



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](mailto:bgates@agri.ohio.gov)

**ODA SEEKS TO RECOGNIZE FARM FAMILIES LEADING IN CONSERVATION AND PRODUCTIVITY**

*Individuals have until May 25, 2018 to nominate families*

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Mar. 21, 2018) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) is accepting nominations to honor Ohio farm families who are leaders in conservation for the 2018 Conservation Farm Family Awards. The Conservation Farm Family Award program has recognized Ohio farm families since 1984 for their efforts in managing natural resources while meeting both production and conservation goals.

“The families who have won this award in the past have gone the extra mile in conserving soil, water, woodland and wildlife on the land they farm and they pledge to be good stewards of their resources for future generations,” said ODA Director David T. Daniels.

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 2017 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](http://www.agri.ohio.gov). The forms can be submitted by email to [dswc@agri.ohio.gov](mailto: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 postmarked by Friday, May 25.

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.

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