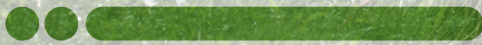


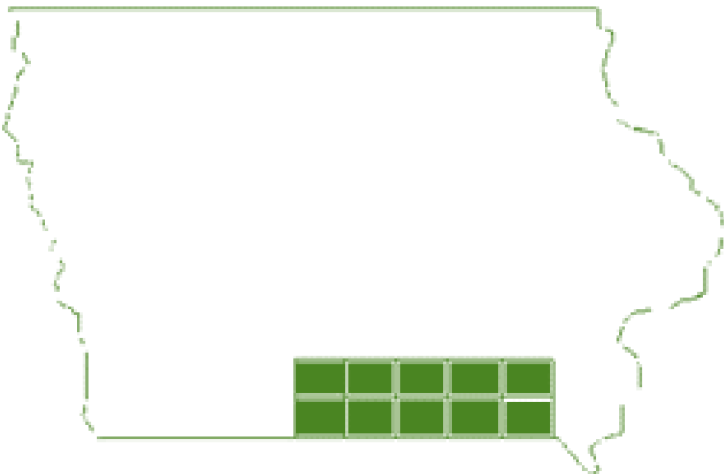
# SIDCA

Southern Iowa Development & Conservation Authority



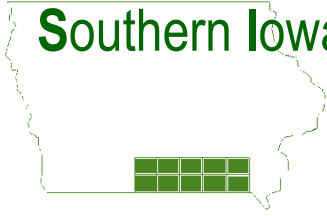
## ANNUAL REPORT FY23

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



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# Southern Iowa Development and Conservation Authority

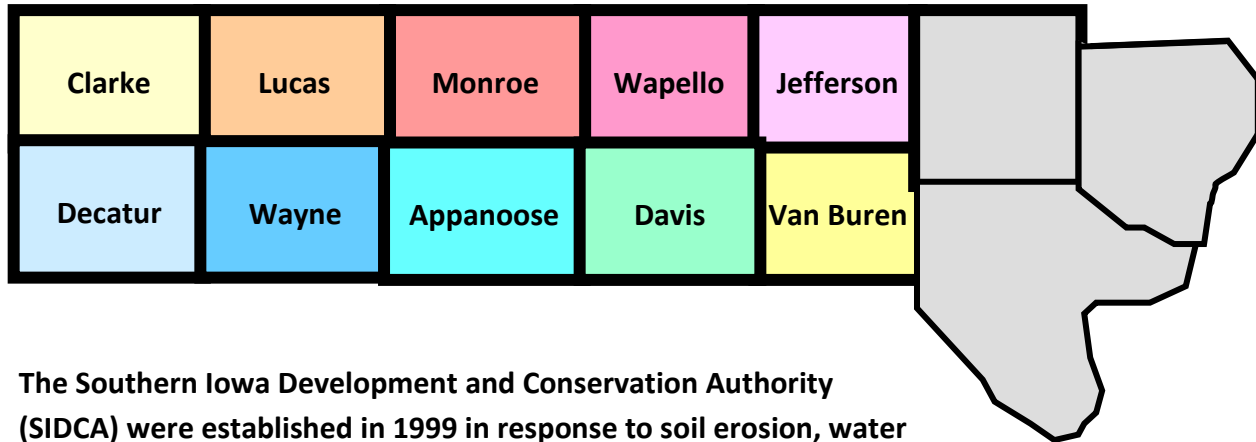
## Annual Report

Reporting Period

July 1, 2022—June 30, 2023

**The mission of the Southern Iowa Development and Conservation Authority:**  
*To develop and coordinate plans for projects related to the unique natural resource, rural development, and infrastructure problems of counties in the most fragile areas of the southern Iowa drift plain.*

### Member counties:



The Southern Iowa Development and Conservation Authority (SIDCA) were established in 1999 in response to soil erosion, water resource degradation and stream channel destabilization linked to the disturbance of southern Iowa's fragile glacial till soils. These resource concerns primarily resulted from large sections of land being converted from perennial grassland vegetation to annual row crop production. These actions were spurred by economic pressures and federal agricultural policies, which encouraged the expansion of subsidized commodity row crop production without regard for southern Iowa's fragile, susceptible soils.

