

## **Clinton Conservation Districts 2010 Conservationist of the Year**

Jeff Wadell of Wadell Dairy Farm in Elsie, MI. was named the Clinton Conservation Districts 2010 Conservationist of the Year.

Jeff's Great-Grandfather moved to the current farmstead in 1906. They raised cows, chickens and hogs for many years. In the early 70's they transitioned to a modern dairy farm and built their first freestall barn. They have slowly slowly expanded since then, currently milking 450 cows. They also raise most of their bull calves and sell them as fat steers and grow corn and alfalfa on 650 acres.

Jeff is often seen in the Conservation District office and is enrolled in a number of conservation programs. Additionally he is President of the Friends of the Maple River, Policy Development Chairman and County Board Member of the local chapter of Farm Bureau and active with MMPA (Michigan Milk Producers Association).

Jeff can often be seen at area conservation and farming events.

Gary Fritz, Executive Director for Clinton Conservation District, stated at the presentation "Jeff has always been conservation minded and has always been supportive of our programs and assisted other organizations in volunteering to host conservation efforts on his farm".

The award was presented by Jim Graham, Clinton Conservation District Vice-chairman, at Smith Hall on March 24<sup>th</sup> during a Conservation Districts Annual event.