

# Urban Conservation: District & State

**Clare Lindahl**

Scott County SWCD & Conservation Districts of Iowa



Soil & Water  
Conservation District



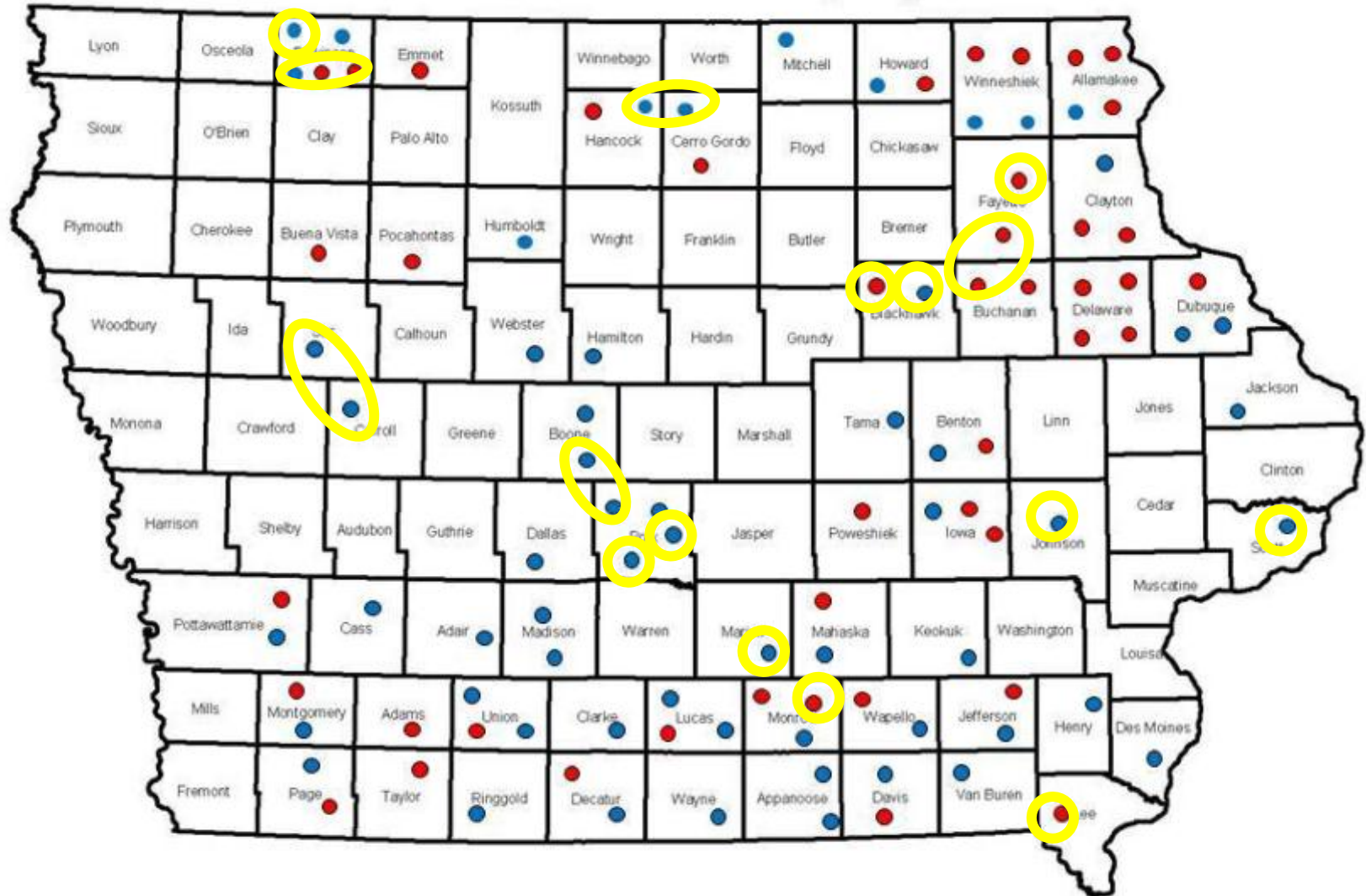
# Urban Conservation: Iowa SWCD's

- District Employees
- Watershed Projects
  - Funding:
    - 319 federal funds from EPA administered by Iowa DNR
    - Watershed Protection Funds/ Water Protection Funds through IDALS-DSC
    - Iowa Watershed Improvement Review Board Funds
    - Iowa Resource Enhancement and Protection Funds
    - State Revolving Fund Loans



