The Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Award is a joint effort of the Governor, Lt. Governor, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and Iowa Department of Natural Resources to recognize the exemplary efforts of Iowa’s farmers as environmental leaders committed to healthy soils and improved water quality.

The award recognizes those that have taken steps in their farming operations that improve or protect the environment and natural resources of our state while also serving as local leaders to encourage others to follow in their footsteps, building success upon success. As environmental leaders, these farmers have adopted best management practices and incorporated environmental stewardship throughout their farming operations. They recognize that improved water quality and soil sustainability reaps benefits that extend beyond their fields to reach the citizens of Iowa and beyond.

Nominations may be submitted at any time. Each year, those submitted by the first Monday in May will be considered for that year’s awards. Awards are presented by the Governor, Secretary of Agriculture, and Iowa DNR Director at a ceremony held during the Iowa State Fair.

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