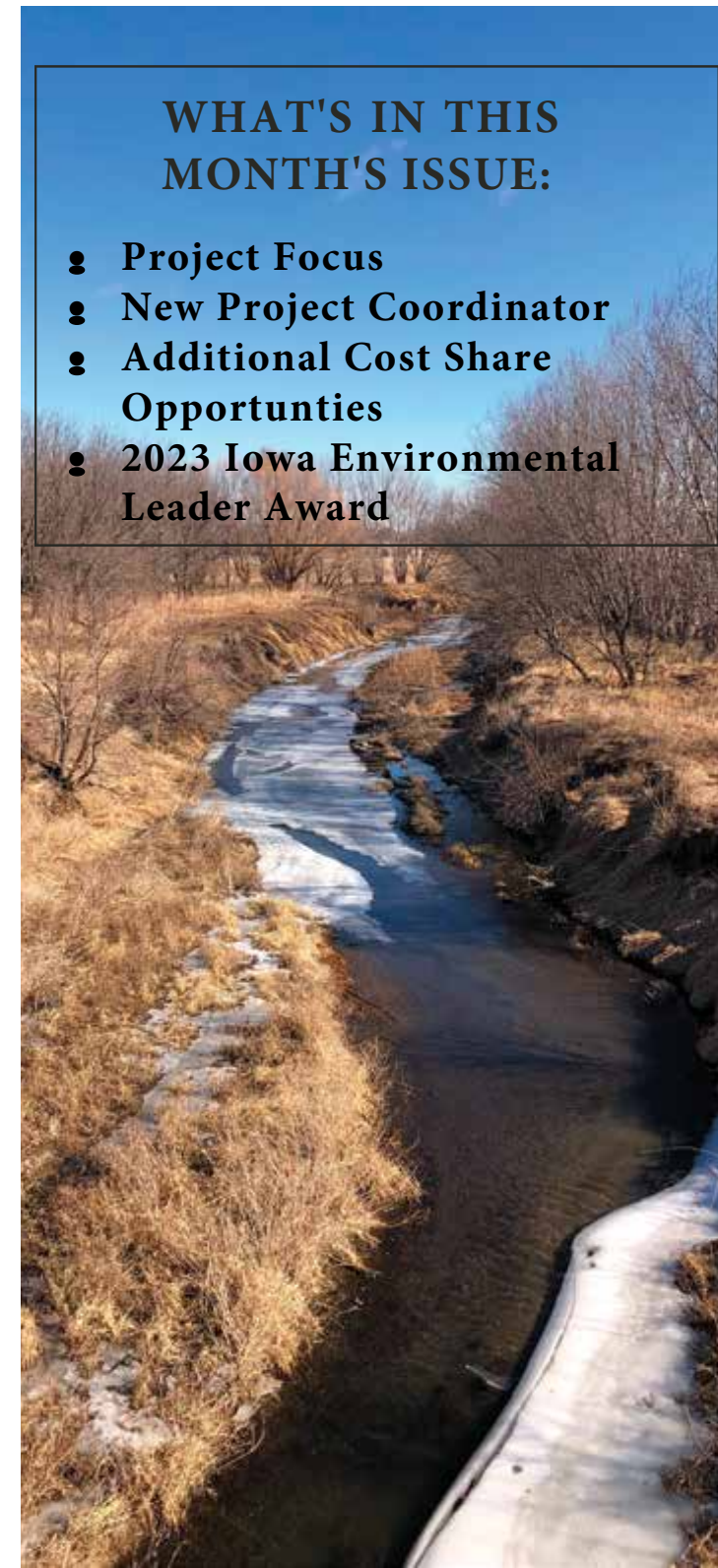


Photo of the Deep Creek-Willow Creek
 taken on Marble Avenue in Le Mars

FOR MORE VISIT: www.plymouthswcd.com

Meet Tyler Whited



New Watershed Project Coordinator

Tyler grew up in Marcus, Iowa, on the family farm. Growing up, he was involved with 4-H and FFA. Tyler graduated from Iowa State University in 2021 with a degree in Agricultural Studies. Agriculture has always had deep roots instilled in him and he can't wait to bring his experiences and knowledge to you as the new Watershed Project Coordinator.

Before accepting the project coordinator position, Tyler worked at Sioux Center at Innovations Through Research for a little over year as one of the Animal Care Technicians. He spent most of his time looking over the current swine operations. Tyler continues to help on the family farm and together with his brothers, they have cow/calf pairs. Tyler is actively involved with the Cherokee County Cattleman's Association and a member of the Marcus Community Fair Board.