Soil erosion in southern Iowa degrades water quality and riparian habitat, severely threatens the region's potable water supply, damages rural infrastructure, including public roads and bridges, and negatively affects other public and private improvements.

### SIDCA and Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Strategy

Though SIDCA was formed more than 24 years ago, the Authority's mission is still relevant today. SIDCA's outcomes directly support Iowa's major water quality priority: the **Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy**.

For the **Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy** to succeed, there needs to be comprehensive **participation from all areas** of the state. **Since the Authority was established, SIDCA has been vital in establishing water quality practices in southern Iowa.**

**Practices installed with the assistance of SIDCA help remove sediments from soil erosion, phosphorus, nitrogen, and bacteria in the water runoff flowing down the Iowa streams.** The projects are cooperative projects between landowners, the county government, the county soil and water conservation district, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. **These types of projects and partnerships are crucial to the success of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy.**



*Stream bank repair for erosion in Decatur County*

## **A. OPERATION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

SIDCA completed the following activities during Fiscal Year 2023:

- **Meetings** – The SIDCA board met on the following days:
  - September 15, 2022 – In-Person/Virtual
  - December 15, 2022 – In-Person/Virtual
  - March 16, 2023– In-Person/Virtual
  - June 15, 2023 – In-Person/Virtual
  
- **Election of Officers** – In June 2022, the SIDCA Board held the annual meeting. The elected officers were voted in: John Glenn, representing Appanoose County as President. John Hughes, representing Monroe County as Vice President. The Secretary and Treasurer positions were combined as one elected position. Ron Bride, who represents Davis County, accepted that position.

- **Pursuit of State Legislative Funding** – A legislative appropriation of \$250,000.00 was received during this reporting period for FY23.

**FY 2023 Board of Directors:**

County	Representative	Position
Appanoose	John Glenn	President
Monroe	John Hughes	Vice President
Davis	Ron Bride	Secretary/Treasure
Lucas	Larry Davis	Director
Jefferson	Dee Sandquist	Director
Clarke	Dean Robins	Director
Wayne	John Sellers	Director
Van Buren	Dale House	Director
Decatur	Sam Wengryn	Director
Wapello	Bryan Ziegler	Director



**B. BUDGET, RECEIPTS, AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES DURING THE 2023 FISCAL YEAR.**

The SIDCA financial records are tracked on a cash basis.

Non-state funds (Membership Funds) are tracked separately within the checking account.  
See the table below for annual financial information:

	<b>Checking Account State Appropriated Funds Portion</b>	<b>Checking Account Membership Funds Portion</b>	<b>Savings Account State Appropriated Funds</b>
Opening Balance — July 1, 2022	\$1,776.32	\$4,951.41	\$301,677.01
Membership Account			\$5.00
<b>Income</b>			
Interest Earned	\$12.52		\$7,005.27
Transfers From Savings	\$0.00		
Membership Dues		\$5,000.00	
State of Iowa Appropriated Funds			\$250,000.00
<b>Expense</b>			
Bank Fees and taxes	(\$2.20)	(\$34.45)	(\$32.45)
Transfers to Accounts			(\$5.00)
Administration Fees		(\$5,056.83)	
Project Funds Paid			(\$34,641.56)
Ending Balance — June 30, 2023	\$1,786.64	\$4,860.13	\$524,008.27
Additional Funds Obligated for Approved Projects			\$361,340.00
<b>Balance of Unobligated Funds as of June 30, 2023</b>			<b>\$ 162,688.27</b>
<b>TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS</b>			<b>\$530,655.04</b>

**C. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT THE END OF THE 2023 FISCAL YEAR AND STATUS OF RESERVE,**

**SPECIAL AND OTHER FUNDS**

Non-State Appropriated Funds include Membership Funds – outlined above.

