



## **DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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### **News Release:**

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### **David and Sarah Stein selected as the 2005 Dakota County Conservation Cooperators of the Year**



The Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District has announced the selection of David and Sarah Stein as the District's Conservation Cooperators of the Year for 2005. The Steins were selected based on their significant contributions towards the management and protection of our natural resources in Dakota County.

Conservation runs in the blood of the Stein family. David's father, Norbert, won the award in 1990. David and Sarah Stein, along with their children raise beef, corn,

soybeans, and a few specialty crops in Douglas Township, just north of Cannon Falls. With assistance from the SWCD, the Steins installed a feedlot runoff collection structure to collect the manure that runs off of their feedlot. Instead of immediately draining into a nearby stream after a rainfall, the manure is collected in a pit until it is ready to be used as fertilizer on the Stein's crop fields. The Steins have also installed water and sediment control basins to prevent erosion within their crop fields. The basins, designed by SWCD staff, hold back rainwater and slowly release it to prevent gullies from forming on the Stein's steep farmland.

The Steins will be eligible to compete for the Minnesota Conservation Cooperator of the Year Award given to one of the county winners from throughout the state. The award will be announced at the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts annual convention held December 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> in Bloomington. A special luncheon will be held at the convention to honor the Steins and the other Conservation Cooperators of the Year from throughout the state.

The Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District congratulates David and Sarah Stein for earning this award and commend them for their contributions towards protecting Dakota County's soil and water resources.



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**