



# 2026 Awards and Recognition Program

## Outstanding Conservation District of the Year

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### **Selection Guidelines:**

- Past award winners may not reenter for a period of five (5) years after receiving an award. Commissioners are not eligible for Teacher of the Year Awards. Associate Commissioners are eligible for Teacher of the Year Awards.
- Regional Nomination forms must be received by SCACD no later than Tuesday, June 30, 2026, to be considered. If mailing nominations, please mail at least one week in advance to ensure receipt by the deadline. SCACD is NOT able to accept entries received after Tuesday, June 30, 2026.
- If, in the judgement of the judging panel of the Awards Committee, there is no nomination at hand that meets the criteria for a SCACD award, no award will be given.
- You MUST include a Cover Sheet with each nomination that includes the following detail: Award Category, Nominee's Name, Nominator, Date Submitted.
- Electronic files will be accepted as supplemental materials to the application. They will not be accepted in lieu of an application. Electronic files may include: newsletters, scanned letters of recommendation, photo files, Word documents, etc. Please do not submit more than 2 pages of electronic files per application.
- If submitting a nomination electronically, please consolidate all files into one PDF for each nomination.
- Please email your completed nomination to [awards@scacd.org](mailto:awards@scacd.org) or mail a hard copy to SCACD, 5 Geology Rd. Columbia, SC 29212.
- Guidelines for each award must be strictly adhered to in order to be considered for the award.

### **Judging Panel of the Awards Committee:**

The judging panel for the 2026 SCACD Regional Awards will be comprised of Area District Commissioners (up to 4), the SCDNR Conservation Districts Area Coordinator, the SCACD Area Representative, an NRCS Regions Representative (volunteer), and one Area District employee (volunteer).

Area Award winners will be submitted for statewide awards. Statewide winners will be nominees for National awards.



# 2026 Awards and Recognition Cover Sheet

**Award Category:**

**Nominee's Name:**

**Nominated By:**

**Date Submitted:**



# 2026 Outstanding Conservation District of the Year Award Application

The purpose of the Outstanding Conservation District Award is to provide recognition and incentive to the State's Conservation Districts in an effort to promote among landowners a realization of their stewardship of our natural resources. The award recognizes outstanding and diverse Conservation District programs.

**What are your District's major accomplishments in land application conservation or ag/tech? These can include completed projects, current projects, and ongoing projects (up to but no longer than the past 3 years). Examples may include soil sampling, 319 grants, RC&D Projects, etc.**

**Explain how your District demonstrates leadership for soil and water conservation.**

**List educational programs, outreach, and continuing education provided for commissioners, staff, and constituents. List any special programs that are unique to your district.**

**How does your district communicate with the citizens within your area? Ex. Media, local legislative activities, affiliate membership programs, etc.**

Please send your completed applications to [awards@scacd.org](mailto:awards@scacd.org). You may include up to two pages of supporting documents (photos, newspaper articles, etc.) in addition to this application.