

Outstanding Conservationists – 2002 Jerry and Ardis Rindels

Jerry and Ardis Rindels of rural Preston received Fillmore County's 2002 Outstanding Conservation Award at the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual Convention in St. Paul in December. The award is given to someone who has shown leadership in conserving our soil and water resources. The Farmer Magazine and the MASWCD sponsor the award.

Jerry and Ardis farm 160 acres in York Township located 12 miles southwest of Preston. Jerry grew up on the family farm where he assisted his parents with the dairy and farming operation. They used a corn-hay rotation on the tillable ground and kept the rough ground in pasture. Jerry has kept and maintained the contour strips and grassed waterway that his father established some 50 years ago. "The strips have been on this farm as long as I can remember", says Jerry. "It's the only way I know how to farm the steep slopes. The contour strips and grassed waterways are a must."

Jerry and Ardis have recently retired from the milking but still continue to use a corn-hay rotation for their beef cow operation.



The staff of the Fillmore SWCD wishes to congratulate Jerry and Ardis on this distinguished award. Their continued efforts of promoting conservation have and will continue to save our valuable, but limited resources.