

# 2024 Indiana's River Friendly Farmer Award Nomination Form - Due June 7

This application is a Google Form that enables you to submit the River Friendly Farmer Application electronically to the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. It is provided to all Soil and Water Conservation Districts and watershed organizations who wish to submit a nominee for this award. The application provides the means to document a farmer nominee's commitment to protecting and enhancing the water quality of Indiana's lakes, rivers and streams. Complete all information, where applicable, in each of the categories below. If you have any questions, please call Amy at the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts at 317.692.7374. Applications are due by close of business on June 7, 2024.

Each SWCD can submit up to TWO nominees. Watershed organizations wishing to submit a nominee must submit the request to the appropriate county SWCD for consideration on their nominee. The River Friendly Farmer Award is given annually to producers whose best farm management practices protect Indiana's soil and water resources. Since 2000, this has been awarded to over 1,100 Indiana farms.

The program is a collaborative effort of government agencies, agricultural organizations, Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and farmers whose goals are to improve soil and water quality and restore and sustain human and wildlife habitat in Indiana's watersheds.

The program is sponsored by the:

- Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (IASWCD) and our 92 SWCDs,
- Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc.,
  
- Indiana Corn Marketing Council & Indiana Soybean Alliance
- Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil Conservation,
- Purdue Cooperative Extension Service, and the
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

An awards ceremony to honor the 2024 River Friendly Farmer Award recipients will be held at the 4-H Exhibit Hall, Indiana State Fairgrounds, on August 7, 2024.

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\* Indicates required question

## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE SWCD AND/OR WATERSHED ORGANIZATION NOMINATING THIS PRODUCER

Note: We may need to rely on you, the nominator, to communicate with the farmer nominated, especially if email is not available or checked regularly. Please fill out this section with the information needed for us to contact YOU (not the farmer's information in this section).

1. Name of SWCD or watershed organization that is nominating the producer: \*

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2. Contact PERSON at the nominating SWCD (first and last name here): \*

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3. PHONE NUMBER of the nominating SWCD: \*

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4. EMAIL ADDRESS of the nominating SWCD or watershed organization: \*

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## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NOMINEE

This section is information needed regarding the Person/Farmer/Farm that is getting nominated for this award.

5. County the farm is located in: \*

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6. Nominee's First Name: \*

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7. Nominee's Last Name: \*

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8. Nominee's Street/Road (mailing address): \*

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9. City/Town: \*

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10. State: \*

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11. Zip Code: \*

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12. Daytime phone # where nominee can be reached: \*

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13. Email Address for Nominee: \*

(Note: Please type in email address of SWCD nominating this farmer, if farmer does not have email or check it regularly. Email is the PRIMARY way that information will be communicated.)

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14. What is the appropriate name/title for the Award Certificate? (i.e. John and Jane Doe OR Acme Farms, Inc.). PLEASE verify spelling as the information you type below will be printed on the awards certificate as stated here: \*

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### FARM INFORMATION

15. Farm Address: \*
- Select appropriate box below for address information.

*Mark only one oval.*

- Farm address is the same as nominee address already listed. (Please skip down to "#20. Farm Name.")
- Farm address is different then the address listed above. (Please continue to answer farm information questions below.)

16. Farm Street/Road Address:

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17. City/Town:

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18. State:

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19. Zip Code:

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20. Farm Name (if applicable):

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21. What Watershed(s) is your farm located in? \*

What watershed(s) is the land you farm located in? Not sure? Please contact an IDEM Watershed Specialist at <http://www.in.gov/idem/nps/2359.htm>

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22. What does your farm produce? \*

In this section, briefly describe your farming operation (i.e. strictly grain, grain/livestock, specialty, aquaculture, fruits/vegetables, trees, etc.)

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23. What rivers, streams, and/or ditches run through your farm? \*

Please name only the major ones.

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24. What conservation cropping systems or practices do you use? \*

A sustainable cropping system is a management strategy that protects our natural resources and actually improves the soil.

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25. WHY are conservation practices important to your operation? (i.e. How have conservation practices positively impacted your soil's health, farm economics, wildlife, pollinators, etc.?) \*

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26. Specifically, how have your conservation practices improved the quality of water that leaves your farm? \*

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27. What other conservation management practices do you use? (i.e. maintaining a wetland or woodland; providing wildlife habitat, etc.) \*

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28. If you own a livestock operation, what conservation management practices do you use? Please also describe your nutrient management program.  
Specifically, how do you manage your operation in a way that is environmentally sound, and what BMP's do you use?

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29. How do you share your commitment to conservation with your community? (i.e. list your involvement with your local SWCD, 4-H, FFA, Farm Bureau, county government, school volunteer, church, conservation organizations; educational field days) \*

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30. Any additional information you'd like to share (i.e. farm/family history; other conservation awards received, etc.)

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31. If you could share one piece of advice with a new farmer or one who is hesitate to try a conservation practice, like cover crops or no-till, what would that advice be?

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### RFF APPAREL

Each River Friendly Farmer Award nomination receives one complimentary shirt (per application) with the RFF logo. (NOTE: ADDITIONAL shirts and hats may be pre-ordered for purchase through the RFF RSVP online form available after June 10. Details will be forthcoming in a mailed and emailed award letter.)



32. One complimentary shirt is provided. Please indicate shirt size below: (note: T=tall \* size. While tall sizes may not consistently be in stock, we will gladly place an order for them if they are available.)

*Mark only one oval.*

- Men's S
- Men's M
- Men's L
- Men's LT
- Men's XL
- Men's XLT
- Men's 2XL
- Men's 2XLT
- Men's 3XL
- Women's S
- Women's M
- Women's L
- Women's XL
- Women's 2XL
- Women's 3XL

## SIGNATURE PAGE

The [signature page](#) is a SEPARATE required document. See details below.

### Signature Page details:

Three original signatures are required to complete the 2024 River Friendly Farmer application (one signature from the nominee, the SWCD staff person, and a technical representative). The [signature page](#) is available on the [IASWCD RFF webpage](#). The signature page must be filled out and either scanned and emailed to Amy Work at: [amy-work@iaswcd.org](mailto:amy-work@iaswcd.org) or mailed to IASWCD at 225 S. East St, Ste. 142, Indianapolis, IN 46202 and received by June 7. See additional details on the page itself. Applications are not complete until the signature page is received. THANK YOU!

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