Tyler is eager to meet the producers in the watershed and see conservation take place on the land. Currently, Tyler is taking cover crop cost share applications. If you think you are in the watershed and interested in any of our programs, give Tyler a call (712) 539-7073.

FOR MORE VISIT: www.plymouthswcd.com

Additional Cover Crop Cost-Share

Are you thinking of planting cover crops this year, but concerned about the rising cost? Would you like an additional **\$10.00**? Practical Farmers of Iowa (PFI), is offering a cover crop cost share program and is **STACKABLE** with any publicly funded cost-share programs. Below is a QR code; scan it to be directed to the application form and website. Further, you can search online for *PFI cover crop cost share*. The program will be available until **December 1, 2023**. Additional requirements may be requested, so please read through the details.

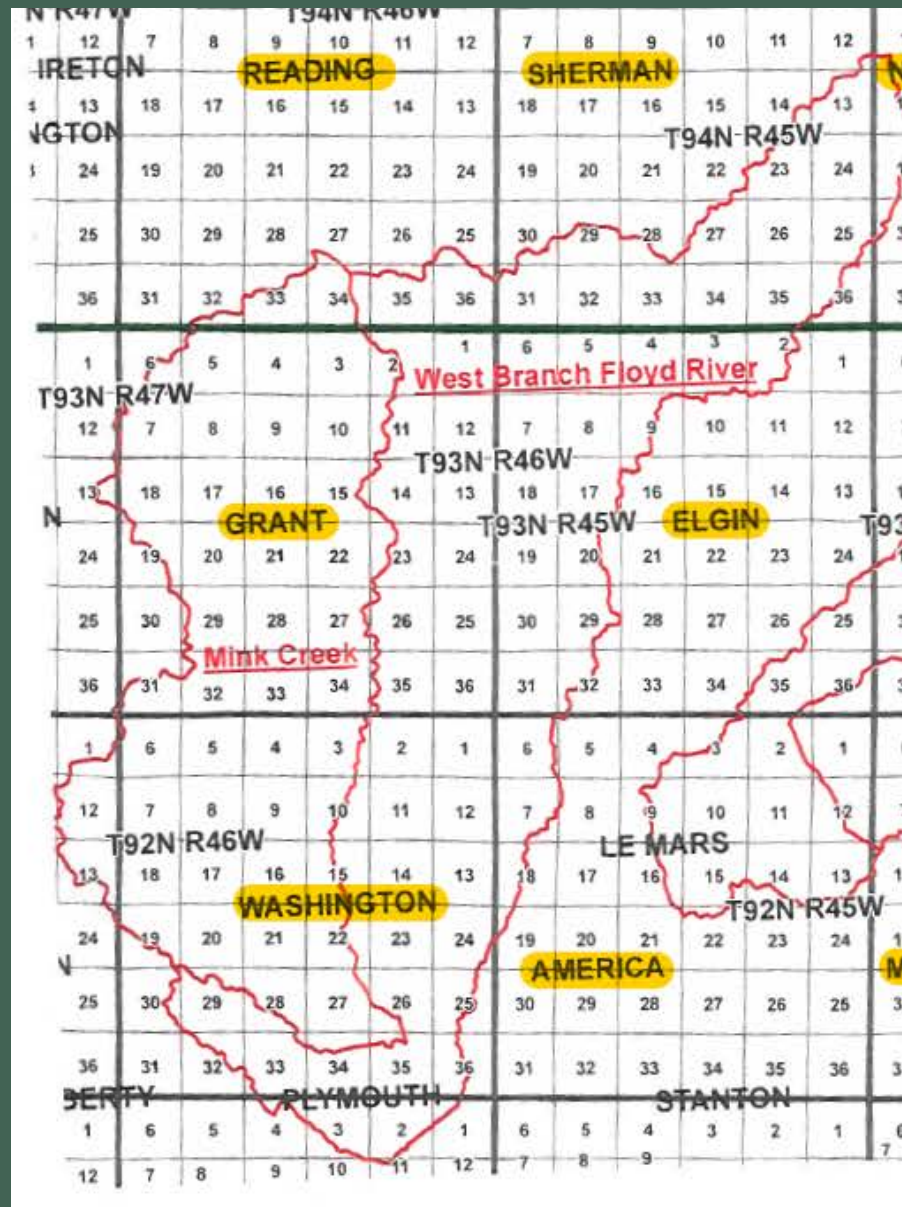
SCAN HERE



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New Priority Watersheds

Everyone at the Plymouth County NRCS Office is excited to announce we have been granted to add 2 more watersheds into the project area! The newly added watersheds are Mink Creek (27,030 acres) and the West Branch Floyd River (38,340 acres). If you have or think you have acres within the new watersheds make sure you are looking into the new cost share opportunities that may apply to you.



