

Tom Anderson

District 2: Bradford, Athens, Oxford Townships

1) Why are you a candidate for Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor in Isanti County? What relevant experience do you have?

My primary reason for running is my keen interest in the biological integrity of the natural systems in Isanti County. I have the privilege of living on the same land that my great-great grandparents settled on in the 19th century when they began farming here. Growing up hunting, trapping and exploring the family farm sparked my interest in the outdoors. Those early experiences guided my decision to seek a wildlife biology degree from the University of Minnesota. For 30 years I was employed by the Science Museum of Minnesota as a professional naturalist and a director of the Lee and Rose Warner Nature Center. We provided outdoor education opportunities to thousands of school youth and to adults as well. I continue to work with community efforts to protect wild places and improve wildlife habitat. Recently I have secured grant money to convert lawns to pollinator habitat.

2) What is the biggest issue facing a supervisor at this time?

Healthy natural systems provide us with life-giving things such as clean water, clean air, flood control, pollinating insects (that pollinate 1/3 of the food we eat) and more at NO cost to the taxpayers. Given that most of Isanti County lies on the Anoka Sand Plain and is overlain with porous soils, it is vital to protect the county's wealth of wetlands. These areas are key to recharging the underlying aquifers that provide water to Isanti County and beyond.



David Medvecky

District 5 - North Branch, Isanti Townships

1) Why are you a candidate for Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor in Isanti County? What relevant experience do you have?

I'm running to be a Supervisor because I want to help with conservation in Isanti County, and help landowners complete conservation projects. I have lots of personal experience installing conservation projects, so I have knowledge about the work that needs to be done. On my land, I have done wetland restorations, cover crops, native grass plantings, and pollinator plantings and I would like to use my knowledge to help others. I have also been serving as an Isanti SWCD Supervisor for 2 years now.

2) What is the biggest issue facing a supervisor at this time?

The biggest issue for supervisors and SWCDs is finding funding to get conservation projects on the ground. Funding is primarily dependent on grants and legislator decisions. In order to do their best conservation work SWCDs need reliable and secure funding.

