

LOCAL CONSERVATIONISTS HONORED AT STATE SOIL & WATER CONVENTION

Tim and Amy Leonard's Family Farm was recently honored as Carver County's Outstanding Conservationists at the annual Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation District's (MASWCD) meeting on Tuesday, December 11th. They were selected by the Carver Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) for the award.

The Leonard's are the sixth generation on this family farm, which has been in their family for 148 years. The farm has a rich history of being great land stewards, in fact Amy's father, Mark Buesgens, was the recipient of this same award in 1987. Tim and Amy, along with their daughter Christine, operate a dairy farm located between Norwood-Young American and Waconia. They have participated in projects through the U of M Extension to treat milk house waste, using a bark bed system to treat effluent from their operation. They have installed and maintained multiple grassed waterways, they use sound manure management on their more sensitive lands, and contour strips to treat additional resource concerns protecting and improving water quality.

"We are very proud of the Leonard's for their continued protection of our natural resources," Stan Wendland, Chair of the Carver SWCD recently said. "This family farm is truly deserving of this award. They are a great example of what it means to be a conservationist," he also added.



Pictured L to R: Stan Wendland (Carver SWCD Chair), Bob Burandt (Carver SWCD Supervisor), Christine, Tim and Amy Leonard; Mark Zabel (Carver SWCD Supervisor).