

Silt endangers county roads

By KEN TURNER

Far too much mud from eroding fields is landing on county roads, causing hazards, plugged barrow pits and culverts, and creating ill will.

Equal responsibility for the problem can be placed on the farmer and the road department. The local SWCD can help and they want to. The Morrow County Road Department and the Soil Conservation Service personnel have agreed to coordinate detailed work plans that focus on critical problem areas throughout the county.

In many cases the solution is fairly easy and the cost is much less than the price of cleaning up the mess and repairing the road just one time.

Excessive erosion is the silt producer, but several factors multiply the damage.

1. Silt collecting on road at wrong spot because of field changes, previous siltation, or improper diversion ditch outlets.
2. Error in culvert size, location and gradient.
3. Lack of silt retention dams, debris basins or diversion structures at or near beds.
4. Complete conservation treatment lacking on fields above county roads.
5. Maintenance or improvement of previously built structures either in the field or at or near road sides.

Coordination and cooperation by the county and the farmer is of critical importance. Problem sites can be fixed by working together. The county road department is newly committed to the job ahead. Any farmer who needs help should contact either the county or the SCS office.

A new Rural Environmental Conservation Program announcement is expected soon that will emphasize cost sharing for nearly all silt producing or erosion problems.

Remember, though, that Soil Conservation Service technical help is available free to anyone at any time with or without a cost-share program.

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PORT OF MORROW FOOD PROCESSING PARK "IN THE LAND OF EXCITEMENT"

The Port of Morrow 350 Processors. The Park will have fire protection available.

Related Community Services include parks, marinas, park for the Columbia River.

Rapidly increasing irrigation necessary. Probably 6,000 by the year 2000.

The multiple use provided Waste Recycling - Warming exciting future for our y

Port of Morrow

1 MARINE DRIVE - BOARDMAN

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