

Ohio Conservation Farm Family Awards

The Ohio Conservation Farm Family Awards program recognizes farmers who are doing an outstanding job of protecting and conserving soil, water, and related natural resources on the land they farm. Coordinated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) Division of Soil and Water Conservation (DSWC) and co-sponsored by the **Ohio Farmer** magazine, the **Ohio Farm Bureau Federation**, and the **Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts**, the program emphasizes the application of technically sound, innovative, and cost-effective conservation practices and encourages the sharing of this information with other farmers and the general public. For questions about the application contact ODA-DSWC at 614-265-6610 or dswc@agri.ohio.gov

Five area finalists and one statewide small farm winner will be selected from around Ohio. All six finalists will be recognized as winners of the Ohio Conservation Farm Family Award at a ceremony during the Farm Science Review in September and will be featured in the September issue of Ohio Farmer magazine. The winners will also receive a \$400 check courtesy of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation.

Entry Deadline is May 8, 2026

Nominations are to be emailed to: dswc@agri.ohio.gov

Subject line: Conservation Farm Family Award-Ohio Department of Agriculture

Applicant(s):

Last _____ First _____

Last _____ First _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ .Zip _____ County _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Name or names to appear on awards certificate

Commodity Information

Total Farm Acres:

Major Crops	Acres
Livestock Information	Head
Forestry	Acres

Conservation Activities

Identify the soil and water resource management practices or activities found on the nominee's farm and amount of land, including but not limited to: Cover crops, crop rotation, waterways, filter strips, wetland restoration-development, livestock exclusion fencing, nutrient management plan, grazing management plan, rotational grazing, wildlife habitat, drainage water management, conservation tillage, forestry management, water conservation-drip irrigation, high tunnels, integrated pest and weed management, pollinators.

Has the nominee worked with their local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)? If so, how has the collaboration contributed to improvements on the farm? What conservation investments have been implemented and why? Has the soil health improved?

Outreach and Education

Tell how the nominee's farm has been used to demonstrate conservation to others in the community. Has the farm been used for education by school groups, tours, presentation to groups or legislative delegates? Explain other ways the nominee helps promote conservation and natural resources management and how the farm benefits the community.

Community Leadership Role

Explain how the nominee is a leader in their community. Leadership activities at community, county, state and national level will be considered. This will include activities in church, farm organizations, civic organizations, community development groups, etc.

Stewardship/Awards

Has the nominee received any awards/honors for conservation work on the farm? (i.e. Cooperator of the Year)

Describe the nominee's conservation philosophy in 25 words or less (May be used for news purposes).

Nominator's Signature _____ Date _____

Nominator's Name _____

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