



Conserving Our Land Today For Tomorrow

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: All Media

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**2026 – DIRECTOR ELECTION
WINNEBAGO COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Election of Directors was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. Paul Beuth of Leaf River, Justin Krohn of South Beloit and Michael Leick of Winnebago were on the ballot. Each were elected to two-year terms. Their term will begin on Monday, March 2, 2026.

Soil conservation in Winnebago County began with the 1933 proposal of a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp in the Village of Durand. This became a reality in 1935, when tents were erected as the first camp buildings in 1935. This spurred the establishment of the Pecatonica-Durand Soil Conservation District on May 20, 1940, the fourth such District in the State of Illinois. In 1963, the Pecatonica-Durand Soil Conservation District changed its name to the Winnebago County Soil Conservation District, eventually adding “Water” to the name in the 1970’s. Since 1940, great strides have been made in soil and water conservation in Winnebago County. Though programs and people have changed over the years, the main goal of the District remains to protect and conserve our natural resources.

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