



For Immediate Release:  
April 20, 2017

For further information:  
MFU Communications, 651-288-4068, or  
[communications@mfu.org](mailto:communications@mfu.org)

### **Minnesota Farmers Union Celebrates Earth Day**

ST. PAUL (April 20, 2017) – Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) together with their members across the state celebrate the 47<sup>th</sup> Earth Day on April 22, 2017. Earth Day is an annual event to celebrate the environment and raise awareness about pollution and the need for conservation efforts to protect our planet. Today more than 1 billion people across the globe participate in Earth Day activities.

“Farmers and ranchers are stewards of the land, they have the strong appreciation and understanding of just how fragile the land around them is” stated MFU President Gary Wertish. “They work hard every day to sustain and protect the land to provide a strong future for agriculture in America.”

Today it has been recorded that there are currently more than 23 million acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program across America. These programs work to address a high number of agriculture related concerns that include, but are not limited to: drinking water, soil erosion, wild life habitat protection and aid to farmers whose farms are damaged by natural disasters. Farmers and ranchers across the country partake in a large amount of these programs to do their part in the conservation of our land and water.

“Earth Day is a great reminder of the blessings of the earth around us which we get to enjoy and we should all work hard to protect it every day of the year,” said Wertish. “Farmers are reminded of this every day when they go out to care for their livestock, tend to their crops, or in the maintenance of their land and waterways.”

Minnesota Farmers Union is a grassroots organization that works to protect and enhance the economic interests and quality of life of family farmers and ranchers and rural communities. Minnesota Farmers Union works to develop strong and complete educational programs for our membership to help protect our farming communities and promote advocacy work in our legislature to encourage programs that will help farmers continue to be strong stewards of the land.

*Minnesota Farmers Union—Standing for Agriculture, Fighting for Farmers*  
([www.mfu.org](http://www.mfu.org)).