



2026 Awards and Recognition Program

Outstanding Conservation Teacher of the Year Award

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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 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 Teacher of the Year Award Application

District Submitting Nomination: _____
Address (Home), City, State, Zip: _____
Work Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____
Home Phone: _____
Name and Location of School: _____
Grade Level: _____
Subject Teaching: _____
How long has the teacher been teaching at the grade level: _____

Part A: Education and Activities:

List Conservation related courses and workshops attended:

List experiences in Conservation and Conservation educations such as employment, working with youth groups, etc.

List Conservation related organizations to which you belong and activities in which you participate. A brief narrative summarizing your activity relating to your providing in-service opportunities to other teachers is appropriate if not covered in this list.

Part B:

Describe the teacher's approach to conservation education and give examples (a) the classroom, (b) outdoor activities, (c) student projects, (d) community resources.

- Two awards will be given; one for grades K-6 and one for grades 7-12.
- Please send your completed applications to awards@scacd.org. You may include up to two pages of supporting documents (photos, newspaper articles, etc.) in addition to this application. Please make sure to include a photo of the candidate.