# Urban Conservation: Iowa SWCD's

## 2013 Watershed/Water Quality Projects

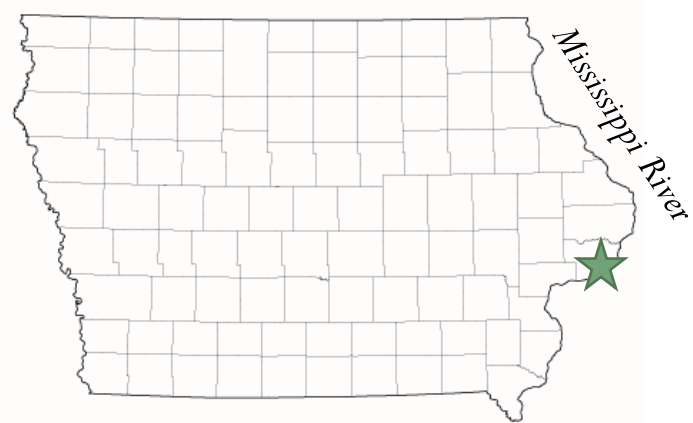


Blue - WPF, WSPF, and/or Section 319 Funded Projects  
Red - WIRB Funded Projects

Project is offering technical-financial assistance for urban practices

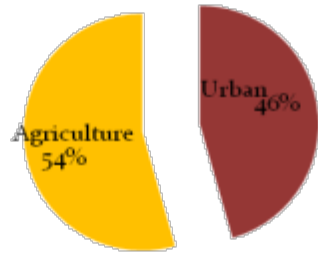
# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Duck Creek Watershed Project

- 2011: Create Duck Creek Watershed Management Plan
- Salary funding from Iowa Department of Natural Resources through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Federal Nonpoint Source Management Program (Section 319 of the Clean Water Act).
- *E. coli* bacteria impairment, T.M.D.L
- 104 page plan, with 9 elements required by the EPA
- “Approved” by the EPA in 2011
- Received Watershed Implementation Grant in 2012 from Iowa DNR (EPA 319 Funds)

