

## **FILING FOR SWCD SUPERVISOR CANDIDATES IS May 18 – June 1**

Minnesota citizens interested in influencing natural resources issues at the local level are encouraged to run for supervisor of their local Soil and Water Conservation District.

SWCD supervisor positions are filled through general elections on Nov. 7. Individuals who wish to be on the ballot in 2010 must file for the election between May 18 and June 1.

Interested citizens should file a Minnesota Affidavit of Candidacy (available from the county auditor), along with a \$20 filing fee. All candidates for state and local offices must state on the Affidavit of Candidacy that they are eligible voters, will be at least 21 years of age when assuming office, and will have been residents of their nominating district for at least 30 days before the general election. Supervisor candidates must live in and file from a nominating district. Candidates are elected at large on the ballot, except for one conservation district in the Twin Cities.

SWCDs are local units of government that manage and direct natural resource management programs at the local level. Minnesota's 91 SWCDs cover the entire state and generally follow county lines. SWCD supervisors have four main responsibilities during their four-year terms. They set overall policy and long-term objectives for their district; develop their district's annual and comprehensive plans; approve landowner cost-share contracts; and work with SWCD staff to see that policies and plans are implemented. They are not paid a salary; however, they do receive compensation for attending meetings and are reimbursed for expenses.

More information on the filing process can be obtained at the Minnesota Secretary of State web site, <http://www.sos.state.mn.us>. Persons interested in finding out what nominating district they live in and which supervisor positions are open for election should contact their local Soil and Water Conservation District office. A directory is located at <http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/directories/SWCDs.pdf>.

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