

# Ben Stillwater



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"I've spent so much of my life dedicated to music," says Stillwater, who grew up years learning the ropes of production and songwriting and recording with the show. "When the audience responds to what you're doing, that's the best payoff."

With parents of four kids, marketing is another crucial component of show business. He works with the historical societies and an upcoming appearance as the judge at the

Colgate Country Showdown in Colorado, Stillwater is letting folks far and wide know all the cool news about his music. "I think there's a huge market for what we're doing," he says. "But I look at the music the same way as the marketing: People gotta know ya and trust ya and believe ya."

That kind of trustworthiness has been a part of Ben's life since he was a kid, not just in the music business but in the fiercely competitive trucking and timber industries as well.

"I grew up loggin' and cuttin' timber and runnin' sawmills," says Stillwater. "When I got a little older I bought some trucks, and when I turned 18 I went back to Montana."

He and his family love Wisconsin, but in many ways Ben's spiritual and musical home will always be on the open range, the rushing waters, and the snow-capped mountains of Montana's Big Sky Country. The titles of Stillwater's three outstanding CDs - Giddy Up Truck, Montana In The Spring, and Front Door Of Home - tell you a great deal of the man's story.