

Join  
Us!

2015

Iowa Soil and Water Conservation  
District Commissioners  
69th Annual Conference

*Conservation: Key to a Healthy Iowa*

September 1 & 2

\* New Facility \*

Prairie Meadows Conference Center  
1 Prairie Meadows Drive, Altoona

CONSERVATION:  
KEY TO A HEALTHY IOWA



# Agenda

## Monday, August 31

- Noon Registration and Credentials Tables Opens
- 1:00 PM CDI & SSCC Joint Board Meeting
- 2:30 PM CDI & SSCC Separate Board Meetings
- 4:00 PM Registration and Credentials Table Closes
- 5:00 PM Dinner on your own, reservations at  
Prairie Meadows Triple Crown Eatery  
approximate cost, \$11.95 plus tax
- 6:00 PM Prairie Meadows Casino Tour,  
meet at Prairie Meadows Triple Crown Eatery

## Tuesday, September 1

- 8:00 AM Registration and Credentials Tables Open  
Exhibits Open  
Auction Items Accepted
- 9:00 AM Guest Tour Departs  
Welcome from CDI & SSCC  
CDI Business Meeting
- 10:30 AM Break & Exhibits
- 11:00 AM Fall Regional Meetings
- Noon Keynote Speaker, Lunch and Awards  
Krysta Harden, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture,  
United States Department of Agriculture (invited)
- 1:00 PM Break & Exhibits
- 1:30 PM General Session Speaker - The Accidental Conservationist  
Dean Sponheim, Mitchell County Farmer
- 2:30 PM Break & Exhibits
- 3:00 PM A Panel on Iowa's Water Quality
- 4:30 PM A meeting on reaching women landowners
- 5:00 PM Exhibits & Social
- 6:00 PM Awards Presentation
- 6:30 PM Banquet, Speaker and Live Auction

## Wednesday, September 2

- 7:00 AM Breakfast Buffet
- 8:00 AM Breakout Tracks Begin - Detail on following page
- 9:00 AM Break & Exhibits,  
Silent Auction Ends, Checkout Silent Auction Items
- 9:30 AM Breakout Tracks Continue
- 10:30 AM Breakout Tracks Continue
- 11:30 AM Break & Exhibits
- Noon Lunch & Awards
- 1:00 PM Conservation Partnership Leadership Forum with Q & A, Conference Wrap Up

Join the fun  
the evening  
before!

Exhibits from  
partners and  
projects

Resolutions,  
elections & updates  
at  
Business  
Meeting

A conversation  
on Iowa's  
water quality

Updates  
from  
partners

Sessions  
designed  
just for  
commissioners

...and  
much  
MORE!

# Breakout Tracks

## Current Conservation Topics

### **The future of Iowa's "boots on the ground" for conservation**

Discover how workload at the field offices is analyzed at the state level to determine staff placement, learn about the new Natural Resources Conservation Service's method for assessing local workload, receive highlights from the Field Offices of the Future outcomes and hear about innovative ways Districts are getting people employed and work done.

### **Tree talk**

Receive an update on Iowa's Forestry Issues including Emerald Ash Borer, the State Tree Nursery and more!

### **Conservation planning: from plan to programs**

Conservation planning has seen a resurgence in Iowa and across the nation. Our federal partner, Natural Resource Conservation Service will demonstrate how a conservation plan is created from start to finish, new tools available to deliver conservation services and how federal and state programs get matched up with resource concerns through the conservation planning process.

## Promotion & Partnerships for Conservation

### **Commissioners championing cover crops**

Learn how commissioners using cover crops are promoting their use among other farmers. Iowa's Champion Cover Crop Commissioners will talk cover crops. New information from Iowa State University on the economic benefits of cover crops to livestock and erosion control will be shared.

### **Water Quality: We're all in this together**

Can agriculture and urban work together? Cedar Rapids sure thinks so! Learn about the Cedar River Watershed Project, a collaboration among all the watershed residents.

### **Commodity Classic Short Course**

Learn about the conservation efforts of some of Iowa's commodity groups and discover how you can partner with them to make your local efforts more successful.

## Training & Exemplary District Examples

### **Resources for innovative education and outreach**

Learn about state and national resources available to make your Districts outreach the best it can be! Hear about innovative education and outreach activities being conducted in Iowa and around the nation.

### **Educating Iowa's youth**

Discover opportunities to engage your counties' youth in conservation. Leave this session ready to build Iowa's next generation of conservation leaders!

### **Commissioner leadership: stepping up and out for conservation**

Find out how you can step up and out for conservation. New and existing commissioners can benefit from this presentation on what to do each month to be an active commissioner.



# Guest Tour

**Tuesday, September 1st, 9AM-4:00PM**

We will begin with a guided tour of **Reiman Gardens**, Iowa State University's horticultural garden established in 1914. Reiman Gardens is one of the finest and most unique gardens in the country. The guided tour will highlight the **Christina Reiman Butterfly Wing**, a tropical paradise home to 800 live butterflies; **Hughes Conservatory**, a glass house featuring a lush, tropical collection of colorful and rare plants among seasonal, artistic creations that interpret garden themes and intrigue guests; and **Jones Rose Garden**, a garden displaying the most popular flower in the world. After the tour, guests will have the opportunity to visit the Reiman Gardens **Gift Shop** and view other areas of the Gardens.

