

Crow Wing County Soil & Water Conservation District Board Member Highlight

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

The 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 JoAnn Weaver from District 4 to learn about her involvement on the SWCD Board.

Interview Questions:

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

JoAnn moved up to Pelican Lake in the early 2000s. She has a beach right outside of her back door. By joining the SWCD Board she can make decisions that directly impact the water quality on Pelican Lake.

2. What are your top three items of focus?

Her top three items of focus include native landscaping, soil health and forestry.

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

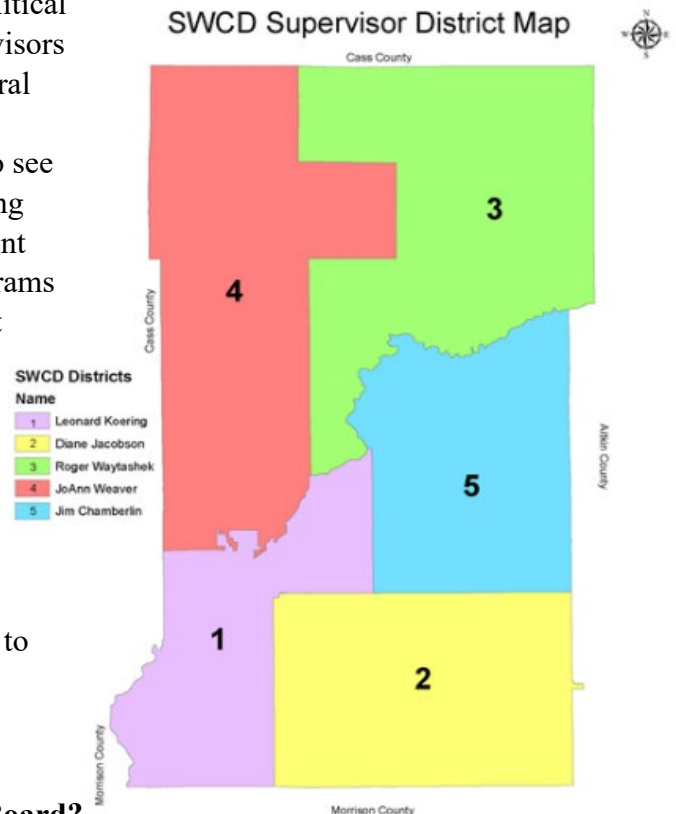
She grew up in Nebraska. Her father was a gardener when he got home from his day job. She now has a vegetable garden at her home and loves growing what she eats.

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

The main issues facing district 4 are seasonal property ownership and farming. People come in from places around the state and don't always realize the importance of clean water.

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

She loves being a part of the One Watershed One Plan planning committee. This helps bring people together to show how the behavior of one has a far-reaching effect on many.



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

She loves the current job that the SWCD and Crow Wing County are doing to strengthen their relationship so that shared goals can be accomplished.

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

JoAnn has been serving on the SWCD Board for 6 years!

8. What does CW SWCD do for the community?

The SWCD does environmental work that supports good stewardship of the land we live on.



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

Link:

Please share, watch, subscribe, and comment on Crow Wing SWCD YouTube channel
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5RYE8QHngWrIxIJpalfMSg>

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