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Cost Share Opportunities

Cost Share Rates & Requirements

Priority Practice	Cost Share Rate	Acre Cap	Eligible Applicant	Other Requirements
Cover Crop	\$25/acre	No Cap	Producers within the project area	Must meet NRCS standards
No-till/Strip-till Soybeans Planted	\$10/acre	200 acres	Producers within the project area	Must meet NRCS standards
No till/Strip till Corn Planted	\$20/acre	200 acres	Producers within the project area	Must meet NRCS standards
P-Band Applied 1 st time	\$10/acre	200 acres	Producers who have never used this practice	>80% undisturbed soil
P-Band Applied 2 nd time or more	\$10/acre	200 acres	Producers within the project area	Must plant cover crop on the same acres
N-serve	\$8/acre	200 acres	Producers within the project area	Nitrapyrin only, with fall applied anhydrous
Edge-of-Field	100% with partner funding		Producers within the project area	Must meet NRCS standards
Terraces or Water and Sediment Control Basins	50% of estimated practice installation		Producers within the project area	Must meet NRCS standards

Application Schedule

*all applications must be approved before the practice is implemented for payment eligibility

Practice	Sign Up Start Date	Sign Up End Date
Cover Crops	July 1, 2023	August 31, 2023
P-Band	August 1, 2023	September 30, 2023
N-Serve	August 1, 2023	September 30, 2023
No-till/Strip-till	December 1, 2023	March 31, 2024
Terraces & WASCObS	Year-round (construction planned for following fall)	Year-round (construction planned for following fall)
Edge-of-Field	Year-round (construction planned for following fall)	Year-round (construction planned for following fall)

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Iowa Environmental Leader Award

True Stewards of the Land Craig & Nancy Anderson

The Iowa Environmental Leader Award recognizes the farmers/land owners who show exemplary, voluntary actions by the farmers that improve the land and Iowa's natural resources. Craig & Nancy are great examples of true stewards of the land. This award recognizes them for improved water quality and soil sustainability.



Craig & Nancy's farm was purchased by Craig's father in 1950. Craig began farming and feeding cattle in 1976. Craig and Nancy are graduates of South Dakota State University. In 1979, Craig & Nancy got married and started their life together on the farm. Together, the farm 700 acres of corn and soybeans and permitted to feed 2,500 head of cattle. Their soybeans are no-tilled and the corn is planted after 1 tillage pass in the spring.

From the beginning, Craig's father was very instrumental in applying conservation practices on this farm. His father built some of the first terraces in Plymouth County and was always willing to try new ideas to showcase the the benefits, as well as, keeping the soil and water where it belongs. Craig and Nancy have implemented over 50,000 feet of terraces, numerous grassed waterways, 2,600 foot long farmstead windbreak, and have approximately 20 acres of CRP filter strips.

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One of their most recent accomplishments was working with the local NRCS office to develop a plan for 150 acres they purchased. They added terraces, end row treatments, and pollinator habitats.

Nancy and Craig are involved in the community. Nancy has served on the Plymouth Soil and Water Conservation District board for 32 years, where she held the chairman position for 10 years, vice chairperson for 5 years and is currently serving as an Assistant Commissioner. She served on the Plymouth County 4-H and Youth Board for 8 years.

Craig has served on the Plymouth County Board of Supervisors for 18 years and is active in the Plymouth County Cattleman's Association.

Together, they are involved in developing the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) for Plymouth County, are supporters of the Nature Conservancy, Plymouth County Conservation Foundation and the Arbor Day Foundation.

They are motivated by a desire to leave the land better than how it began. Craig and Nancy strive to provide areas for wildlife, especially, deer, birds and pollinators, as well as, protecting soil and water quality.

Congratulations to Craig & Nancy for being nominated for the 2023 Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Award. They will be accepting the award on Wednesday, August 16th at the Iowa State Fair.

FOR MORE VISIT: www.plymouthswcd.com