**D. STATEMENT OF PROPOSED AND PROJECTED ACTIVITIES.**

On-Road/Off-Road Structures – SIDCA utilizes earthen embankments with existing roads or on-road structures to reduce culvert size and replace bridges. **This will often stop 95% of sediment, nutrients, and pesticides from entering downstream water bodies and provide savings to counties.**

<b>SIDCA PROJECTS APPROVED AND IN PROGRESS FY23</b>					
<b>County</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>SIDCA Funds</b>	<b>% Paid By SIDCA</b>
Wayne	Walker Branch Wetland Restoration	This project is designed to reduce sediment infiltration into the Lake Rathbun Watershed, which provides drinking water for Southeast Iowa	\$6,639,000.00	\$50,000.00	.007%
Van Buren	Austin Park Gateway Access#1 Austin Park Gateway Access #2	These two separate projects are part of the Destination Iowa program issued by the Governor of the State of Iowa. SIDCA has awarded funding to the Van Buren County Conservation for the portion of the Bank Stabilization of the Des Moines River at Austin Park Gateway Access to the Lower Des Moines Water Trail.	\$408,170.00	\$50,000.00	12%
Jefferson	Parrott Pond Outlet Tube Replacement	Remove and dispose of the deteriorated corrugated metal pipe, anti-seep collars, and trash guard. Replace with a new 24-inch corrugated steel pipe, seep collars, and trash guard. Fill and compact the trench, regrade the roadway, and top dress with new crushed stone.	\$27,650.00	\$13,825.00	50%
Davis	Monterey Bridge Armoring	Slow or stop soil from eroding from the back wall on the East and West abutments. The armoring will consist of Class E Rip Rap	\$38,000.00	\$19,000.00	50%
Davis	Glosser Bridge Replacement	The existing bridge pilings are deteriorating and becoming a safety concern. A 12' diameter culvert will be installed in place of the bridge. The safety of transportation will be increased. Sediment loads will be decreased with the installation of the culvert.	\$86,500.00	\$43,250.00	50%

Davis	Soap Creek Watershed Structure 26-55	Erosion has taken place on the bank of the structure. There will be armoring of the bank with revetment per DNR inspection requirements.	\$85,000.00	\$42,250.00	50%
Davis	Altheide Watershed Structure 14A	Replacing the deteriorated overflow pipe in the structure with a new pipe and repairing the eroded bank of the structure. The repair will help increase the storage for silt reduction going downstream.	\$90,000.00	\$45,000.00	50%
Jefferson	225 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge Replacement	Remove the existing bridge with twin rail tank cars as culverts. Sheet piling will be welded for headwalls. This will increase weight restrictions and help with sediment loads going downstream.	\$91,530.00	\$45,765.00	50%
Jefferson	Iris Avenue Bridge Replacement	Remove the existing bridge and replace it with triple flat rail cars. Construction of abutments using geo-reinforced stone embankments with concrete stub wall footing. Sheet piling abutment walls will be constructed to protect the fabric embankment and slow soil erosion.	\$108,900.00	\$50,000.00	46%

**SIDCA PROJECTS COMPLETED IN FY23**

County	Project Name	Description	Total Cost	SIDCA Funds	% Paid By SIDCA
Decatur	Stream Training Steel Creek	This project implements stream training measures to migrate the Steel Creek channel back to its previous location. Steel Creek was meandering toward County Road R69 and threatening to destabilize the embankment. Bendway weirs were constructed of Class E Revetment. The weirs will direct turbulent water back into the center of the channel. This will reduce soil erosion of the road embankment. The project was completed in June of 2023.	\$69,283.12	\$34,641.56	50%

**E. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AS DEEMED NECESSARY.**

SIDCA appreciates the appropriation of funds in FY2002 and FY2004 - FY2011. In contrast, funds were not appropriated in FY2012 - FY2021. Funds were re-appropriated in FY2022 and FY2023, and the SIDCA board is working very diligently to get new projects started and finished to help with water quality, sediment erosion, and improved infrastructure in southern Iowa.





