

**Wisconsin Land & Water
2022 Special Recognition/Friend of Conservation Award**

Nomination: Charles “Chuck” Wagner

1).

- Charles Wagner, E1934 County Road S, Luxemburg, WI 54217.
Wagnerc50@yahoo.com
- County Board Supervisor (1999-2021), Land & Water Committee (2004-2021 minus 2 years 2014-2015); Glacierland Resource Conservation Development (2006-2020); WI Land & Water (2010-2014 & Chair and 2016-2020); Woodland Association; WI Coastal Management Council (2018-current).
- Nomination submitted by: Davina Bonness (County Conservationist), 625 Third Street, Luxemburg, WI 54217, 920-845-9743

2). Summary your entry in five 5 sentences or less:

I am nominating Charles “Chuck” Wagner because no one is more deserving of this Special Recognition/Friend of Conservation Award than he is. He was appointed to the Kewaunee County Board in 1999 and served 20 years, but his greatest achievements came with his years of service on the Land and Water Conservation Committee and is where he will be most remembered. His passion, his commitment, his background and willingness to bring core issues like groundwater contamination to the forefront of not only Kewaunee County, but to the state of Wisconsin. Chuck was never shy to discuss his personal well issues and was never one to back down from finding solutions, which included why he was nominated to represent numerous state boards and committees. Chuck worked to find solutions in a collaborative way, working with farmers and landowners, educating those in government positions, talking...and we all know Chuck loves to talk, but most of all listening, representing and being extremely active in Conservation throughout Wisconsin.

3). 500 words or less: 500 words is extremely difficult especially when it comes to Chuck Wagner (LOL)

The principal reason why Chuck Wagner should receive the Special Recognition/Friend of Conservation Award is his tireless dedication and support of conservation efforts throughout Kewaunee County and the State of Wisconsin.

From his passion for conservation, to his love of forestry, to his pledge to groundwater protection, Chuck served on numerous state and local committees with exceptional loyalty and dedication. Chuck's devotion to improving these committees' and having the skill to fairly look at multiple sides of an issue made him a trusted representative.

Chuck was first appointed to the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Committee in 2004 where he firmly believed we could all live in a world of agriculture and clean water. In 2016, Chuck Wagner began serving on the Kewaunee County Agriculture & Extension committee and was a tremendous supporter of Extension programming locally and across the state. Chuck also served on the Kewaunee County Farm Technology Days Executive Committee.

Chuck knew education of future generations was key. Chuck hosted numerous woodland field days on his property, providing forums for discussion and opportunities for those to learn. Chuck was instrumental in the development of the local Kewaunee County chapter of the Groundwater Guardians, where he volunteers by building rain barrels, making karst and watershed models and assisting in teaching residents how and the importance of well sampling.

Chuck has always been and always will be the biggest supporter of the Land & Water Conservation Department staff and Association. Chuck has served on an endless list of Boards & Councils, including Wisconsin Land & Water (Chair 2010-2014 & Board Member 2016-2020), Lake Michigan Area Association, Glacierland RC&D, Woodlands Association, Wisconsin Coastal Management Council and list the goes on.

While Chuck was Chair of the WI Land & Water Board (2010-2014), he was pivotal and an enormous driver of the merger of WI Conservation Committees and Staff members, which made the organization much more effective than ever and where it is today.

Chuck is the biggest advocate of clean groundwater. Chuck played a major role in helping to bring the Northeast Wisconsin Karst Task Force Report to the Land & Water Board's attention, leading to a special meeting/public informational forum about the Report hosted by the Board. Chuck assisted in locally adopting the Silurian Dolomite NR151 Standards, Kewaunee County's Groundwater Protection Ordinance as well as our Agricultural Waste and Process Wastewater Irrigation Ordinance.

Everyone knows Chuck Wagner and no one left a meeting without hearing his well contamination story. Not because they had to, but because he is so well respected throughout Wisconsin.

Chuck's years of dedication to Wisconsin's Natural Resources and Conservation is comparable to no other. Chuck never was one to give in, instead he stood up and fought for conservation and clean water, while promoting our dairy industries. I don't know anyone who is more deserving, anyone who put more passion and hours or worked harder to protect our natural resources and Conserve the Environment we all need and love, than Chuck Wagner.