

Introduction



What Are We Seeing?

◎ Maintenance Issues

- Risers
- Berm Height
- Planting over terraces

◎ Sedimentation

- Terraces, waterways, field edges
- Where is it coming from?
 - Gully & Ephemeral Erosion

◎ Berms not removed after grass is established in waterways

◎ Farm Plans not being followed

- Lack of rotation
- Not meeting cover requirements
 - Residue
 - Lack of cover crops

What Are We Hearing?

◎ Terraces, Diversions, & Sediment Retention Basins

- Everybody wants terraces
- No one likes to farm terraces
- Berm heights are too high
- Do not fit farm equipment
- No one wants Narrow Base/Steep Back
- Maintenance issues
- Orifice is too small

◎ Waterways

- Take too much area out of production
- Cannot get a good stand of grass
- Sprayers kill the grass
- Do not last long enough

◎ Cover Crops

- Do not work
- Too expensive
- Harvest too late to plant covers & not enough time



Why Are We Here Today?

© Why are we having an Erosion School?

- **Grazing School**
- **How many Cost-Share practices are available?**
 - Most of them are underutilized
 - Terraces are not our only option!
- **Times are changing**
 - A more environmentally aware public
 - Costs are high and markets are down, we need to find ways to improve our soils, reduce costs, and increase and capture more profit per acre
 - Hard to do when our most valuable tool is washing away into the rivers

What Will We Learn?

- We want you to leave today with:
 - A better understanding of
 - Erosion and what it really costs you
 - General soil health
 - The biology and processes occurring in your soil
 - The potential effects of disturbances
 - The economics behind soil health practices
 - The cost-share practices available
 - Some ideas on ways you can improve soil health on your farm
 - A Can Do Attitude; You never know until you try!

Today's Agenda

- **~9:15**
 - **Soil Erosion Basics**
 - Kim Reitz, NRCS Resource Conservationist
- **~9:45**
 - **SWCD Cost-Share Process & Practices**
 - Kevin Monckton, SWCD Technician & Ethan Miller
- **~10:30**
 - **Break**
- **~10:45**
 - **Soil Health**
 - Ethan Miller, SWCD District Manager
- **~12:00**
 - **Lunch!**
 - On your own
- **~12:45**
 - **Soil Health, Continued**
 - Ethan Miller, SWCD District Manager
- **~1:30**
 - **Break**
- **~1:45**
 - **Economics**
 - Lauren Cartwright, NRCS State Economist
- **~3:45**
 - **Questions and Wrap-Up**