

# Agricultural Drainage THE BENEFITS OF AN ENGINEER

*Can hiring an engineer to assist with an agricultural drainage repair or improvement actually reduce the overall project cost?*

Our extensive agricultural drainage experience has shown that yes, there are significant financial and operational benefits to hiring an engineer. The engineer provides numerous benefits, including:

- » Ensuring Proper Design – Results in a long-term solution that minimizes future maintenance costs
- » Complete and Accurate Plans and Specifications – Clearly defines the work to be completed, providing a basis for competitive bidding
- » Accurate Quantities – Reduces the unexpected costs associated with quantity overruns
- » Coordination with Various Agencies – Throughout the design process, I&S Group coordinates the design with numerous agencies, including the DNR, NRCS, and County and State Highway Departments

Through a combination of the above efforts, I&S has directly saved landowners project costs on numerous projects. Below is a sampling of several projects and the direct value that was provided by our involvement.

	<b>Original Estimate</b>	<b>Total Assessed to Landowners</b>	<b>Percent Savings</b>
Blue Earth CD 25	\$202,000	\$140,000	31%
Blue Earth CD 78	\$150,000	\$139,500	7%
Blue Earth CD 77	\$100,000	\$62,000	38%
Blue Earth County JD 38	\$90,000	\$45,000	50%
Blue Earth CD 29	\$650,000	\$623,000	4%

In several cases, these savings were utilized to perform additional repairs or improvements to the systems that were initially felt would be too costly.

I&S Group understands that drainage is critical to the success of the agricultural community, and we are committed to providing the highest level of service to our clients. We welcome the opportunity to discuss with you any conservation drainage projects under consideration.

Faribault, MN 507.331.1500  
 Mankato, MN 507.387.6651  
[www.is-grp.com](http://www.is-grp.com)