



Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District

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Run for the SWCD Board: Election Filings Begin May 22

Individuals interested in natural resource management and conservation in Chisago County should consider filing to run for the position of Supervisor of the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Chisago SWCD Board Supervisors are voices for their local community, making decisions that affect natural resources and local residents. The filing period runs May 22 to June 5, 2018.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are political subdivisions of the State and are governed by an elected Board of five Supervisors. Each Board Supervisor represents a district within the County. An elected Board of Supervisors governs each of Minnesota's SWCDs.

“Supervisors play an important role in a wide variety of natural resource management issues at the local level, including water quality, soil erosion, stormwater management, agricultural conservation and land protection,” noted Craig Mell, District Manager of the Chisago SWCD. “Serving as a supervisor is a terrific opportunity for people who want a voice in how we manage our environment.”

SWCDs are special purpose units of government that manage and direct local conservation activities with landowners and communities. The supervisors meet monthly, discussing the business of the SWCD, distributing state grant allocations, setting conservation priorities, developing legislative priorities, and coordinating conservation efforts with other local units of government and state agencies.

Supervisors do not receive a salary, although they do receive compensation for attending meetings and are reimbursed for expenses.

In 2018, the Chisago SWCD has two Supervisor positions up for election, in District #1 (Fish Lake, Nessel, Rush City and Rushseba) and District #3 (Sunrise and Amador). SWCD candidates appear on the ballot during the general election which will take place on November 6, 2018. Again, individuals who wish to be on the ballot must file for candidacy between May 22 and June 5. Election terms are four-years.

“Bringing Conservation to Chisago County”

A more detailed description of each Supervisor district including precinct numbers can be found on the Chisago SWCD home page at www.chisagoswcd.org.

Any eligible voter that is 21 years old and lives in a nomination district up for election can file for that SWCD Board vacancy.

If you are interested in filing for an SWCD Board Supervisor position, a “Minnesota Affidavit of Candidacy” is available from the Chisago County Auditors Office. There is a \$20 filing fee. More information can be obtained at www.co.chisago.mn.us or by calling (651) 213-8500.

Information about the Chisago SWCD programs and activities are available at www.chisagoswcd.org. If you would like more information, you may also contact the SWCD Office at 651-674-2333.