MINNESOTA'S COMMUNITY CONSERVATIONIST AWARD

Sponsored by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD)

DEADLINE – FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

PURPOSE: The purpose of this award is to provide SWCDs with the opportunity to nominate an individual, business, company, municipality, or organization for their concern, cooperation, and/or implementation of conservation practices in a community environment.

ELIGIBILITY: All SWCDs that are members of MASWCD are eligible to participate.

REQUIREMENTS: Entries must be typed. Supporting materials, news clippings or other information may accompany the nomination in Microsoft Word or pdf format and be printable on 8 ½ by 11" paper.

TO QUALIFY: The SWCD's nominee should exhibit superior performance in one or more of the following:

1. Erosion and sediment control during land use changes.
2. Stormwater management.
3. Land use conservation planning in a community environment.
4. Leadership and positive reputation relating to community conservation practices.
5. Climate change adaptation and resiliency.
6. Environmental justice efforts, to ensure disadvantaged communities are not disproportionately impacted by water quality problems, and receive equitable environmental benefits.
7. Improving impaired waters and/or protecting unimpaired waters.

Preference will be given to nominees with involvement in MPCA programs and services. Greater consideration will be given to applications that effectively highlight extensive cooperation between the nominee and the SWCD, and utilization of the SWCD services and programs by the nominee.

In addition, all entries submitted must meet the following criteria:

1. The conservation practice or program must be completed within the nominating SWCD.
2. The nominee must meet all relevant regulatory permits and obligations throughout the duration of the project.
3. Recognition will be given for efforts undertaken any time during 2025 or 2026.

RECOGNITION: Applications will be judged by the MASWCD Awards Committee and MPCA. The winner and nominating district will be notified in writing following the committee meeting. The winner will be recognized at the MASWCD Annual Convention in December.

DEADLINE: Nomination forms must be sent to MASWCD by **SEPT. 4** to: **sheila.vanney@maswcd.org**. Nominations received after that date will not be accepted. **Please do not send nomination materials via postal mail.**

SWCD: On the following page, please type-in detailed information about your nominee. Additional pages can be used as necessary.

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NOMINATION FORM

Name of nominating SWCD: _____

***Nominee Information*:**

Name:	
Company or Affiliation:	
Address	
Telephone	

Our district is nominating an: (*please mark the appropriate box*) ☐ individual ☐ entire company or affiliation, with the above named individual as their representative

Is the nominee willing to be highlighted on MASWCD's social media accounts?
(*place a check* (✓) *next to the appropriate response*)

Yes		No	

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PLEASE TYPE A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE NOMINEE'S COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PROJECT OR PROGRAM AFTER THE APPROPRIATE CATEGORY TITLE. (*You may attach letters of recommendation and other supporting information*.)

1. **Erosion and sediment control during land use changes.** (*Examples include, but are not limited to proper use, installation and maintenance of controls, use of innovative erosion and sediment controls, controlling potential sediment yield to under 7 tons per acre per year, etc.*)

2. **Stormwater management.** (*Examples include, but are not limited to designing runoff for predevelopment conditions, reducing impervious surfaces, installing infiltration basins, etc.*)

3. **Land use conservation planning in a community environment.** (*Examples include, but are not limited to, open space conservation, greenway development, habitat protection, etc.*)

4. **Leadership and positive reputation relating to community conservation practices.** (*Examples include, but are not limited to cooperation with the SWCD and urban conservation practices, public education programs such as storm drain stenciling, promoting conservation practices in a community environment, etc.*)

5. **Climate change adaptation and resiliency.**

6. **Environmental justice efforts, to ensure disadvantaged communities are not disproportionately impacted by water quality problems, and receive equitable environmental benefits.**

7. **Improving impaired waters and/or protecting unimpaired waters.**

8. **Other community conservation practices, improvements, and / or planning.**

9. **Summary of your reasons for nominating this person/organization for this award.**