

# Conservation Districts of Iowa

Informing, educating and leading Iowans through our local soil and water conservation districts to conserve our natural resources

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## Spring Regional Commissioner Meetings

198 Commissioners/Assistant Commissioners & 79 Field Office Staff represented 77 Districts at the 2017 Spring Regional Commissioner Meetings!



The Spring Regional Commissioner Meeting information is online at [www.cdiowa.org](http://www.cdiowa.org)!

## Submit a Nomination for the 2017 Awards!

- Thanks to Van Wall Group of Perry, the **Conservation Farmer of the Year** Award Winner will have the free use of a John Deere 6E Series Utility Tractor or equivalent for up to 12 months or up to 200 hours! *Nominations are due May 1 to local Soil and Water Conservation District, SWCD selections due May 15 to NRCS Area Office, Area Office selections due June 1 to IDALS-DSCWQ.*
- Thanks to Iowa Conservation Education Coalition (ICEC), the **Conservation Teacher of the Year** Award Winners will receive a one year ICEC membership! *Nominations are due June 1 to IDALS-DSCWQ.*
- In addition to an \$800 cash award, this year's **Outstanding Watershed** Award Winner will be able to enroll a farmer of their choice into AgSolver Profit Zone Manager. *Nominations are due June 1 to IDALS-DSCWQ.*
- The **Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Award** celebrates its sixth year in 2017! *Nominations are due June 15 to IDALS-DSCWQ.* Send [admin@cdiowa.org](mailto:admin@cdiowa.org) the name and phone number of a farmer you would like to nominate by May 1 along with a paragraph as to why this person should be nominated. Be sure to make initial contact with the individual to ensure they accept the nomination and inform them that CDI will be in contact at a later date.
- Izaak Walton League Windbreak Award, Ken Wagner Award, Ruth Wagner Award, Outstanding SWCD Commissioner Award, Woodland Owner of the Year Award and Conservation Woman of the Year Awards are all due June 1 to IDALS-DSCWQ.

Visit [www.cdiowa.org](http://www.cdiowa.org) for full details on awards!

## INITIATIVE OF INTEREST

*CDI's Visit to Washington, D.C.*



Bob Lynch (CDI President), Alex Schmidt (CDI Vice President), Catherine DeLong (CDI Water Quality Specialist), Tim Palmer (NACD 1st VP and Madison SWCD Commissioner) and Kurt Simon (NRCS State Conservationist) visited Washington, D.C. for the National Association of Conservation District's Legislative Event in March.

They met with legislators and staff of Congressman David Loebsack, David Young, Rod Blum, Steve King, and Senator Joni Ernst and Chuck Grassley.

They stressed how vital funding for staff, Farm Bill conservation programs, and EPA 319 grants are to helping Iowans address resource concerns and reach nutrient reduction goals.

They also invited our legislators to the NACD Summer Tour, July 17 & 18!

Visit

[www.cdiowa.org/conservation-districts-of-iowa/programs/policy/national](http://www.cdiowa.org/conservation-districts-of-iowa/programs/policy/national)  
for a full report.

## DATES OF IMPORTANCE

*April 1 – June 30, 2017*

**April 10:** 2017 Resolutions, Preconference Ballots and Instructions Sent to Districts

**April 14:** Farm Bill 13B Period 6, Des Moines Lobe Period 6 and Farm Bill 14 Period 2 Reports Due

**April 15:** Hugh Hammond Bennett's Birthday

**April 24:** 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Iowa Envirothon State Competition at Springbrook State Park

**April 24:** CDI Announces Regional and State Scholarship Winners

**April 26:** Administrative Professional's Day

**April 28:** Deadline for SWCDs to Submit Local Poster Contest Winners to CDI Regional Directors

**April 30-May 7:** Soil and Water Conservation Week

**May 1:** Farmer of the Year Awards due to Local SWCD, District selections due May 15 to NRCS Area Office, Area Office selections due June 1 to IDALS-DSCWQ

**June 1:** Conservation Awards Due, Except Farmer of the Year and Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Award

**June 2:** Preconference Resolution Voting Ballots Due

**June 2:** Proxy Cards Received by Districts

**June 9:** Quarterly Pictorial Updates Due

**June 15:** Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Awards Due

**June 16:** Results of Preconference Resolution Voting Announced

**June 23:** CDI Announces Regional and State Poster Contest Winners

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