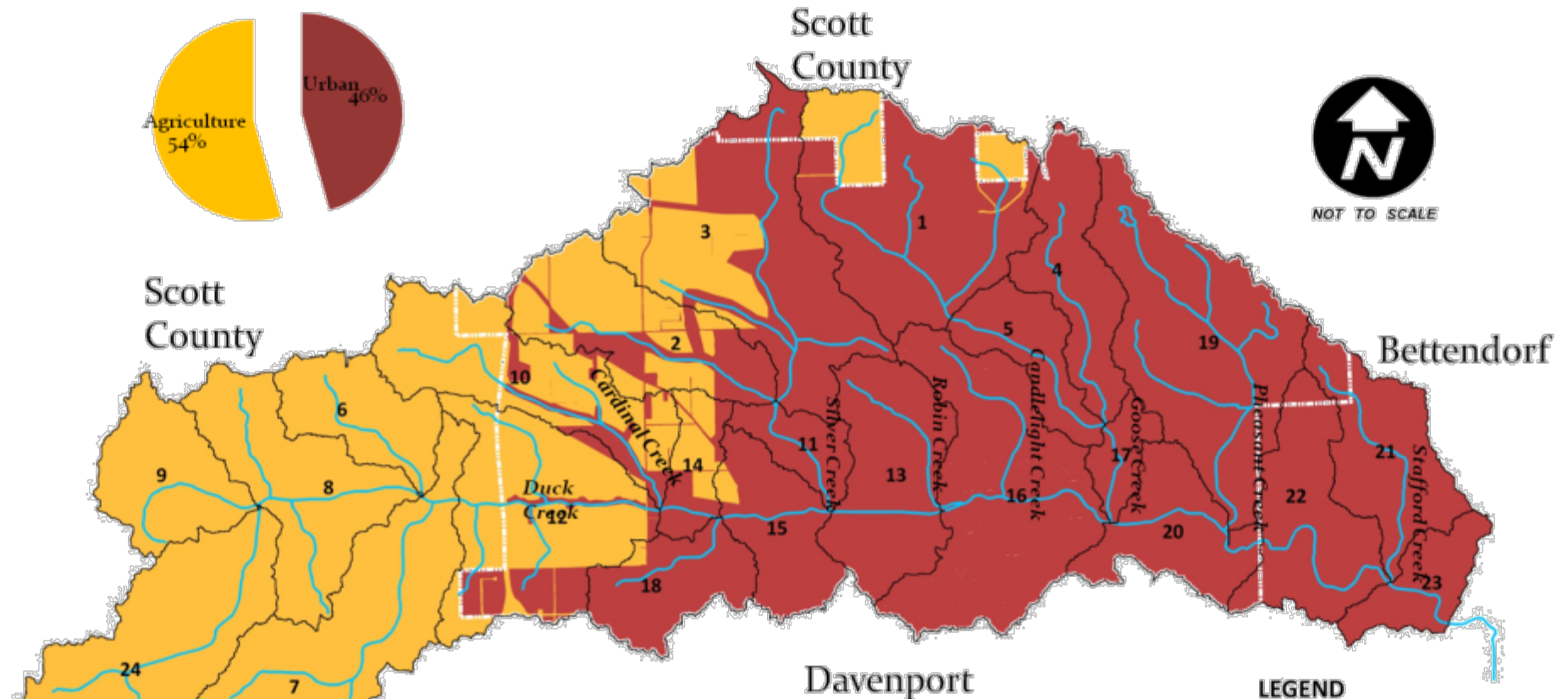


# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Duck Creek Watershed Project

■ Agriculture ■ Urban



