

## Iowa Watershed Approach

### IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & LAND STEWARDSHIP

- One dedicated ½ time employee to partnership
- Key Duties:
  1. Technical Assistance to WMAs, Lead County Recipients in Project Coordinator Selection
  2. Individual and Group Training of Project Coordinators
  3. Liaison between WMAs, SWCDs, and USDA-NRCS

# WMA/County Technical Assistance

- Assistance with Job Descriptions/Recruiting for Project Coordinators (DNR-led activity)
- Participation in Interviews (as requested by WMA/Employer)

# Project Coordinator Training

- Development of Project Coordinator Training Manual
- Development of Template Financial Tracking and Project Ledger Documents
- Development of Standard Project Documentation (i.e. easement agreements, maintenance agreements)

# Project Coordinator Training

- Individual On-Board Training with New Coordinators (with DNR and IFC)
- Periodic Group Training with Partners
- HUD Program Training and Project Coordinator Technical Training

## Making Local Connections

- Work with SWCDs to Encourage WMA Participation
- Assistance to WMAs in Locating Staff in NRCS Field Offices
- “One stop” access to conservation programs

# Service Delivery Challenges

- Many Differences between HUD and NRCS procedures
- Potential for Landowners to Decline Participation due to Complicated Rules
- Coordination of Partners and Different Resources
- Timeframe for Program Delivery

## **IDALS and IWA Measures of Success**

- Project Coordinators are Versed in Conservation and Knowledgeable about Practices
- Coordinators Understand Differences Between HUD and NRCS/State Program Rules and Procedures
- Coordinators and WMAs Better Understand All Available Funding Options
- Landowners Have Simple Access to Programs and are Willing to Participate