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Agriculture's Clean Water Alliance elects officers

February 3, 2010 (Ankeny, IA) — The organization of ag retailers in the Raccoon and Des Moines River watersheds called *Agriculture's Clean Water Alliance (ACWA)* elected officers at its annual meeting held in Ankeny this week. Dave Coppess of Heartland Cooperative, West Des Moines, was re-elected president for another one-year term. John Van Diest of Van Diest Supply, Webster City, was elected vice president, and Jim Day of Pro Cooperative, Gilmore City, was chosen as secretary/treasurer.

"I appreciate my colleagues' continued support of my leadership as president of ACWA," Coppess said. "It's a worthy organization and I'll strive to meet their expectations as we shape our future and move the organization to meet the needs of our membership."

"As we mark ACWA's tenth anniversary, it's amazing how we've grown as a group of ag retailers brought together for the single cause of reducing nutrient loss, particularly nitrate, from entering the watersheds we serve," Coppess said. "Our effort now includes the construction of tile-line bioreactors, designed to remove nitrate from subsurface water before it is released into tributary streams. In addition, ACWA's reputation has gained us a place representing agriculture with other organizations and agencies engaged in various water quality improvement projects."

ACWA's membership consists of leading ag retailers in the Raccoon River and Des Moines River watersheds. ACWA members are aware of their dual mission to help farmers improve agronomic performance in the field while supporting environmental performance beyond the field's edge. Thus, ACWA is committed to reducing nutrient loss – specifically nitrates from farm fields – and keeping the nutrients from entering the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers and their tributaries.

To contact an ACWA member locally, call:

Albert City — Ag Partners, LLC — Craig Struve | 712-446-3307
Ames — Farmers Cooperative — Roger Koppen | 515-817-2100
Cherokee — First Co-op Association — Jim Carlson | 712-225-5400
Dedham — Dedham Cooperative Association — Roger Shaw | 712-683-5515
Fort Dodge — New Co-op, Inc. — Brent Bunte | 515-955-2040
Gilmore City — Pro Co-op — Jim Day | 515-373-6532
Goldfield — Gold-Eagle Cooperative — Stu Pannkuk | 515-825-3161
Ralston — West Central — Harry Ahrenholtz | 712-667-3200
Roland — Heart of Iowa Cooperative — Boyde Brodie | 515-388-4341
Webster City — Van Diest Supply — John Van Diest | 800-779-2424
West Des Moines — Heartland Co-op — Dave Coppess | 515-577-2021
Wall Lake — CPS — Duane Petersen | 712-664-2222
West Des Moines — Helena Chemical Company — John McKinney | 515-309-3461