



Michigan Association of Conservation Districts

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“The Future is Green”

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Joe Woodruff, Clinton Conservation District, Named 2009 Technician of the Year

East Lansing, Michigan. For his outstanding service to the Clinton Conservation District, the Michigan Association of Conservation District Employees (MACDE) recently named Joe Woodruff, Conservation Technical Assistance Initiative (CTAI) Specialist for the Clinton Conservation District, 2009 Technician of the Year.

MACDE is the organization that advocates for Conservation District employees and helps them obtain and maintain professional level benefits and skills.

MACDE assists Conservation Districts in establishing professional level benefit packages for their employees and provides Conservation District employees with the tools needed to increase their professionalism.

The organization bestowed this honor to Joe Woodruff at their annual meeting in December 2009 that was held during the Michigan Association of Conservation District (MACD) Annual Convention at Soaring Eagle Resort and Casino in Mt. Pleasant.

This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated above average service to their District, enhanced their community and environment, helped the District further its mission, gone above and beyond the call of duty, and excelled in their day-to-day activities.

Joe's many skills and dedication to Clinton Conservation District, and two other Districts he serves, were cited in his nomination for the award. Joe was nominated by Melissa Eldridge from the Ionia Conservation District.

“Covering three counties, Joe has continually expanded his knowledge and expertise,” wrote Melissa. He has acquired a wealth of knowledge and experience to better serve the residents of the District.

In particular, Melissa wrote that “Joe gives consistent and non-wavering effort in his work. Over his career with the Clinton District, Joe has worked on many projects - from forestry to manure management. Joe now has several projects including design and construction checks. He is always willing to adjust as needed and has proven to be a loyal District employee.”

Joe promotes the District by familiarizing himself with all the District programs so he can share the information with the landowners in the District.

For all these reasons, Joe was recognized as the 2009 Technician of the Year. The MACDE and the MACD congratulate him and thank Joe for his dedication to helping Michigan citizens conserve their lands and Michigan's natural resources.



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In addition to the MACDE award, on August 3, 2009, Joe received a certificate of merit from the Ionia Conservation District, who he serves along with Clinton County.

In a letter accompanying the certificate, Art Pelon, Chairman of the Ionia Conservation District and the NRCS Ionia Field Office, wrote that Joe's "tireless efforts and expertise have assisted in providing quality service to numerous producers. Joe's work in Ionia County "has greatly assisted the field office in attaining the goals set for the county," wrote Art. "Your help in all aspects of planning, desing and inspection have enhanced the timeliness of project completion."

The Michigan Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) is a non-profit organization that represents the interests of Michigan Conservation Districts and works to strengthen Districts through leadership, information, and representation at the state level.

Michigan's 79 Conservation Districts are the local providers of natural resource management services that help our citizens conserve their lands and our environment for a cleaner, healthier, economically stronger Michigan.

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