

Crow Wing County Soil & Water Conservation District Board Member Highlight

By Bethany Chaplin, Conservation Specialist at Crow Wing Soil & Water Conservation District

Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) are political subdivisions of the State MN Statutes Chapter 103c. Supervisors are elected by the citizens of their county as part of the general elections. Supervisors help to form policy and long-term objectives for their district and work with the SWCD staff to see that policies and plans are implemented. In 1956, Crow Wing SWCD was formed to provide local leadership and implement voluntary soil and water conservation projects through programs and partnerships to Crow Wing County (CWC) and adjacent areas.

Who is your elected Crow Wing County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor?

The supervisors include Leonard Koering, Diane Jacobson, Roger Waytashek, JoAnn Weaver, and Jim Chamberlin.

Bethany Chaplin interviewed Diane Jacobson from District 2 to learn about her involvement on the SWCD Board.

Interview Questions:

1. Why were you interested in being on the SWCD Board?

Her husband was previously on the SWCD board for 25 years. After he left the board, she knew it was her turn to make an impact.

2. What are your top three items of focus?

Her top three items of focus include the Pine River Watershed, the SWCD's relationship with Crow Wing County, and educating the public on what the SWCD does for the community.

3. Please explain your background and past experiences that have influenced your work for the Soil and Water.

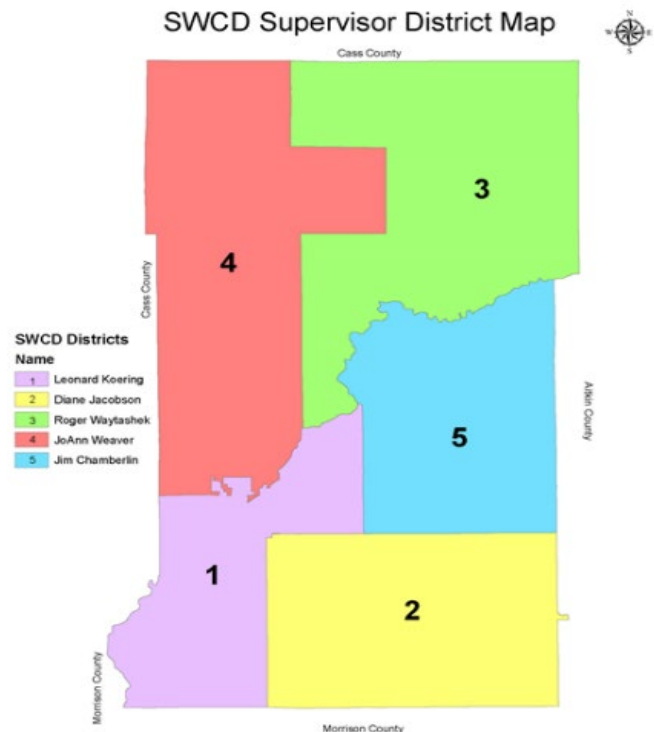
Diane and her husband are beef farmers. They are both very passionate about taking care of the land they live on. They are part of the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program. To learn more, click the link below.

4. What are the top issues facing your district in terms of land management and conservation?

The main concerns facing District 2 are conservation in the Rum River and Crow Wing River Watershed.

5. What is your favorite project implemented in your district?

Her favorite projects are Hay Creek and Grave Lake. She also loves projects that focus on planting shorelines with native plants instead of placing rocks to reduce soil erosion.



6. What impresses you most about the job the current board is doing and what do you think needs improving?

The current board is doing a very good job educating the public on what the SWCD does for the community.

7. How long have you been a board member at CW SWCD?

Diane has been serving on the SWCD Board for 14 years!

8. What does CW SWCD do for the community?

They help educate citizens conservation efforts in the community. This includes education and information on protecting lakes. The SWCD also hosts an annual tree sale to promote buying native trees, and plants in Crow Wing County.



We are very lucky to have Diane on our SWCD Board. She brings lots of knowledge and experiences to our discussions and future projects. Thank you, Diane, for all your years of service! Our next article will feature JoAnn Weaver.

Link:

[Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program | Minnesota Department of Agriculture \(state.mn.us\)](https://www.mn.gov/Minnesota-Agricultural-Water-Quality-Certification-Program)

Please share, watch, subscribe, and comment on Crow Wing SWCD YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5RYE8QHngWrIxIJpalfMSg>

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