



State Legislative District #12
Congressional District #4

South Douglas Conservation District

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Board Chair: Terry Besel

Other Accomplishments



Trusting Spirit Horse Rescue —
Before manure management



Trusting Spirit Horse Rescue —
site of new compost facility



Trusting Spirit Horse Rescue —
new compost facility in place —
SDCD Cost Share Project

2014 Feature Accomplishment:

Field dam protects water quality and prevents soil erosion

RESOURCE CHALLENGE

Soil erosion and water quality are major concerns of South Douglas Conservation District (SDCD). Spring runoff and summer storms can carry soil, nutrients, and contaminants off the fields and into water sources. By controlling the amount of water that leaves the field, this erosion can be controlled and the excess water can stay on the fields where it is needed by the crops, particularly during this period of drought. SDCD has a cost-share program that supports landowners with water quality projects.

PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

The landowner built the new dam after consulting with the CD engineer. One month after it was completed a summer storm came through and completely filled the area behind the dam. Without the dam in place, the water would have rushed down through the farmstead, carrying soil and nutrients to water-filled ditches and water sources. Instead, the water will remain on the field, and be utilized by the winter wheat planted this fall.



Dam before (top) and after new
dam was constructed (bottom)

More Work to Do!

- Continue to develop Firewise program in Douglas County.
- Cost share projects for requested best management practices — soil erosion, water quality, wildlife habitat, windbreaks, fire prevention, etc.
- Conservation education for all cooperators — school age through adults.