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Middle Republican Natural Resources District

March 21, 2005
For Immediate Release

Middle Republican NRD Accepting Nominations for Conservation Practices

Curtis – The Middle Republican Natural Resources District annually recognizes the outstanding conservation practices of deserving landowners/families through three district conservation awards: Honor Conservation, Outstanding Grassland, Outstanding Treeplanter.

The purpose of the Honor Conservation Award is to reward outstanding conservation efforts within the Middle Republican NRD, promote further conservation efforts within the Middle Republican NRD, and promote positive public awareness to district landowners of conservation efforts supported by the MRNRD and NRCS. Nominees must be the owner/operator of the farm/ranch and must show a variety of long-term and continued conservation practices with plans for future practices. Individuals or families are eligible for nomination.

The purpose of the Outstanding Grassland Award is to reward outstanding grassland management, promote grassland management, and provide recognition to district residents for outstanding rangeland practices implemented. Individuals and livestock operations are eligible for nomination. The recipient of the award must be a livestock producer. The basis for selecting the Middle Republican NRD Outstanding Grassland Conservationist will be the proper management of rangeland or pastureland in a manner prescribed to be proper in accordance with its capabilities and economics.

Individuals, organizations and community groups are eligible for the Outstanding Treeplanter Award. Tree plantings must be for conservation purposes (windbreaks, shelterbelts, wildlife habitat, erosion control, etc.). Ornamental and horticultural plantings do not qualify. The nominee must be the owner/operator of the tree planting area and tree planting must be at least three years old and exhibit proper care and management. The purpose of this award is to reward outstanding tree

planting efforts in the Middle Republican NRD and Nebraska, promote tree planting in the Middle Republican NRD and Nebraska, and provide recognition to district landowners for outstanding tree planting practices

MRNRD staff and directors, NRCS field office staff, and the general public are encouraged to make nominations. Nomination forms were included in the Winter 2005 MRNRD Newsletter, *Sprinkles & Splashes* and will also be accepted online by going to: <http://www.mrnrd.org/awards.html>. You may also contact the Middle Republican NRD office in Curtis at (800) 873-5613 or your local NRCS Office to request a nomination form. Nominations must be received in the NRD Office by May 2, 2005.

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