



# *Outstanding Conservation Cooperator Of the Year Award: 2024*

**Sponsored by: The Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts**

## **Purpose and Eligibility**

The purpose of the Conservation Cooperator of the Year Award is to recognize the outstanding landowners who are taking the initiative to implement sound, innovative and cost-effective conservation techniques, and best management practices.

Nominee must be a “Master Conservationist” and the application submitted by their local conservation district. The district shall provide the proper requested criteria for the total farming operation. This includes livestock, and property that is owned, rented, or operated by the nominee.

Previous state winners of the Outstanding Conservation Cooperator of the Year Award are not eligible for consideration.

## **Entry Procedure:**

Entry must be submitted to KADC by the Local Conservation District. Documentation of the cooperators work, based on the judging criteria, may be sent electronically via email to: [Crystal.Renfro.KACD@outlook.com](mailto:Crystal.Renfro.KACD@outlook.com). All documentation should be limited to 10 pages and divided into sections according to the standard criteria. **Please use this form as the cover of your application.**

**\*\*Hard copies mailed in will NOT be accepted\*\***

**Deadline: May 1, 2024**

## **Recognition**

Outstanding Cooperator of the Year Award winner and runner-up will be recognized on the state level by the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts at their 2024 Annual Meeting in Louisville, KY.

The state winner and runner-up will receive a certificate and cash award to be used by the cooperator as they see appropriate. In addition, the local conservation district of the winner and runner-up will receive a plaque.

**Questions:**

- Conservation District Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Did your District pay KACD Dues for 2022-2023: \_\_\_\_\_
- Did your District pay some amount to NACD for 2022-2023 Dues: \_\_\_\_\_
- Most recent DIGS score: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee Information:**

Name(s) of Nominee (as to appear on awards certificate): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date nominee awarded Master Conservationist: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACRES FARMED BY NOMINEE:**

**LIVESTOCK INFORMATION:**

Crops \_\_\_\_\_  
Pasture \_\_\_\_\_  
Woodland \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Dairy \_\_\_\_\_  
Beef \_\_\_\_\_  
Swine \_\_\_\_\_  
Poultry \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

**SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES APPLIED**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**All entries will be judged on the following criteria:** (please use a font no smaller than 12 point, double-spaced.)

- 1) Please list any affiliations, offices held, and other honors received by nominee.
- 2) Identify the soil and water resource management problems found on the nominee's farm and describe the innovative and traditional conservation techniques applied to address them.
- 3) To what extent has the nominee's farm operation been used to demonstrate to other members of the community the problems and solutions associated with soil and water conservation?
- 4) Describe areas where the nominee has used their own initiative to develop other resources such as wildlife, woodland or techniques developed by the nominee to implement conservation practices.
- 5) Summarize why this individual has been nominated.
- 6) Please include any pictures that you feel will assist in the judges understanding their operation in relation to the conservation of natural resources.