## **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

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Timothy Huey Director

To:

Dee F. Bruemmer, County Administrator

From: Timothy Huey, Planning Director

Date: May 27, 2010

Re:

Request of the Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District for flexibility in using County matching funds for urban conservation practices in addition to rural projects.

The Scott County Board of Supervisors annually commits \$25,000 in matching funds for the Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District to using on agricultural conservation practices in the rural areas of the County. The Board of Supervisors has received the attached letter requesting flexibility for the District to use those funds as matching dollars for projects in the urban areas of the County.

## Scott County Soil & Water Conservation District

8370 Hillandale Road, Davenport Iowa 52806 Phone 563-391-1403 ext.3 Fax 563-388-0682 Kent Paustian Chad Dexter Kathy Henningsen Jane Weber



May 5th, 2010

Scott County Board of Supervisors Administrative Center 600 West 4th Street Davenport, Iowa 52801

Dear Scott County Board of Supervisors,

The Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District would like to request a modification in the use of all future funding provided by the Scott County Board of Supervisors. We request the funding that is currently used for agricultural conservation practices be made available to urban conservation practices as well.

Annually, we receive approximately \$12,000 from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship to implement conservation practices in both rural and urban Scott County. We received a \$30,000 grant from the Riverboat Development Authority in November, 2009. Only \$3,200 remains unobligated. Our urban cost share offers a 50% reimbursement up to maximum of \$2,000 per practice for residents who manage 75% of their runoff in an average rainfall. The eligible cost share practices are those identified in the Iowa Stormwater Management Manual developed by Iowa State University and the Iowa Rain Garden Design and Installation Manual developed by multiple government agencies.

The overwhelming interest in the urban program has led to the need for additional funding. To date we have installed 34 urban practices, 24 practices are scheduled for construction this spring and over 60 Scott County residents requested site visits at this year's Flower and Garden Show.

To be able to use the county funds for both rural and urban practices will better serve the citizens of Scott County. Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to hearing from you.

Kent Paustian, Chair of the Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District

8370 Hillandale Road Davenport, Iowa, 52806

Phone: 563.391.1403 ext. 3