

**DEVILS LAKE BASIN
JOINT WATER RESOURCE BOARD**

SERVING

CAVALIER, EDDY, NELSON, PIERCE, RAMSEY, TOWNER & WALSH COUNTIES

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE USE

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**‘WATER STEWARDSHIP AWARD GIVEN OUT BY DEVILS LAKE
BASIN JOINT WATER RESOURCE BOARD’**

On Thursday, December 5th, the Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board presented their 2019 Water Stewardship Award to a very deserving group during the 56th Annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention & Irrigation Workshop’s Awards Banquet in Bismarck. The award was presented to the Devils Lake Access Committee.

The Devils Lake Access Committee was nominated by Jay Hagen, Vice-President of the Lake Region Anglers Association. The Devils Lake Access Committee is made up of representatives from the Devils Lake Park Board, City of Devils Lake, Ramsey County Commission, and Devils Lake Tourism. The Devils Lake Access Committee also partners with the North Dakota Game & Fish as well as several area groups and individuals who are committed to maintaining public access to Devils Lake.

Since 1990, with extreme fluctuating water levels, the Devils Lake Access Committee has partnered with the North Dakota Game & Fish Department to help develop and maintain public boat landings, fish cleaning stations and assist with clearing snow to help with public access for ice fishing. Recently they established the first year-round, indoor, free, public fish cleaning station. The Devils Lake Access Committee was also very instrumental and a driving force in helping secure the three ADA compliant, wheelchair accessible shore fishing piers around Devils Lake.

The plaque reads; “ Devils Lake Basin Water Stewardship Award Presented to: **DEVILS LAKE ACCESS COMMITTEE** – For their on-going commitment in providing recreational opportunities for ALL to enjoy the natural bounties that Devils Lake has to offer regardless of water levels or people’s physical abilities”.

The Devils Lake Basin Water Stewardship Award was established following the 2002 completion of the Devils Lake Basin Water Management Plan and is presented to an individual, group or an organization that has contributed to assisting the implementation of the Joint Board’s mission statement. *“DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE, COORDINATED WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE DEVILS LAKE BASIN THAT WILL PROTECT THE ECONOMIC & BIOLOGICAL VALUES OF THE DEVILS LAKE BASIN WHILE PROVIDING OPTIMUM BENEFITS FOR AGRICULTURE, WILDLIFE & FISHERIES, RECREATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR ITS CITIZENS”.*



Pictured L-R: Duaine Ash, Ramsey County Water Resource Board, Jeff Frith, Manager Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board, Mike Tweed, Eddy County Water Resource Board, Dave Sateren, Nelson County Water Resource Board, Albin Jallo, Walsh County Water Resource Board and Richard Johnson, Mayor City of Devils Lake