

Union County Soil & Water Conservation District
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Union County in March of 2008 received 13 inches of rain that flooded the entire County. Pictured here is a levee that was overtopped later in the day and flooded many homes. This was in the Ozark Hills watershed that had not had a flood prevention work done on it.



Pictured here is an example of the damage to streambanks through out the County as a result of the large rain. This landowner lost several feet of bank in his field and unless something is done the loss will continue.



Pictured here is at a concrete structure on Big Creek in Union County. The 13 inch rain created a new channel completely around the structure. Estimated soil loss at this site was more than 3000 tons of soil loss at one time. Estimates to replace the structure was around \$250,000.



The Union County SWCD served as a catalyst to help solve this problem. The District working with Wayne Kinney, Cypress Creek Wildlife Refuge, Friends of the Cache, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Department of Agriculture, NRCS and local landowner Bob Osman was able to construct a rock riffle 200' downstream to raise the water level backup to the old structures requirement need. All was done with a total cost of \$55,000. The work was completed by the fall of 2008, saving several structures upstream.