NOT TO SCALE



## LEGEND

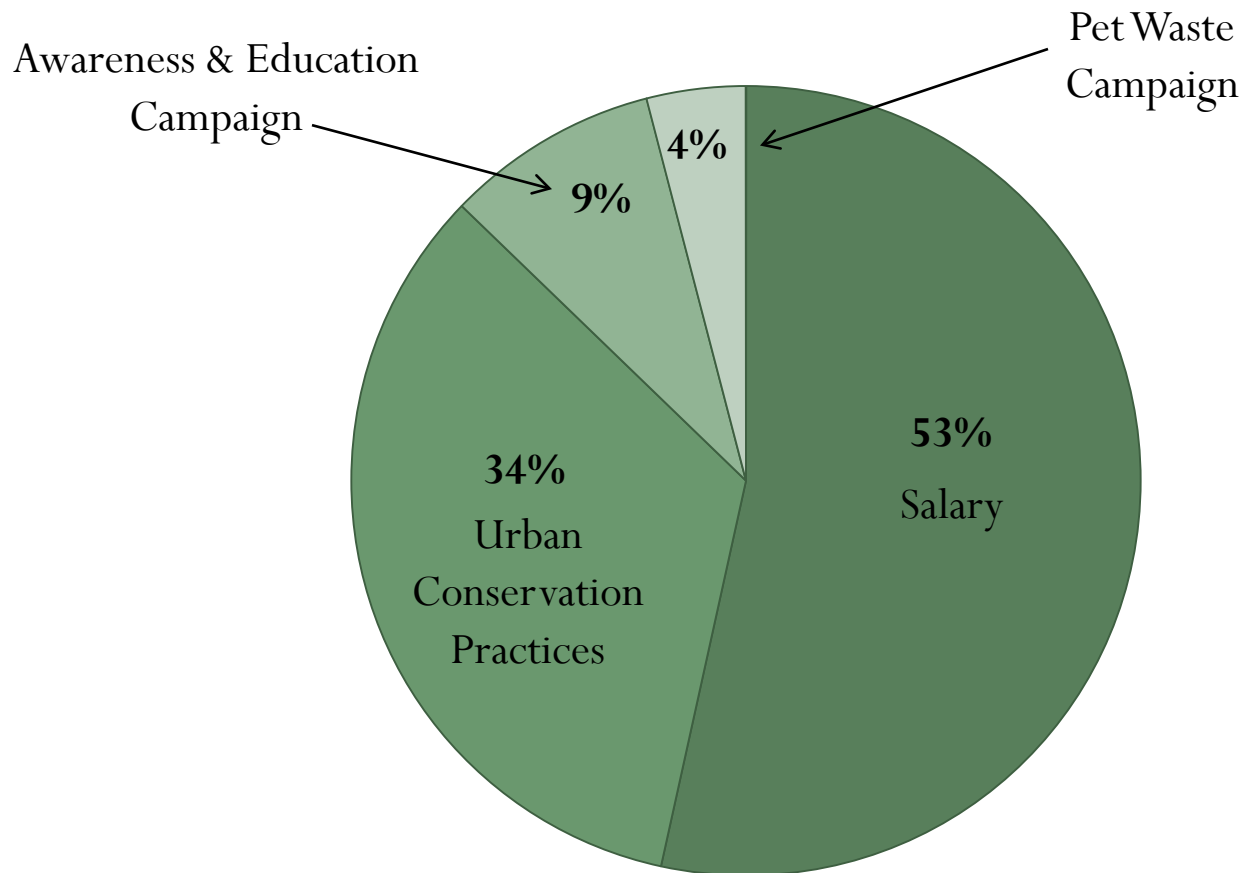
- Duck Creek and tributaries
- SWAT subbasins
- Urban land use
- Agricultural land use



