



AISWCD AWARDS

BUILDING A
SUCCESSFUL
APPLICATION &
IMPORTANCE
OF THE AWARDS!



AWARDS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- ▶ The goal of the AISWCD Awards Program is to highlight the diversity of conservation activities that Soil and Water Conservation Districts are engaged in on a daily basis and to provide recognition for these efforts. Entry forms are available on the AISWCD's web site at www.aiswcd.org with entries into the state competition due by the end of May. Award applications are PDF or Word fillable forms. All award winners will be recognized at the AISWCD Annual Meeting.



AWARDS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- ▶ Auxiliary Poster Contest
- ▶ Auxiliary Photo Contest
- ▶ Outstanding District Employee Award
- ▶ Conservation Farm Family Award
- ▶ Outstanding Forestry Contribution Award
- ▶ Conservation Teacher of the Year Award
- ▶ Legislator of the Year Award
- ▶ Friend of Conservation Award
- ▶ George McKibben Memorial Scholarship Award



AUXILIARY POSTER CONTEST

- ▶ The AISWCD Auxiliary sponsors a poster contest every year that highlights the annual NACD Soil and Water Stewardship Theme. The poster contest provides kindergarten through twelfth grade students throughout Illinois, with the opportunity to share their thoughts on soil, water and related natural resource topics.
- ▶ Awards are given out in the following grade categories: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12 at the AISWCD Annual Summer Conference.
- ▶ The winning state poster entries are then sent on to compete in the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Poster Contest.



AUXILIARY PHOTO CONTEST INFO & CATEGORIES

- ▶ This award is sponsored by the Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts Auxiliary.
- ▶ To be considered for this contest, nominee should be an amateur photographer (those who make less than 50% of their income from photography) and are Illinois residents. Photos must be submitted by the end of May.
- ▶ See your local SWCD for more contest details and entry forms.



AUXILIARY PHOTO CONTEST INFO & CATEGORIES

- ▶ **Conservation Practices** includes 26 conservation practices: contour buffer strips, contour farming & stripcropping, cover crop, critical area planting, crop residue management, crop rotation, diversion, field borders, grade stabilization structures, grass waterways, livestock management, manure storage and runoff control, nutrient management, pasture planting, pest management, riparian buffer, rotational grazing, stream bank & shoreline stabilization, terrace, tree planting, upland wildlife habitat, water and sediment control basin, well abandonment, wetland restoration, wildlife food plot, windbreaks, and woodlot management.



AUXILIARY PHOTO CONTEST INFO & CATEGORIES

- ▶ **Close Up Conservation** includes aquatic insects, clean water, crops and plants and water/rain, dirty water/sediment, hands/tools in soil-water-grains-on farm animals, irrigation, plants and soil/residue, plants/flowers/crops, recycling, prairie plants, compost, farm implements, water drops/drips/splashes, and worms/roots/ compost.
- ▶ **Conservation in Action** depicts SWCDs in action: conservation planning, Youth programs, office staff at work, interaction with landowners, field days, fairs, exhibits, board meetings and more, irrigation/crops and water/wildflowers and water, technical staff at work, wildlife, insects, livestock, aquatic life.



AUXILIARY PHOTO CONTEST INFO & CATEGORIES

- ▶ **Ag/Conservation Across America** includes barns, crops, farm practices, fence rows, livestock, implements and tools, ponds, ranching, youth, tree farm, farmers/landowners, grazing, and pastures.
- ▶ **Youth Only** category is designed for youth up to the age of 18. Photos must fit into one of the categories listed above.

