

2019 Douglas County Outstanding Conservationist



The Lund Family Farm, Larry (Mary Kay) and William (Haley) Lund, a father-son farming family operation from Brandon, MN were recognized as the Douglas SWCD 2019 Outstanding Conservationist for Douglas County. Over the years the Lund's have been a perfect example of participation for the districts' programs. Both Larry and William have completed forestry improvement and establishment practices through shelterbelts planted around their building sites. They use reduced tillage to eliminate wind erosion on ag fields. They promote pasture improvement and management by having 120 ewes and 70 heifers that are rotationally grazed on pasture land throughout the summer months.

The Lund's practice cropland management by using reduced tillage on the 900 acres of tillable land they farm. Straight shanks on tillage equipment are used to keep residue on the surface to reducing soil erosion. Soil and manure tests are used to ensure nutrients are applied at proper rates.

Integrated pest management practices are represented by the Lund's use of consultants for crop scouting to ensure proper application rate and timing of insecticides and pesticides. The Lund's crop rotation includes corn, soybeans, small grains and alfalfa to help prevent crop disease.

Livestock and manure management; the Lund's milk 100 cows, raise 70 heifers, 70 steers, 120 head of ewes, 250 laying hens and raise 1,000 butcher hens. Through the EQIP program in 2018, the Lund's installed an ag. waste system which included re-constructing of an earthen manure pit, stacking slabs, diversions and a vegetative treatment area for feedlot runoff. The Lund's have a comprehensive nutrient management plan for proper manure application. In addition to the Ag. Waste System, a new barn was built that includes a robotic milker!

The Lund family has installed five acres of buffer strips along sensitive areas and are following the MN buffer law to ensure shoreline and streambanks along their property are stabilized. This will also provide adequate habitat for a variety of wildlife species.

The Lund's hosted the 2019 Douglas County "Lunch on the Farm" and were a stop for the SWCD's 65th Conservation Bus Tour, giving the public a chance to view their working operation.

