



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
210 Walnut Street, Room 693  
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

March 27, 2013

IOWA BULLETIN NO. IA260-13-1

SUBJECT: INF – IOWA SOIL CONSERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM

PURPOSE. To provide information on the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

EXPIRATION DATE. September 30, 2014

The Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program will again be offered this year, co-sponsored by the Iowa State Soil Conservation Committee and the Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI).

At the Local Level: Three farmer divisions – owner-operator, landlord-tenant, and new cooperators are combined into one category: Conservation Farmer of the Year. One local district winner will be chosen to represent the district on a regional level. The two teacher divisions will remain as outlined later in this bulletin. Emphasis will be placed on districts publicly recognizing local farmer and local teacher winners, primarily at annual meeting banquets. The soil and water conservation districts will have the option to include images of their winner's program.

At the Regional Level: Only the overall district winners from each district will compete in the farmer division. One winner will be selected per region and will be recognized at the local district and/or Farm Bureau meetings. Images of winning farms will be shown at the meetings, so district conservationists should be prepared to have images available.

At the State Level: Regional farmer winners (one per region) will compete for a state award. District teacher winners will compete for a state award. Only the state farmer winner and two state teacher winners will be invited to the annual meeting. The awards will be given in conjunction with other awards.

Publicity: We will rely heavily on local publicity. Local and regional winners may be announced as soon as they are known.

Awards: Some soil and water conservation districts have sought local sponsors for awards in the past and hopefully all districts will furnish awards through the district. Regional farmer awards will be given at the local district and/or Farm Bureau meetings. The state farmer award and two state teacher awards will be given at the CDI Annual Conference in September, 2013.

The 2013 rules, scorecards, and other details can be accessed on the Iowa NRCS Website [http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ia/people/employees/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_011818#260](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ia/people/employees/?cid=nrcs142p2_011818#260).

/s/

Jay T. Mar  
State Conservationist

Attachments

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## Soil Conservation Awards Program Deadlines

Ken Wagner Awards (open to self nomination) – Due July 1, 2013, at the Division of Soil Conservation (DSC) office.

Ruth Wagner Awards (open to self nomination)– Due July 1, 2013, at the DSC office.

Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program (ISCAP) Farmer Awards – Due June 14, 2013, at the Area Office. Area Office will forward to the DSC by July 1, 2013. Entry forms are sent out by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Teacher Awards – Due July 1, 2013, at the DSC office. Entry forms are sent out by the NRCS.

Izaak Walton Windbreak Awards – Due July 1, 2013, at the DSC office. Please include at least one color photograph.

Woodland Owner of the Year – Due July 1, 2013. Send entries to the district forester.

Outstanding Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner – Due July 1, 2013, at the DSC office.

Outstanding Watershed Award - Due July 1, 2013, at the DSC office. The CDI will send information on other awards.