

# 2011 GEORGE E. OTTE CONSERVATION LANDOWNER AWARD



## RICH & VAL BLAHA

Recognizing excellence in private land stewardship, the George E. Otte Conservation Landowner Award winner for 2011 was awarded to Rich & Val Blaha of Mossback Farm.

Rich and Val have owned and operated their farm since 2002. Mossback farm is a pasture-focused operation, using elements of organic farming method, Holistic Management and Permaculture where grass-fed, grass-finished cattle are raised.

An important focus of Mossback Farm is the ecological restoration of the farm landscape. Rich is a biologist, by trade, and his focus for the protection of soil from erosion, protecting and enhancing water quantity in streams and rivers, and protection and enhancing habitat for native plants and wildlife comes naturally.



Younger Blaha overlooks CREP project



Rich & Val Blaha standing in a field of Kincaid's Lupine with SWCD & FSA Conservationists.



Mossback Farm  
Photo: Waterways, Inc