

Press Release - Minnesota Rural Water Association

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Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) present the Large Public Water Supply System Source Water Protection Award to Doug Bos, Rock County Soil & Water Conservation District.



The MRWA/MDH Source Water Protection Award is given annually at the MRWA Technical Conference to recognize the importance and value of source water protection efforts in Minnesota, and to recognize individuals, public water systems and organizations that have shown long term commitment, initiative, leadership, sharing of successes, and initiation or participation in activities which resulted in the protection or improvement of their source water.

Doug Bos, assistant director, Rock County Soil & Water Conservation District is this year's SWP Award Winner (*shown at left*). Doug wears many hats at the District, serving as county feedlot officer, conservation technician, Disaster Recovery Assistance Program Coordinator and Rock County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Coordinator. He also handles competitive grant writing for the district and coordinates surface and groundwater monitoring and modeling programs, among other duties.

Doug has been instrumental in obtaining funding and assisting with the implementation of easements and Agriculture Best Management Practices (BMPs) within the Rock County Rural Water Wellhead Protection Area. Doug helped secure over 900 acres of perpetual easements in an effort to reduce nitrate loading to the aquifer. In addition, Doug worked diligently to educate and secure funds for local farmers and COOPs so they can implement Agriculture BMPs. Doug has been an important voice in southwest Minnesota helping to make sure drinking water protection is included in planning efforts and has hosted numerous field trips and meetings with state agencies to ensure decision makers understand the importance of drinking water protection.

Congratulations to the Doug Bos for your fine efforts toward protecting the drinking water supply!