We will enjoy a delicious lunch at Reiman Gardens and guests will have the opportunity to listen to a presentation on **Garden Design with Pollinators** presented by one of Reiman Gardens professional staff members.

After lunch, guest will continue with a guided tour of the **Farm House Museum**. Built in 1860, it was the first building on the Iowa State University campus and is a National Historic Landmark.

Guests will wind down the day with a tour and sampling of **Chocolaterie Stam**, a modern chocolaterie in downtown Ames steeped in old world, Dutch traditions since 1913. They are famous for their handcrafted white, milk and dark chocolate bonbons and other indulgent confections.

Guest are invited to attend the meeting on reaching woman landowners upon return at the Prairie Meadows Conference Center at 4:30 PM.

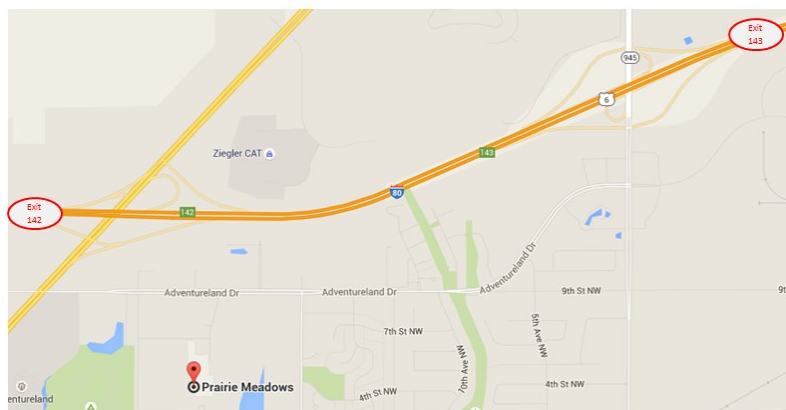
*The guest tour will be \$25 or free with a paid 2-day guest registration. This fee covers transportation, lunch and all related fees. Vans will leave the hotel at 9:00AM sharp so please be near the front entrance of the hotel lobby by 8:50AM. The tour will return to the hotel by 4:00PM. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. The tour will be limited to the first 25 registered. Registration in advance is required. Please note, commissioner expenses (hotel stay & conference registration) are only covered for commissioners and assistants attending the conference. If a commissioner or assistant would like to attend the guest tour rather than the conference they will have to incur the expenses.*



## Directions & Accommodation Information

From I-80E Exit 142, right onto NE Hubbell Avenue, left onto Adventureland Drive, right to Prairie Meadows

From I-80W Exit 143, left onto NE 72nd Street, right onto Adventureland Drive, left to Prairie Meadows



### Prairie Meadows Hotel, Altoona

Call 515-957-3000 to reserve a room. Ask for the "CONSERVATION DISTRICTS OF IOWA" block for the special rate of \$93.00 or at [www.prairiemeadows.com](http://www.prairiemeadows.com) using the group code "08312015CON". **Reservations must be made by August 7th to guarantee this rate!**

**Register  
Today!**

**Early Registration Deadline: August 21, 2015**

Registrant Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ District/Organization/Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Physical or Dietary restrictions? Yes No If yes, please indicate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attention Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners:** Please register but do not send payment unless you are registering a guest. Payment is due at time of registration for all others planning to attend. The additional \$20 late fee for commissioners registering after 8/21 must be incurred by the commissioner.

**Registration** (includes all meals and materials)

**Early Rate – through 8/21/15:**

- ☐ 2 Day Conference Registration - **\$225**  
☐ Day 1 (September 1) Registration - **\$165**  
☐ Day 2 (September 2) Registration - **\$100**

**Regular Rate – after 8/21/15:**

- ☐ 2 Day Conference Registration - **\$245**  
☐ Day 1 (September 1) Registration - **\$185**  
☐ Day 2 (September 2) Registration - **\$120**

**Guest Registration** (includes all meals and materials)

**Early Rate – through 8/21/15:**

- ☐ 2 Day Conference Registration - **\$140**  
☐ 1 Day Conference Registration - **\$100**  
☐ Guest Tour- **\$25** (free with paid two day guest registration)

**Regular Rate – after 8/21/15:**

- ☐ 2 Day Conference Registration - **\$160**  
☐ 1 Day Conference Registration - **\$120**

**Exhibitor**

- ☐ Exhibitor space - **\$50** with 2 day Conference Registration

**Grand Total: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total number of people attending each event:**

**August 31** Dinner \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casino Tour \_\_\_\_\_  
 (not included in your registration)

**September 1** Lunch \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Tour \_\_\_\_\_  
 Banquet \_\_\_\_\_

**September 2** Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

**Register and return completed form and  
payment to:**

Conservation Districts of Iowa  
 Attn: Annual Conference  
 945 SW Ankeny Road, Suite A  
 Ankeny, IA 50023

Due to contract commitments made to service providers, no refunds will be issued for conference registrations canceled after **August 21, 2015**.



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*2015*

## Iowa Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners 69th Annual Conference

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***Don't Delay-Register Today!***

### Conference Planning Committee:

Conservation Districts of Iowa

State Soil Conservation Committee

Iowa Department of Agriculture and  
Land Stewardship - Division of Soil  
Conservation & Water Quality

Natural Resources Conservation Service

### Sponsors:

Iowa's 100 Soil and Water Conservation Districts &  
500 elected Commissioners

**Agri Drain**  
CORPORATION