Soil & Water  
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# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Duck Creek Watershed Project

- Implementation Grant Funding Breakdown





# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Duck Creek Watershed Project

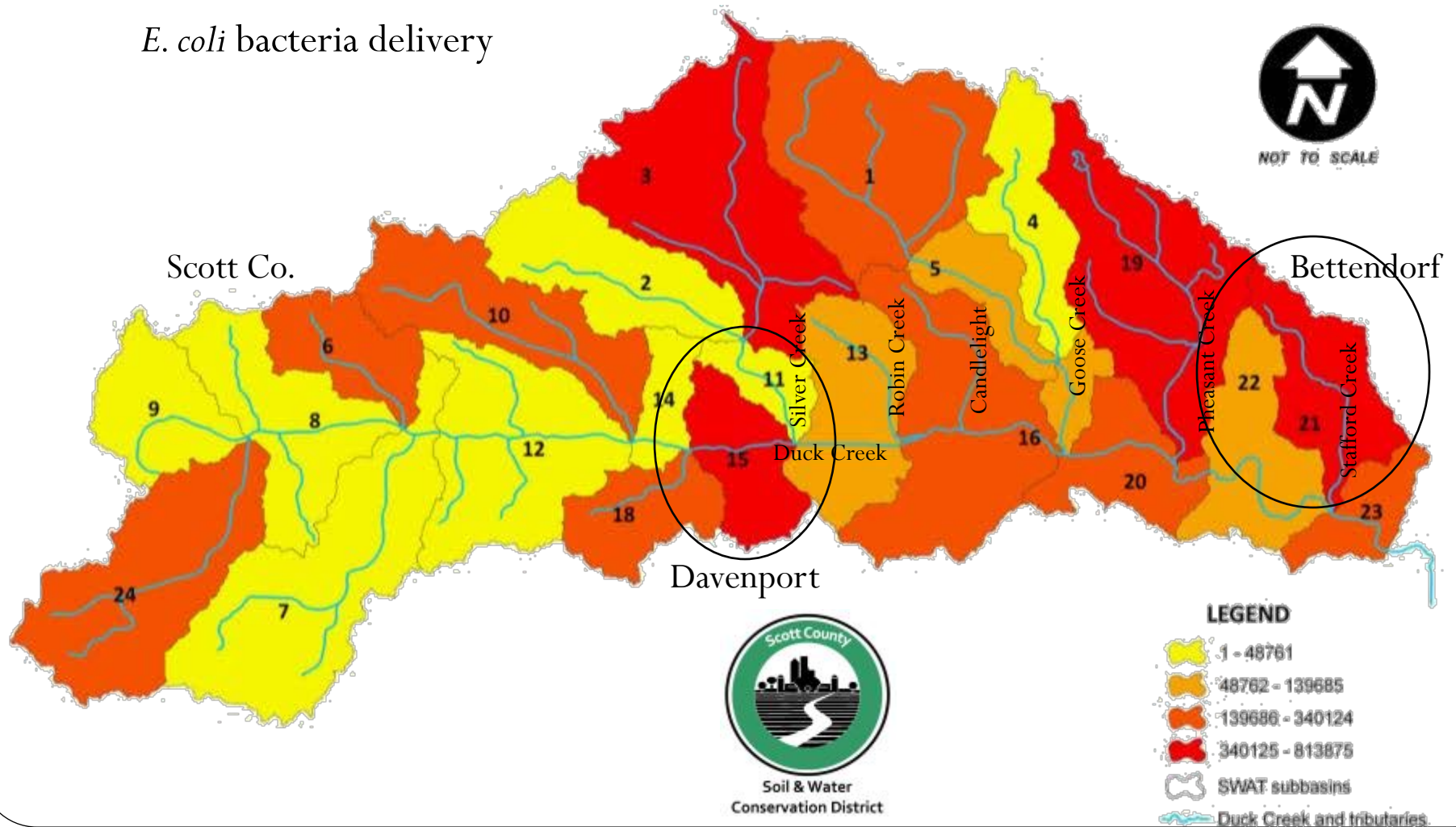
- **Goal:** Reduce runoff from urban land uses and bacteria input from urban miscellaneous sources.
- **Task:** Install 10,000 sq' of urban infiltration practices (rain gardens, bioretention cells, bioswales, permeable paving, soil quality restoration) in critical areas over 3 years
- **Budget:**
  - \$60,000/3 years (Watershed Implementation Grant in 2012 from Iowa DNR (EPA 319 Funds))
  - \$15,000/3 years (REAP funds through the IDALS-DSC)
  - \$75,000/3 years (Landowner match)
  - 34% of the grant, \$60,000



# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Duck Creek Watershed Project

- Prioritization:

*E. coli* bacteria delivery

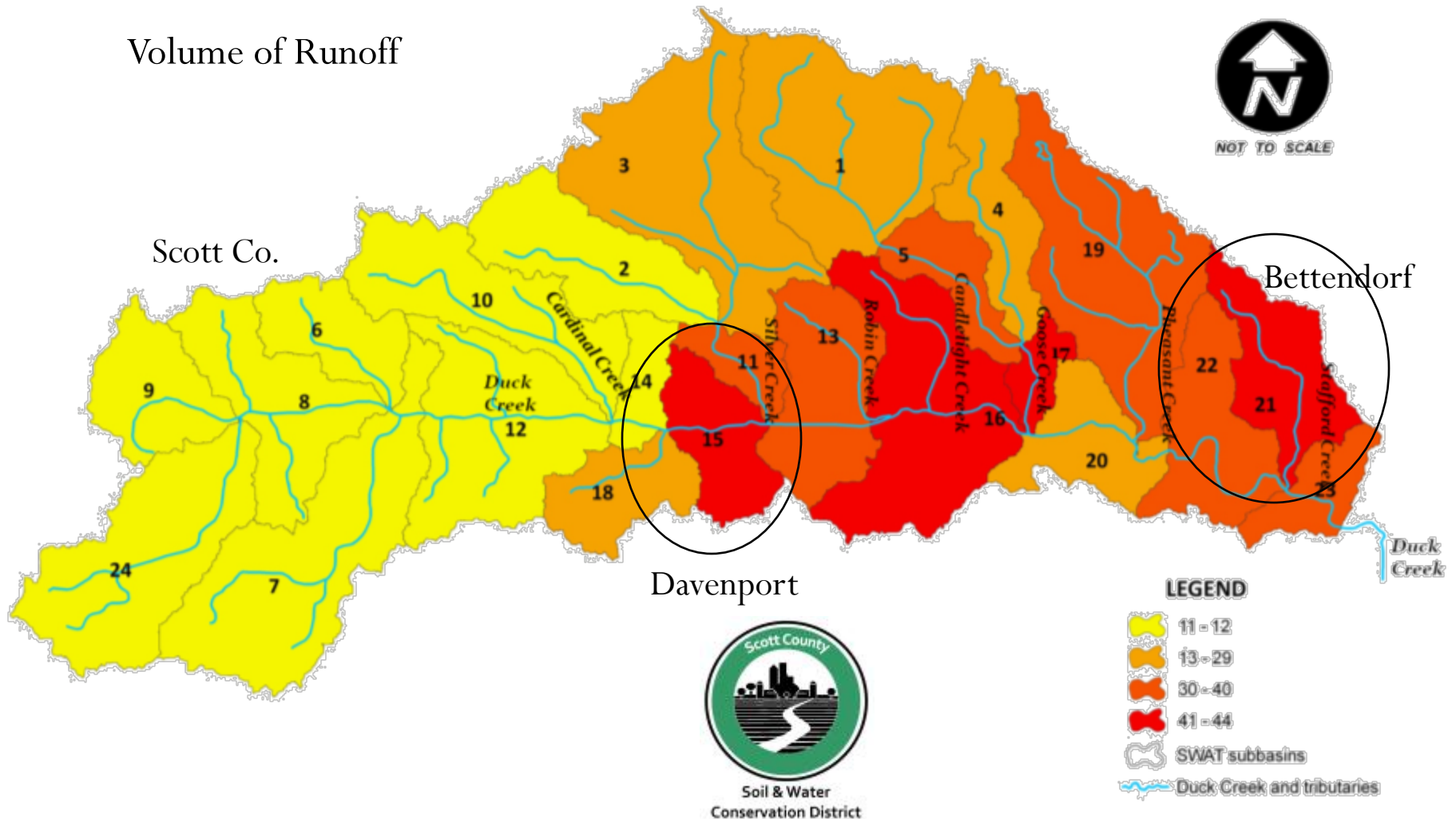




# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Duck Creek Watershed Project

- Prioritization:

Volume of Runoff



# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD

## Urban Conservation Program

- Technical and financial assistance to residents for the installation of urban infiltration practices
- Program began in 2008
- Over 100 site visits/year
- Nearly 200 practices installed to date
- Funding sources:
  - Iowa Resource Enhancement and Protection Funds
  - River Boat Development Authority Funds



# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Urban Conservation Program



Residential **Rain Garden**, Davenport, Iowa



City of Davenport Public Works  
**Bioretention Cells**, Davenport, Iowa

# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD

## Urban Conservation Program



Residential  
**Permeable  
Paving**  
Driveway,  
Davenport,  
Iowa



Genesis  
Hospital  
**Green  
Roof**,  
Davenport,  
Iowa



Soil  
Quality  
Restoration





# Urban Conservation Program

- # Restoration Program





# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Partners of Scott County Watersheds

- Partners of Scott County Watersheds (PSCW) 501( c ) 3 not for profit organization
- Partnership between City of Davenport, City of Bettendorf, Scott County Board of Supervisors, Quad City Home Builders Association & Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District (\$24,500 Annual Salary Contribution)



Soil & Water  
Conservation District



# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Partners of Scott County Watersheds

- Funding from Iowa American Water & in kind donations to conduct Soil Quality Restoration/Rain Garden Workshop/Demo at two Habitat for Humanity Homes
- 26 attendees (landscape contractors, environmental professionals, local government staff, Habitat for Humanity staff and Scott County residents)



# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Duck Creek Watershed Project

- As a result of the workshop:
  - 2 Soil Quality Restoration and 4 Rain Gardens were installed at 2 Habitat for Humanity Homes
  - 4 attendees installed soil quality restoration
  - A contractor in attendance sold Soil Quality Restoration and Native Landscaping to a new homebuilder, also a QCHBA board member
  - An attendee installed 2 rain gardens, soil quality restoration and native landscaping
  - 4 others residents aerated conventionally and applied compost after seeing the photos in the newspaper



*Images  
from Quad  
City Times  
Newspaper*



# Urban Conservation: Scott County SWCD Urban Tour with Governor & Legislators

- 2012 Soil & Water Conservation Week
- Presentations, Tour of Bioretention Cell, Rain Gardens, Stream bank Stabilization
- Governor, US & State Legislator, Mayors, Commissioners, Supervisors, City Council
- 75-100 in attendance





# Urban Conservation: Conservation Districts of Iowa

- New role as Executive Director of Conservation Districts of Iowa
- Value of Urban Conservation to State of Iowa as a whole?
- Role of State Association in Urban Conservation?



