THE WESTMORELAND COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
1962

During the year 1962 the following served as Directors for the Westmoreland County Soil Conservation District:

Chairman - - - - - - Dewitt W. Rugh, Slickville, Pa.
Vice-Chairman - - Charles Kepple, New Alexandria, Pa.
Treasurer - - - - - Clarence Vance, Mt. Pleasant, Pa.
Member - - - - - - - William P. Hartman, Bolivar, Pa.
Member - - - - - - Jay W. Kromer, County Commissioner, Greensburg, Pa.

Ford M. Frank, Ruffsdale, Pa. served as appointed Secretary for the Board.

The Directors are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners from lists submitted by county farm organizations. They serve for a period of four years without compensation. The main responsibility of the Directors is to coordinate the conservation activities of the cooperating agencies such as the Soil Conservation Service, Department of Forests and Waters, Department of Highways, Fish Commission, Game Commission, Extension Service, and Farmers Home Administration in order that Soil and Water Conservation problems in the county can be met in the best possible manner. The goal of the District Directors is to encourage all Westmoreland County Farmers to become Conservation Farmers.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DISTRICT

Highlights of the Districts activities during the 1962 follow:

As of this date, there are 605 farmers developing Conservation Plans for their land comprising 81,287 acres, of which 39 became cooperators during the year 1962.

The District, in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service, was responsible for 24 news articles, appearing in approximately 180 publications, one (1) Conservation Demonstration, and eight (8) Conservation Education meetings. In addition the District in cooperation with the ASC County Committee sponsored and conducted a Conservation Tour. The tour was attended by 112 people who viewed conservation accomplishments that were installed under the supervision of cooperating agencies.

The District purchased a copy of the film "Beyond To-Morrow". It is available for use by any group within Westmoreland County.

Highlights of the District Cont'd.

The District sponsored the County Vocational-Agricultural Land Judging Contest and awarded the winner, Gary Graham, Derry Area High School, an engraved plaque.

A Conservation Display was exhibited by the District at the Westmoreland County Fair during August 1962.

The District was represented at all of the executive council meetings of the State Association by Director D. W. Rugh.

Directors Hartman, Kepple, and Associate Director Brawdy attended the Land and People Conference in Philadelphia during October, 1962.

Director D. W. Rugh represented the District at the Annual Meeting of the N ational Association of Soil Conservation Districts held at Philadelphia during February.

District Board Members assisted the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee in formulating the 1963 Agricultural Conservation Program.

Board meetings were held monthly with one of more cooperating agencies represented at every meeting.

FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF REPORT BY COOPERATING AGENCIES OF 1962 ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN COOPERATION WITH THE DISTRICT PROGRAM:

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE - - - - - - - - - WESTMORELAND COUNTY

	FARMS		ACRES	
	This Year	To Date	This Year	To Date
Basic Conservation Plans (Active)	32	456	3,970	56,463
District Cooperators (Active)	39	605	5,312	81,289
Conservation Surveys			41,242	650,278

THE FOLLOWING IS A COMPILATION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES ESTABLISHED ON ALL COUNTY FARMS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE:

PRACTICES	UNIT	ESTABLISHED THIS PERIOD		TO DATE
		DISTRICT COOPERATORS	NON-DISTRICT COOPERATORS-ACP	ALL FARMS
Contour Farming	Acres	376		10,986
Cover Cropping	Acres	264		1,642
Strip Cropping	Acres	376		12,249
Conservation Crop Rotation	Acres	448		8,764
Pasture Planting	Acres	91		1,967
Grassland Renovation	Acres	266		705
Establishing Perennial Hay	Acres	427		1,826
Tree Planting	Acres	75		594
Closed Drains	L. Ft.	55,656	23,032	948,517
Diversion Construction	L. Ft.	16,123	3,075	187,975
Farm Ponds	No.	5	3	105
Land Clearing	Acres	87		990

/s/t/ John R. Nehoda
Work Unit Conservationist,
Soil Conservation Service

WESTMORELAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Westmoreland County ASC Committee is glad to supply the District with the following report showing accomplishments in the Westmoreland County Soil Conservation District under the 1962 Agricultural Conservation Program. Some of the figures are estimates since our final report will not be available until early spring.