*Decatur County  
Steel Creek project.  
The beginning stages  
of stabilizing the  
stream bank consist of  
benching the bank for  
stabilization and the  
installation of rip rap.*

SIDCA's main priority is installing on and off-road structures and related projects that provide both water quality and transportation infrastructure benefits in the 10-county region. **To continue developing and implementing water quality projects in southern Iowa, the SIDCA receives \$150,000 in funding for Fiscal Year 2024.**

The Iowa Code states that SIDCA may use 5% of its appropriated funds for administrative costs. However, the SIDCA Board of Directors continues *using all appropriated funds for projects*. **In FY 2023, 100% of past state funds appropriated were used to cost-share construction on and off-road structures and related projects that provide water quality and transportation infrastructure benefits in the 10-county SIDCA area.** Member counties and existing public programs offer the balance of funds required for the projects.

The Authority thanks the Governor and General Assembly for consideration of their request.

#### **F. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS DEEMED NECESSARY.**

Because of the support of the Iowa Legislature to assist these ten southern Iowa counties in the unique approach of protecting water quality and improving transportation infrastructure, SIDCA will highlight a few of these efforts. To date, SIDCA's priority is the installation of on-road/off-road structures.

##### **Benefits of SIDCA structures:**

- Improving Water Quality
- Reducing nutrient runoff into Iowa's lakes and rivers for drinking water.

- Effectively capturing 95% of eroded soil carried in runoff
- Stabilizing eroding stream banks and halting gully formation
- Improving the rural development potential of the area
- Providing additional fisheries and wildlife benefits
- Enhancing recreational and scenic qualities of southern Iowa
- Reducing infrastructure costs for the counties Removing rural bridge weight limits and width restrictions for wide loads
- Providing flood control to county roads and bridges downstream
- Providing opportunities to improve rural fire suppression by installing dry fire hydrants and providing livestock watering from structures.



## SUMMARY OF SIDCA APPROPRIATED FUNDS

### **FY 2022 thru FY 2023 appropriation (\$250,000)**

- 100% of funds obligated to approved projects
- Total allocated monies for the projects in FY23 equaled \$311,340.00
- All funds to be expended on actual construction costs for projects
- **SIDCA has projects partnering with the Army Corps of Engineers, IDALS, DNR, DOT, and Destination Iowa. SIDCA is working to improve water quality priorities, soil erosion, and infrastructure benefits and working directly on the Governor's goals of adding tourism into Iowa.**
- *0% of appropriated funds to be used for administration or related expenses*

**FY 2012 thru FY 2021 appropriation (\$0)**

No legislative funds were allocated to SIDCA between FY 2012 through FY 2021.

**FY 2011 appropriation (\$250,000)**

- 100% of FY 2011 funds obligated to approved projects
- All funds to be expended on actual construction costs for projects
- 0% of appropriated funds to be used for administration or related expenses

