

**DEVILS LAKE BASIN
JOINT WATER RESOURCE BOARD**

SERVING

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

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NEWS RELEASE

December 10, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE USE

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

On Thursday, December 9th, the Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board presented their 2021 Water Stewardship Award to a very deserving individual during the 58th Annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention & Irrigation Workshop’s Awards Banquet in Bismarck. The award was presented to Cavalier County resident Larry Gellner.

The plaque reads; *“Larry Gellner - For his many contributions to the residents of the Devils Lake Basin during his 29+ years of serving on the Cavalier County Water Resource District and the Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board”*

Since 1991, and for his entire 29-year career, Larry exemplified what a Water Board Manager should be. He diligently served the citizens of Cavalier County and the entire Devils Lake Basin with dedication, passion, and respect. Larry brought common sense approach to water issues, listened to all sides, and fairly handled difficult situations.

Mr. Gellner was nominated by the Cavalier County Water Resource Board of Directors and the Cavalier County Commission. During his 29 plus years of service Larry worked on such projects as the Starkweather Coulee, assisting the management of water from Cavalier County to Devils Lake. The Billings Lake Carp Barrier, which worked to keep an Aquatic Invasive Species from entering the Devils Lake Basin, and the Mt. Carmel Dam Recreation Area providing recreational opportunities, as well as many other projects within Caviler County and the Devils Lake Basin.

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 it Citizens”*.



Picture are Representative of the Devils Lake Basin Board and Award Recipient Larry Gellner. Left to Right: Mike Tweed, Duaine Ash, Jeff Frith, Larry Gellner, Dave Sateren, and Van Howatt.