

2013 Outstanding Conservationist

The City of Cold Spring has been awarded the 2013 Outstanding Conservationist for Stearns County. Each year, Minnesota SWCDs recognize individuals and organizations for outstanding accomplishments in implementing conservation and improving Minnesota's natural resources.

To advance resource protection the City installed 37 rain gardens, completed a streambank restoration, and executed several practices that protect Brewery Creek, a trout stream, by dramatically reducing road salt and sand on City streets.

In addition, the City is implementing a Wellhead Protection Plan to reduce nitrate levels in its drinking water supply. Some activities include providing financial assistance to farmers who adopt nitrogen reduction BMPs, community education on turf management through a demonstration site, lawn care workshops and a neighborhood turf festival. Additionally, they host an annual luncheon with area farmers and a children's water festival.

The City serves as a wonderful example to landowners and other municipalities by adopting countless conservation practices over the years to protect and enhance our natural resources.

