



On Behalf of Marathon County, we would like to nominate Matt Repking, Conservation Analyst, for the 2022 Outstanding Conservation Employee-Technical category:

Matt Repking
Marathon County CPZ
210 River Drive
Wausau WI 54403
715-261-6000

Title: Conservation Analyst, began work with Marathon County in August of 2014

Education: Bachelor of Science: UW Stevens Point-Soils and Waste Resources
Master's Degree: UW Madison Soil Science-Soil Fertility

In past positions Matt was the Assistant Superintendent/Program Manager at the UW Arlington Research station where he oversaw the fertility and agronomic practices on 2200 acres of research/production fields. Oversaw the CAFO requirements of the facility and managed its 16 employees.

Current responsibilities include the following: Oversee the implementation of Marathon County's Animal Waste and Nutrient Management program. Serves as a leader in a team approach to a multi county nutrient management farmer education effort, including plan development. Leads the development and implementation of SWRM contracts within the county.

Submitted by Paul Daigle and Diane Hanson. Marathon County Conservation, Planning and Zoning Department, 210 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403 715-261-6006.

Summary: Matt Repking leads by example each and every day. His knowledge of conservation and how it dovetails with agriculture is second to none in North Central Wisconsin. Matt's true strength is working with farms of all size to help implement recommendations on their farm which provide profitable options which protect and improve the environment. Matt has earned the trust respect of his fellow employees, farmers, agronomists, and everyone he works with to get conservation on the ground.

Nomination: Matt began working for Marathon County nearly a decade ago, returning to his home County. He grew up on a dairy farm in the western side of the county which is now a beef operation that he is involved with. Matt's great background in soil fertility, his years in management of the UW Arlington farm, and most of all his genuine dedication to his work, has allowed him to flourish in his position. He truly has a desire to make a difference each and every day and exemplifies many of the Marathon County Core Values, specifically service, integrity, diversity and quality.

Some of Matt's accomplishments include the following:

- Leading a team to work with the Amish community to understand and accept nutrient management
- Led a two-year effort to update the county's Animal Waste and Nutrient Management ordinance, which included extensive community engagement effort to ensure acceptance by the entire community. His engagement efforts

ultimately led to 17 letters of support from a wide variety of community groups for the changes.

- Most importantly Matt is sought out by farmers, co-workers, and agronomist for his in-depth knowledge and ability of incorporating conservation and agronomy into the daily operations of farms. Matt excels working one on one with people. He quickly gains their trust through his respectful and trustworthy demeanor. People seek him out for his input into their farming operations.
- Takes the lead on departmental program efficiencies that will ensure implementation of successful programs through the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

Most importantly Matt serves as a role model by providing credible, science based proven recommendations, he mentors new employees within the department, and has the ability to always remain calm and respectful when others may not be by modeling core values. Matt leads by example and people follow.