



Department of
Agriculture

John R. Kasich | Governor

David T. Daniels | Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Brett Gates, (614) 752-9817

bgates@agri.ohio.gov

ODA SEEKS TO RECOGNIZE FARM FAMILIES LEADING IN CONSERVATION AND PRODUCTIVITY

Individuals have until May 17, 2017 to nominate families

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Mar. 20, 2017) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) is accepting nominations to honor Ohio farm families who are leaders in conservation for the 2017 Conservation Farm Family Awards. The Conservation Farm Family Award program has recognized Ohio farm families since 1984 for their efforts in managing natural and human resources while meeting both production and conservation goals.

“Conservation practices are paramount to Ohio farmers in preserving our resources for future generations,” said ODA Director David T. Daniels. “With these awards, we are able to recognize farmers who have taken extra steps toward protecting the land using conservation practices they have implemented on their own farms.”

Five area finalists will be selected from across the state and will be recognized at the annual Farm Science Review in September. They will also receive a \$400 award, courtesy of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, and be featured in the September issue of Ohio Farmer Magazine. The following photograph is from the 2016 ceremony.



Serving Farmers and Protecting Consumers Since 1846

Individual farmers, partnerships or family farm corporations are eligible for nomination, provided a substantial portion of their income is derived from farming. The judging is based on the nominee's use of new and traditional conservation techniques, comprehensive management, individual initiative in applying conservation measures and the nominee's willingness to share conservation information, experiences and philosophy with others.

Nomination forms can be obtained from local county soil and water conservation districts or by visiting ODA's website at www.agri.ohio.gov. The forms can be submitted by email to dswc@agri.ohio.gov or by mail to Conservation Farm Family Award, C/O Ohio Department of Agriculture 8995 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43608. The forms must be returned by Wednesday, May 17.

The awards program is sponsored by the ODA Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Ohio Farmer magazine, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

- 30 -

