



Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District

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Terrance Lorch Family Farm Nominated for the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's 2024 Conservationist of the Year

The Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District has awarded the Terrance Lorch Family Farm as the 2024 Conservationist of the Year. Terry Lorch has been farming since 1969, and now owns and operates over 350 acres in Mantorville and Wasioja townships in Dodge County. Once moving onto the farm in 1980, he started planting over 1,400 linear feet of trees around his new farmstead. The mix of deciduous and conifer trees provide a windbreak helping with energy conservation, and wildlife habitat.

Terry has been working with the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District since he started farming in the late 1960's. He currently runs a wheat / soybean rotation, and has worked with the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District and United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service to transition to no-till farming for his wheat, and uses minimal tillage when planting soybeans. In the 1980's he worked with David Delzer from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District to install four water and sediment control basins on the southern side of his farm, and in the 2010's in partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, he installed two more on the northern portion of his property. Terry also worked with the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District along with the Natural Resources Conservation Service throughout the years to install six grassed waterways on his land, totaling more than 8,300 linear feet.

Today Terry is experimenting with cover crops, including adding oats in with his fertilizer applications. He's looking forward to continuing to work with the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District on ways to improve his operation either through cover crops, and if needed, through additional conservation structural. He believes we have to take care of our soil now, so we will have something to farm in future generations.

Please join us in congratulating the Terrance Lorch Family Farm as the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's 2024 Conservationist of the year!

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

SUPERVISORS: RICK ALBERTS – BRUCE FREERKSEN – LARRY SCHERGER – DAVID LIVINGSTON – GLENN HAHN