TRACY TEBBEN RECEIVES 2012 TEACHER AWARD FROM MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) has named the Tracy Tebben of New London-Spicer High School as their 2012 Teacher Award winner. The award was announced at the 76th MASWCD Annual Meeting, held Dec. 2-4 at the Doubletree by Hilton Bloomington - Minneapolis South. Tebben was nominated for the award by the Kandiyohi SWCD.

The Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) Teacher Award honors a K-12 educator/professional teacher who has created innovative conservation education activities for reaching students.

As an agriculture teacher at New London-Spicer High School, Tracy Tebben has been very instrumental in developing an active natural resource curriculum for his students. Tracy gives his students a real hands-on approach to conservation and natural resource education, teaching team work through classroom activities and field application. The Kandiyohi SWCD has worked with Tracy, providing class presentations and writing grants for conservation projects around the school campus.

Tracy played a key role in the development of an outdoor classroom and arboretum on the school grounds through a grant from the National Wild Turkey Federation. This natural area is used by the New London Spicer students as well students from area schools. Another project that Tracy and his students completed was a rain garden on the school grounds, creating a water holding area from runoff from the school – his students planted all the flowers and grasses in the garden. Tracy also worked with the District on repairing an eroding slope on the school grounds by constructing an earthen berm that eliminated any further erosion. The students assisted in surveying the area with the district and they planted the area into native grasses and wildflowers.

Tracy is a true friend to conservation and education. His positive attitude and leadership is reflected in his students’ enthusiasm. MASWCD extends our thanks and congratulations to Tracy Tebben!