

Since 1952, Winona County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) has been recognizing those who take care of our valuable soil and water resources.

For 2024, Winona County SWCD would like to recognize Ken Bergler as our Outstanding Conservationist.

- Ken not only lives on but was born on his 3rd generation family farm that began in 1876.
- In 1937, the Bergler family farm was one of the first to implement conservation practices in Minnesota.
- Operation includes
 - 122 Acres
 - Crop rotation of corn/bean/hay
- Conservation journey has included
 - Cover crops
 - Well sealing
 - Feedlot management
 - Forestry improvement
 - Erosion control diversions
- Ken has seen significantly more water infiltration and less soil erosion since implementing conservation practices.
- Ken shared with SWCD staff
“I’m always willing to try something to make things better and easier so you can work smarter. You never know if it’ll work until you try it.” With the goal to “preserve the farm and have less water runoff.”

Andrea, Ken’s daughter is here today for her dad who is in Alaska.

Andrea, we want to thank your dad for his hard work and dedication for implementing conservation practices and taking care of the soil in this ever-changing agricultural landscape in Winona County!

**Please join me in congratulating Winona County SWCD
2024 Outstanding Conservationist
Ken Bergler**