

2007 Fellow Award

Ross Braun

Ross Braun has been a very active SWCS member since joining as a student in 1982. He is a 1997-1998 Berg Fellow and received the 1992 SWCS Honor Award and 2000 President's Award. He participated in every SWCS international conference since 1985 giving presentations on No-Till Clubs, Missouri's Wildlife Conservation Collaboration, and Urban Conservation Venture.

Ross is a vigorous SWCS membership recruiter, continuing service on the national Membership Committee as requested by two SWCS Presidents. Ross has served in a variety of SWCS leadership positions including Regional Representative and Secretary of the SWCS Board of Directors from 2002 to 2005. He chaired the national Professional Development Committee in 2002 and was a member from 1988 to 2001. He served as an officer and president in the Missouri Chapter with continued committee responsibilities from 1985 through 2004. Recently, he was elected vice-president and president-elect of the National Capital Chapter. While on the SWCS Board of Directors, he participated in the annual meetings of all Chapters in the West North Central Region, distributed a newsletter, recruited new leadership for Chapters and national committees, and initiated the 2005 Regional Conference. Ross was involved in the development of the University of Missouri student Chapter. He chaired or co-chaired numerous SWCS conferences and workshops, including the establishment of the first West North Central Region conference in 1990 and co-chairing the 1992 Regional Conference. He co-chaired the local arrangements committee for the 2000 SWCS International Conference in St. Louis, was instrumental in the collaboration of the Illinois and Missouri Chapters, and served on the program committee.

Ross is a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC). As a District Conservationist, he developed model erosion and sediment control regulations that have been adopted by a number of counties and municipalities in the Midwest. As a Watershed Planner with NRCS, he was the planning team leader, principal writer, and editor of at least one watershed plan each year from 1992 through 2004. Responsibilities included working with local steering committees and elected officials to develop watershed plans, obtain funding, and initiate implementation. Accomplishments include a successful watershed project in four Iowa and Missouri counties that includes development of a public water supply, flood damage reduction, and water quality protection; water quality improvement projects for two small municipal water supply reservoirs; and a community projects to reduce flood damages and dramatically expand local recreational facilities.