Water Shed - our water - our home



- ▶ GRADE K-1
- ▶ Angelina Sala ~ Age 6
- ▶ Open Bible School
- ▶ Freeport, Illinois

Watersheds - Our Water, Our Home



- ▶ GRADE 2-3
- ▶ Lincoln Voss
- ▶ Age 8
- ▶ Pearl City Elementary
- ▶ Pearl City, Illinois



- ▶ CLOSE UP
CONSERVATION
- ▶ Title: "Springtime
on the Prairie"
- ▶ Photographer:
Sandra Cooper



- ▶ ADULT CONSERVATION PRACTICES
- ▶ Title: "Water Control Box"
- ▶ Photographer: Judy Beyers



AUXILIARY PHOTO CONTEST INFO & CATEGORIES

- ▶ Questions?
- ▶ Contact a member of the Auxiliary - AISWCD would be more than happy to connect you with a leader!



OUTSTANDING DISTRICT EMPLOYEE AWARD

- ▶ The purpose of the **Outstanding District Employee Award** is to recognize those SWCD employees who have went above and beyond the call of duty at their local Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
- ▶ This award is sponsored by the Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts Employees Association.





CONSERVATION FARM FAMILY AWARD

- ▶ The object of this award is to provide recognition to an outstanding conservation family in each of the SWCD that exemplifies Total Resource Management.
- ▶ Therefore, each SWCD is encouraged to sponsor a local contest and to submit their winner for the Land Use Council (LUC) competition.
- ▶ From the 16 LUC winners the AISWCD Awards Committee selects a Governor's Award winner.
- ▶ Selection is completed prior to and announced at the AISWCD Annual Summer Conference.
- ▶ This award is sponsored by Brownfield Network, Prairie Farmer, Meijer Corp., NRCS, The Illinois Department of Agriculture and the AISWCD.



QUOTE FROM LAST YEAR'S FARM FAMILY...

- ▶ “We want to leave the soil intact and in good fertility, so our future generations will be able to feed the people of the world. Our pledge is to take care of the soil and it will be good to you in return.”

The Jackman Family | Sumner, Illinois
Harold, Larry, Ron, Chad and Chris

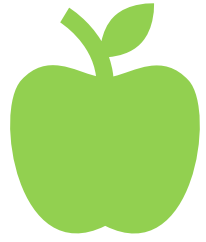


THE JACKMAN FAMILY
Prairie Farmer



OUTSTANDING FORESTRY CONTRIBUTION AWARD

- ▶ This award is sponsored by the Illinois Forestry Association.
- ▶ The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding contributions in the field of Forestry.
- ▶ Individuals, companies, associations, etc. are eligible to be nominated for this award.



CONSERVATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

- ▶ The purpose of the Conservation Teacher of the Year award is to recognize the outstanding education efforts of our Illinois teachers and is sponsored by the Illinois Audubon Society, Illinois Department of Natural Resources and AISWCD.
- ▶ All K-12 educators in public, parochial and private schools are eligible to participate.
- ▶ To enter the contest teachers must fill out an entry form, and submit typewritten narratives describing their program.



LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

- ▶ This annual award is sponsored by the AISWCD and is presented to an Illinois legislator or member of Congress who has demonstrated support for:
 - ▶ Protection of the state's natural resources.
 - ▶ Soil and Water Conservation Districts programs and/or funding.
 - ▶ Any other issues that benefit soil and water conservation districts, district directors or district employees.
- ▶ Nominations for the Legislator of the Year Award are to be made to the Legislative Focus Area Committee chair no later than March of each year.



FRIEND OF CONSERVATION AWARD

- ▶ This annual award is sponsored by the AISWCD and is given to any individual, corporation, agency, organization or governmental unit that has in some manner benefitted natural resource conservation efforts on a regional or statewide basis.
- ▶ Nominations for the Friend of Conservation Award are to be made to the Legislative Focus Area Committee chair no later than March of each year.



GEORGE MCKIBBEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

- ▶ This scholarship has been established by the AISWCD to assist agriculture students in their completion of their education at Illinois State University, The University of Illinois, Western Illinois University or Southern Illinois University. The student awarded the scholarship should demonstrate superior agriculture academic achievement, commitment to soil and water conservation and potential for innovation and/or leadership ability.
- ▶ **RIGHT:** Laura Robison was the 2018 award winner. Laura was held a 3.967 GPA on 4.0 Scale!

