



**To: All Soil and Water Conservation Districts**

**From: Susan Kozak, Division Director, IDALS**  
**Dien Judge, Executive Director, CDI**

**Date: February 28, 2024**

**RE: 2024 Soil & Water Conservation District Award Application, Information, and Deadlines**

We are pleased to announce that IDALS, CDI, and NRCS along with many of our valuable partners are again joining efforts to sponsor a number of awards this year. These awards are an outstanding opportunity to recognize individuals who make a variety of contributions towards our collective conservation missions. We encourage each SWCD to take time to review these great opportunities and strongly consider nominating several of your local conservation leaders for these awards.

The following are the due dates and locations to send the nominations for each award:

- **Conservation Farmer of the Year Award**– Due May 10 to local SWCD.  
*Please note that a press release with additional information on this award will be distributed in the coming weeks.*
- **Conservation Teacher of the Year Award** - Due June 7 to IDALS
- **Trees Forever Windbreak Award** – Due June 7 to IDALS
- **Ken Wagner Award**– Due June 7 to IDALS
- **Outstanding SWCD Commissioner Award** – Due June 7 to IDALS
- **Outstanding Watershed Award** – Due June 7 to IDALS
- **Ruth Wagner Award**– Due June 7 to IDALS
- **Woodland Owner of the Year Award** – Due June 7 to District Forester
- **CDI Honorary Member Award** – Due June 7 to IDALS
- **Paul Johnson Outstanding Soil and Water Conservation District Award** - Due June 7 to IDALS
- **Conservation Woman of the Year Award** – Due June 7 to NRCS State Office

This information is attached to this email and on CDI's website: <http://cdiowa.org/recognition/awards>

All nominations to IDALS must be submitted via email to Sadi Hawk, [sadi.hawk@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:sadi.hawk@iowaagriculture.gov). If you have any questions, please call Sadi Hawk at 515-776-2565.

Thank you for your time and opportunity to recognize some of the outstanding individuals in your Districts.

**Susan Kozak, Division Director**  
**Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship**

**Dien Judge, Executive Director**  
**Conservation Districts of Iowa**

**cc:** CDI, Jeff Goerndt, Shawn Richmond, Jeff Jensen, Jason Johnson, Kate Bussanmas, Will Myers, IDALS Field Representatives, Matt Helmers