Two from Southeast Nebraska Recognized for Conservation Efforts

(KTNC) - Two southeast Nebraska conservationists were recognized for their achievements during a luncheon at the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts' Conference, held last week in Kearney. Nemaha Natural Resources District board member Orval Gigstad of Syracuse was honored as the NRD Director of the Year, and Jan Zink from Norris High School in Firth was named the NARD Educator of the Year.

Zink has been a science teacher for more than 35 years, mostly at Norris High School. She has sponsored the school's Envirothon team since 1993. Those teams have advanced to state competition nearly every year and represented Nebraska at the national contest three times.

Gigstad has represented Otoe County on the Nemaha NRD Board of Directors for the past 20 years. He has been a representative on the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts since 1996 and represents Nebraska on the National Association of Conservation Districts Board. The Nemaha Natural Resources District nominated both Gigstad and Zink for the awards.

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