

## Three Seats open on the Soil & Water Board of Supervisors

Individuals concerned about maintaining our quality environment in Washington County should consider filing by June 1 to run for the position of Supervisor of the Washington Conservation District (WCD).

SWCDs are special purpose units of government that manage and direct conservation programs, such as the state Cost-Share Program and the RIM/WRP easement program. An elected board of Supervisors governs each of Minnesota's 90 SWCDs.

This year, the Washington SWCD has three Supervisor positions up for election. SWCD candidates appear on the ballot for the general election which will take place November 2, 2010. Candidates are elected county wide, but must reside in one of the nomination districts up for election. These include District 1 which covers the Cities of Forest Lake, Hugo, Scandia, Dellwood, Grant, Mahtomedi, Willernie, Pine Springs, Birchwood Village and portions of White Bear Lake; District 3 which covers the Cities of Stillwater, Oak Park Heights, Bayport, Lakeland Shores, Lakeland, Lake St. Croix Beach, Afton, and St. Mary's Point, as well as May, Stillwater, Bayport, and West Lakeland Townships; and District 5 which covers the City of Woodbury. SWCD Supervisors serve four year terms. A Supervisor shall hold office until his or her successor has been elected or qualified. The office of the Supervisor is a nonpartisan office, and are elected at-large – meaning that all eligible voters throughout Washington County are able to vote for the open positions. You must file a "Minnesota Affidavit of Candidacy" at the *Taxpayer Services Department* located in Stillwater. The filing fee is \$20. This affidavit must be filed during the filing period, which is through June 1, 2010. You must be an eligible voter, at least 21 years of age, and reside in the nomination district of the current vacancy.

Supervisors meet monthly to discuss the business of the SWCD, including state grant allocations to landowners, district conservation priorities, coordination with other local units of government and state agencies, and legislative priorities. Supervisors do not receive a salary, although they do receive compensation for attending meetings, and are reimbursed for expenses.

Additional information about the SWCD can be obtained by visiting their web site at [www.mnwcd.org](http://www.mnwcd.org) or calling the office at 651.275.1136.

