

## **Conservationist of the Year – 2009 Dan and Sherry Hanson**

**Dan and Sherry Hanson** of Peterson have been chosen as the **2009 Fillmore County Conservationists of the Year**. In addition, Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) has named them as one of eight Area finalists in the 2009 Outstanding Conservationists Program. On December 8<sup>th</sup>, the Hanson's were selected as the **Minnesota Outstanding Conservationists** at MASWCD's 73<sup>rd</sup> annual convention in Duluth.

Dan started farming in the late 1970s with his father. The Hanson's raise corn, soybeans, and hay on 613 acres and have a 150 head cow-calf operation. They still have 183 acres of contour strips, including 80 acres of hay, that were laid out when Dan's grandfather developed a conservation plan with the Soil Conservation Service in 1944. Over the years, 6,875 feet of terraces and 10 acres of grassed waterways have been installed. Nutrient and pest management, no-till, and planting thousands of trees on CRP for wildlife food and habitat also enhance conservation on their farm. The Hanson's exemplify the land stewardship ethic that SWCD's promote.



**The Fillmore SWCD is very proud of Dan and Sherry Hanson and wish to congratulate them on their being named 2009 Minnesota Outstanding Conservationists!**