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"Soil conservation is more than an embalming fluid to stop decay. It is a 'vitalizing treatment' to promote growth and preserve our national heritage—the land." Fortunately, soil and water conservation does not mean just hoarding. It means use while keeping the land productive.

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Parker Anderson, extension forester, points out that by combining sound woodlot management with proper harvesting of merchantable trees, farmers can reduce the terrors of lumber shortages and high prices. Those who survey their timber tracts may be surprised to find oak for sills, dimension material, flooring and interior finish; cottonwood for 2x4's, 2x6's, studdings, sheathing, roof boards, plates, rafters, etc. Basswood may also be used for such things as sheathing, plates and rafters. And ash, elm, maple and hackberry may also make their proper and desirable contributions.

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Using land according to its capabilities has given Andrew Kucera in Le Sueur Soil Conservation District higher yields per acre, larger production from fewer acres, higher income, and less erosion. His complete farm conservation plan developed with help of SCS technician led him to drain some wet, bottom pasture and put it into grain. At the same time he moved pasture to sloping land.

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Plan to rest part of your fields by putting them down to grass, either hay or pasture, says C. O. Rost, chief of the soils division at University Farm. Then take them out of grass at regular intervals. This insures an increase in organic soil material which makes the soil mellow and friable. It also carries a supply of available nitrogen, phosphate and potash which insures better crops, weather conditions being favorable. Frequent use of hay and pasture is good soil conservation. It prevents soil depletion and erosion.

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