The following is the report of practices carried out by Westmoreland County Farmers under the 1962 Program:

Practice Number and Description	Farms	Unit	Cost-Sharing
1. Liming of cropland & pasture	448	6468 Ac.	$59,636.93
2. Seeding of hay & pasture	32	294 Ac.	3,747.12
3. Fertilizing hay & pasture	99	1296 Ac.	10,289.49
5. Seeding of waterways, terraces	14	35 Ac.	1,215.48
6. Cover crops, ryegrass, etc.	7	78 Ac.	109.90
8. Contour Strip-cropping	16	437 Ac.	1,306.12
22. Planting forest trees	3	58 Ac.	748.00
23. Improvement of stand of forest trees	7	169 Ac.	3,183.15
24. Fencing of planted trees	1	116 Rd.	116.00
Permanent Type Practices			
14. Developing Spring	4	4 springs	382.30
15. Construction of Farm Pond	12	12 ponds	4,279.87
16. Construction of Sod Waterways	4	181,280 Sq.Ft.	778.86
18. Construction of Diversion Terrace	18	24,498 L. Ft.	4,168.01
21. Tile Drainage System	60	111,730 L. Ft.	14,923.39
May 1, 1963 expiration date	2		300.85

65 Farms participated in the 1962-63 concurrent program totaling $8,295.00.

Our program is to provide assistance to aid individual farmers in protecting and improving their land in conserving soil and water.

/s/t/ Levi B . Silvis
Chairman, Westmoreland
County ASC Committee

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS AND WATERS - - - - WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Following is the 1962 Service Forest Report for Westmoreland County:

During 1962 some 340,000 board feet of quality mixed oak stumpage was marked for sale on lands of the Derry Municipal Watershed. The high bid was $8,500.00 however, the water company is planning on asking $10,000.00.

Timber stand improvement in cooperation with the Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service in 1962 amounted to 152 acres representing six (6) separate projects. Seventy-five (75) acres of this amount was accomplished by basal spraying with 2-4-5 T and oil. Equipment consisted of three gallon shoulder pressure sprays and an axman for frilling the larger stems to be treated.

Seedling distribution amounted to only 21,000 trees. This low figure resulted from a shortage of nursery stock. For the past two years the open pit mining industry has unexpectedly placed orders for large numbers of s eedlings, creating a shortage. Therefore, for the past two planting seasons we have been unable to promote seedling sales.

Forty (40) acres of site preparation on two separate locations was completed, preparatory to spring 1963 planting season. One of these actions concerned a partial 2-4-5 T liberation in a White Pine - Japanese-Larch plantation four years old.

One-hundred and sixty (160) yards of quality four-strand barbwire fence was constructed to protect one of the above referred to plantations from livestock.

During the work period for 1963 it is planned to mark for cutting 250,000 feet of saw-timber and complete 200 acres of stand improvement.

The following figures from the District Forester will indicate that forest fires have been brought under control completely in Westmoreland County after fifty years of constant effort. In 1962 there were twenty-five forest fires and the accompanying extinction cost amounted to $5,448.00.

s/t/ E. W. Beatty
Service Forester

FOR: STANLEY M. WALTON
District Forester

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS - - - - - - - - WESTMORELAND COUNTY

It is the policy of the Highway Department to establish vegetative cover, and prevent soil erosion on slopes, along and adjacent to the highways that have been disturbed by Highway Construction.

The following is a list of soil erosion work completed in Westmoreland County for 1962:

Route	Seed	Lime	Fertilizer	Mulch H ay	Sq. Yds. Seeded
64164 Rr.7	100 lb.	2 ton	12 cwt.	2 ton	5,000 S.Y.
64060 Rr.1	150 lb.	3 ton	16 cwt.	4 ton	7,000 S.Y.
64064 Rr.1	200 lb.	4 ton	20 cwt.	4 tom	9,000 S.Y.
64160 Rr.2	75 lb.	1 ton	8 cwt.	2 ton	2,700 S.Y.
64217	125 lb.	2 ton	16 cwt.	3 ton	6,000 S.Y.
	1,100 lb.	22 ton	124 cwt.	26 ton	41,700 S.Y.

Interchange:

119-12B
64136 Planted 6,200 Scotch Pine Seedlings.
64047

Rte. 787 Planted 200 Scotch Pine Seedlings.
Interchange

Ligonier Cinder and Storage Yard = 75 Lombardy Poplar Size 8' - 10'

Above seeding and planting by Maintenance Forces.

Pennsylvania Department of Highways Cont'd.

Contract Seeding - - - Westmoreland County

Route	Seed	C. Vetch	Lime	Fertilizer	Mulch Hay	Sq.Yards Seeded
288-7	4,500 lb.	110 lb.	87 ton	520 cwt.	108 ton	217,000 S.Y.
64226 Sec.1	700 lb.	540 lb.	66 ton	336 cwt.	82 ton	165,000 S.Y.
	5,200 lb.	650 lb.	153 ton	856 cwt	190 ton	382,000 S.Y.

Additional Activities

Weed and Brush Spraying by Contract = 300 miles.

Soil sterilants applied under guard fences, along paved highways, concrete divisors, and signs to control unwanted growth = 4,600 lb. used.

Topdressing Old Slopes:

8-16-16 Fertilizer applied and with Crown Vetch and Ryegrass.

Material Used:

Fertilizer = 424 cwt.
Crown Vetch = 700 lb.
Ryegrass = 875 lb.

/s/t Ralph W. Lightner
Roadside Development Engineer

FOR: N. G. BELL
District Engineer
District 12