



Call for Applications Pennsylvania 2020



Presented by
Sand County Foundation *in partnership with*
Heinz Endowments and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Photo by Lance Irving

Leopold Conservation Award

In his influential book, *A Sand County Almanac*, Aldo Leopold called for an ethical relationship between people and the land they own and manage. The development of a land ethic was, he wrote, “an evolutionary possibility and an ecological necessity.” A land ethic is alive and well today in the thousands of American farmers, ranchers, and foresters who do well by their land and do well for their land.

Sand County Foundation proudly presents its Leopold Conservation Award to a private landowner who exemplifies the spirit of this emerging land ethic — an individual or a family who translates their deep abiding love for the land into responsible stewardship and management.

In Pennsylvania, Sand County Foundation presents the Leopold Conservation Award in partnership with Heinz Endowments and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. The Leopold Conservation Award recipient receives \$10,000 and a crystal award.

Leopold Conservation Awards recognize extraordinary achievement in voluntary conservation, inspire other landowners through their example, and help the general public understand the vital role private landowners can and do play in conservation success.

Leopold Conservation Award

2020 Call for Applications

If you, or someone you know, is a Pennsylvania landowner who is committed to land management practices that increase conservation, we invite your application for the Leopold Conservation Award.

Please provide the following information:

Nominee: Name, address, phone, email, website, type of agricultural operation

Nominator (if different): Name, address phone, email

Please provide responses to the following. Limit each response to under 1,000 words.

1. **Conservation Ethic** – Describe how the nominee has voluntarily exceeded the minimum obligations of regulation to enhance and conserve natural resources.
2. **Resilience** – Describe the business and conservation methods used by the nominee to make the operation productive into the future.
3. **Leadership and Communication** – Describe significant efforts the nominee has made to share his/her conservation ethics and techniques with others inside and outside of agriculture. Describe community service, positions held, leadership roles and media outreach.
4. **Innovation and Adaptability** – Describe how the nominee has taken risks by utilizing or experimenting with new techniques to adapt to change (consumers, markets, weather, regulations, etc.).
5. **Ecological Community** – Describe how the nominee's agricultural operation works with natural systems (soil, water, plants and wildlife, etc.). Describe how this benefits others.

Additional information. Describe any other relevant accomplishments and/or challenges.

Attach three letters of recommendation. At least one should be from a natural resources conservation organization or agency.

Where applicable, indicate the local, state and federal agencies and partner organizations involved with the nominee's conservation practices.

Nominations must be typed on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper. Please paper clip/binder clip (do not staple) your document, for copying purposes. If you wish, include supporting materials like news clippings, photos and maps, but do not send DVDs or videos. Please indicate if you would like the materials returned.

Please have the nominee sign and submit the following statements with the application.

1. I agree to be a nominee for the Leopold Conservation Award.
2. I manage and/or own the property described in this application.
3. The agricultural operation described in this application is in compliance with all applicable regulations, and provides a positive example of environmental stewardship.
4. I understand I may be asked to be available for communications/media opportunities to promote the message of voluntary private lands conservation.
5. I understand a video will be produced featuring my agricultural operation, which will require my participation.

Applications can be emailed to award@sandcountyfoundation.org or mailed to:

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
c/o Joel Rotz
PO Box 8736
Camp Hill, PA 17001-8736

The Pennsylvania award is presented and sponsored by:



THE HEINZ ENDOWMENTS
HOWARD HEINZ ENDOWMENT
VIRA I. HEINZ ENDOWMENT



USDA NRCS

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts

The Nature Conservancy in Pennsylvania

 **Application Deadline: August 1, 2020**

For further information, please see the Leopold Conservation Award website:

www.leopoldconservationaward.org