

Outstanding Conservationist – 2005 The Serfling Family – Dave, Diane, Hannah and Ethan

Each year the Fillmore County Soil and Water Conservation District selects an outstanding conservationist that has made significant accomplishments in the management and conservation of natural resources.

We are pleased to announce that the Fillmore SWCD Board of Supervisors has selected the **Serfling Family - Dave, Diane, Hannah and Ethan** as our **2005 Fillmore County Outstanding Conservationist Award Winner**. The Serflings' have also been selected as the **Southeast Minnesota Area Winner** and chosen as one of the eight state finalists for the State Outstanding Conservationist Award.

This family operation is well diversified, consisting of 350 acres where they raise corn, oats, and hay; as well as hogs, beef, sheep, chickens, and rabbits.



The Serfling's accomplishments include a shelterbelt, integrated nutrient and pest management, sinkhole protection, reduced tillage, wildlife enhancement through pond establishment and cover improvement, secondary containment for fuels and pesticides and rotational grazing coupled with forage management. Among the more unusual accomplishments are the treatment of septic tank effluent by an innovative constructed wetland, a furnace that utilizes corn cobs or wood, and a beautiful butterfly and humming bird garden.

As our Outstanding Conservationists, the Serfling's were invited to attend the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation District convention in Bloomington this past December where they competed for Minnesota's Outstanding Conservationist Award.

**The Fillmore SWCD wishes to congratulate the
Serfling Family – Dave, Diane, Hannah and Ethan –
on their conservation achievements!**