**FY 2004 thru 2010 appropriation (\$300,000)**

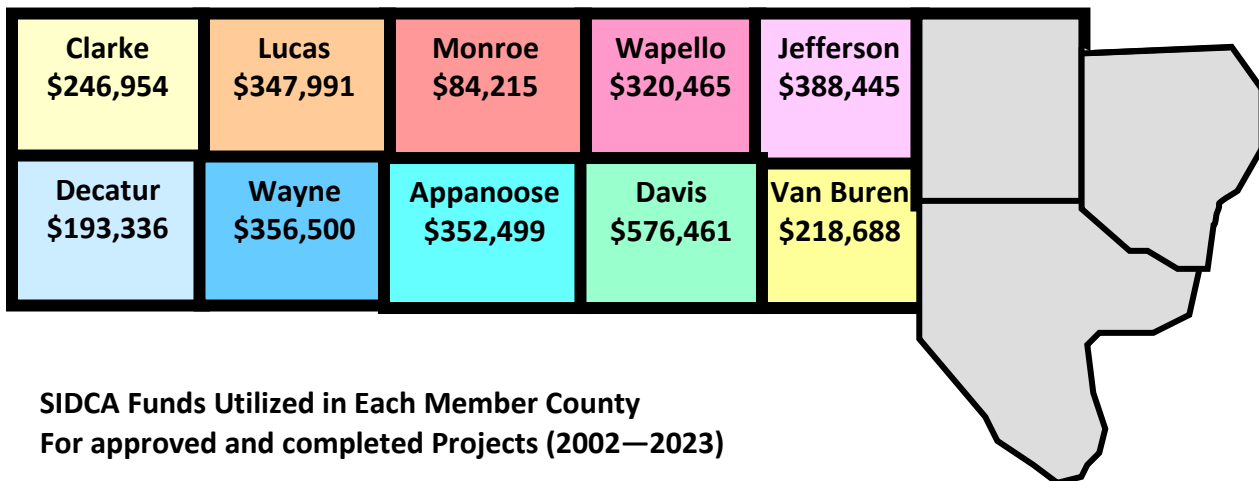
- 100% of funds expended on actual construction costs for projects
- One hundred two projects were completed in the ten counties over six years.
- 0% of appropriated funds to be used for administration or related expenses
- Unique project: SIDCA partnered with Van Buren County and FEMA to provide bank stabilization on Chequest Creek and save an endangered bridge
- Unique project: SIDCA partnered with Little River Lake Sponsors in Decatur County to reduce sedimentation into Little River Lake (a drinking water source and recreation area)

**FY 2002 thru FY2003 Appropriation: \$250,000**

Due to state budget cuts, approximately 12% of the FY2002 allocation was de-appropriated from SIDCA. These funds were allocated to projects before the de-appropriation of funds by the state.

Due to state budget cuts, there was no appropriation for FY2003

- 100% of FY 2002 funds expended on actual construction costs for projects
- 11 projects were completed
- 0% of appropriated funds used for administration or related expenses



**SIDCA Attracts and Leverages Outside Funding for**

## **Non-Infrastructure Projects**

- **\$100,000** funding for the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) Recognizance Study of the Lower Des Moines River
- SIDCA sought to be the original sponsor of the COE Section 206 Project. This program can generate **\$5 million** of funding for the Rathbun Lake Watershed for aquatic habitat restoration. SIDCA is now working with partners to pursue this project with a different sponsor.
- Partners on SIDCA Projects since 2002:
  1. State Legislature
  2. IDALS – Division of Soil Conservation
  3. Counties
  4. Cities
  5. Soil and Water Conservation Districts
  6. Natural Resources Conservation Service
  7. Chariton Valley, Pathfinders, & Southern Iowa RC&D
  8. Iowa Department of Natural Resources
  9. Watershed Organizations
  10. Rural Water Associations
  11. U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
  12. County Conservation Boards
  13. Private Landowners
  14. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
  15. Watershed Improvement Review Board (WIRB)
  16. Pheasants Forever and Ducks Unlimited

Through the activities outlined in this report and through the continual exploration into new endeavors, SIDCA continues to make progress toward its mission:

*To develop and coordinate plans for projects related to the unique natural resource, rural development, and infrastructure problems of counties in the most fragile areas of the southern Iowa drift plain.*

**The SIDCA Board of Directors thanks the State of Iowa for its cooperation and support.**

# State Soil Conservation & Water Quality Committee Summer Tour June 2023



*Tour stop at the SIDCA project in Decatur County in June of 2023*



**THE GREATEST THREAT  
TO OUR PLANET IS THE  
BELIEF THAT SOMEONE ELSE  
WILL SAVE IT.**

**- ROBERT SWAN**



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