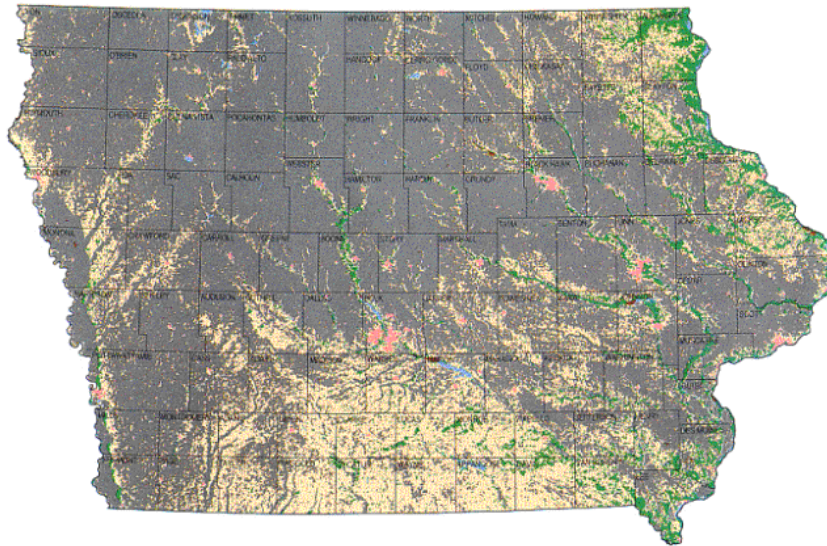




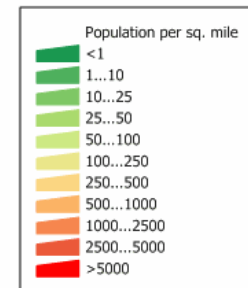
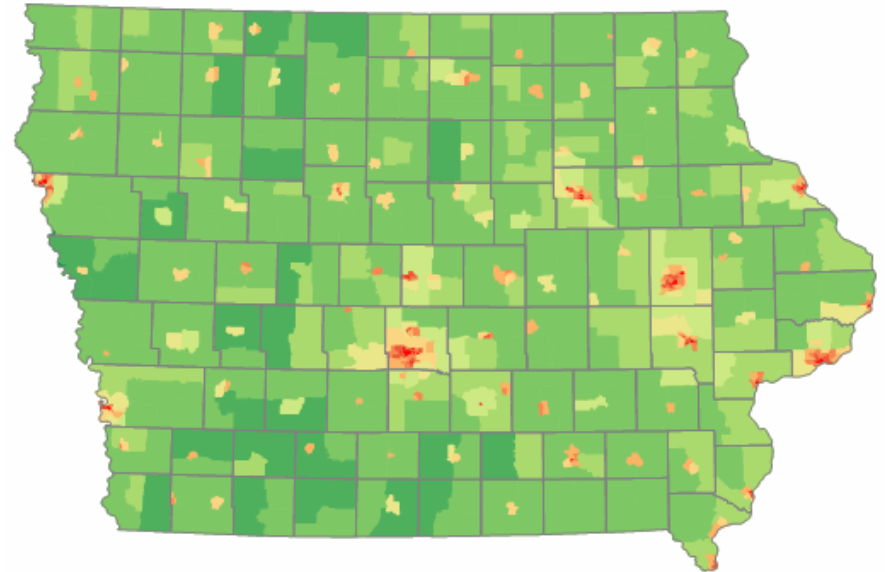
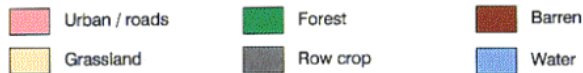
Urban?  
Iowa?

# Urban Conservation: Conservation Districts of Iowa Value

## Land Use vs. Population



LAND COVER Map of IOWA



Source: U. S. Census Bureau  
Census 2000 Summary File 1  
population by census tracts.





# Urban Conservation: Conservation Districts of Iowa Value



- Connect with urban populations & legislators to generate a broader base of support for conservation as a whole.
- Most of our urban centers are at the bottom of watersheds dominated by agricultural land use.
- Work on a watershed scale to meet environmental improvement goals and address flooding issues.



# Urban Conservation: Conservation Districts of Iowa Value





# Urban Conservation: Conservation Districts of Iowa Value

- Part of a larger plan-Riverfront Development – Charles City, Iowa





# Urban Conservation: Conservation Districts of Iowa Value

- Economic Development



# Urban Conservation: Conservation Districts of Iowa

## Roles & Responsibilities

- Resolution process
  - Propose changes to state rules to allow funds to be utilized for urban conservation as well as agricultural conservation
- Build Urban Commissioner Leaders and Identify Roles
  - Facilitate Commissioner to Commissioner Education
- Build an Urban Coalition
  - Connect commissioners & partners- List Serve
- Education & Outreach
  - Legislative Day
  - Spring Regional Meetings
  - Annual Conference
  - Toolboxes



# For more information...



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