

Save Texas Water

Blue Legacy Award

in Agriculture

2019 Nomination Packet



Presented by the Water Conservation Advisory Council

Water Grows Texas

From the Panhandle to the Rio Grande Valley water is the requisite natural resource that binds our livelihoods together. For agricultural producers, water is much more than a tool of the trade: it is the key to the viability of agriculture in Texas. Conserving water is therefore an investment that benefits all Texans.

Though it often goes unrecognized, agricultural producers actively conserve and efficiently use water through everyday decisions, investments, and practices. The Water Conservation Advisory Council created the **Blue Legacy Awards** to identify and showcase responsible stewardship of our water resources and to honor those whose practices enhance conservation of water while maintaining or improving on-farm profitability.

The Water Conservation Advisory Council promotes Blue Legacy Award winners as credible spokespersons, sharing their success stories and encouraging others in the industry to improve their water conservation practices. This award spreads the message that efficient use of water resources is a vital component of sustainable agricultural operations.

Do you know someone worthy of the Blue Legacy Award?

Save Texas Water

Blue Legacy Award in Agriculture

Eligibility Criteria

The awards are open to individuals, families, or other agricultural producers or groups that have implemented exemplary water conservation practices.

- The operation must be located in Texas
- Water conservation efforts and/or achievements must have occurred within the last 5 years
- The applicant cannot be a former Blue Legacy Award winner, but previous applicants may reapply.

Award Categories

Awards will be given in the following categories:

- **Producer** ~ any and all producers involved with crop production, livestock raising, ranching, or rangeland preservation
- **Non-producer** ~ crop consultants; political subdivisions such as groundwater conservation districts, irrigation districts, soil and water conservation districts; and other entities, etc.

Selection Process

To ensure independence and integrity, all entries are comprehensively assessed by an independent selection committee. **Helpful tip:** The key to a successful nomination application is providing specific examples of implemented conservation practices.

A completed application includes all items below

- Completed Nomination application
- 2 photographs at a minimum. *Please attach photos in a separate email from the nomination application or mail in an alternative electronic media format.*

Optional: Supporting Information – brochures, maps, charts, press clips, etc.

Category Winners Receive

- prestigious award trophy engraved with the name of the individual, family, or organization
- acknowledgement (name and logo) in feature articles where possible and on the Water Conservation Advisory Council's website

Presentation of the awards will occur during Texas Water Day at the state capitol or through other arrangements if necessary.

Important Dates

December 15, 2018

Nomination applications due

January 2019

Selection committee scores applications. Winners personally notified shortly thereafter.

March 2019

Winners publicly announced and honored.



Save Texas Water ~ Blue Legacy Award in Agriculture

I am completing this application on behalf of (choose one): myself someone else

MY CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

NOMINEE'S CONTACT INFO (leave blank if same)

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

WHO IS BEING NOMINATED? (Business Name/ Family Farm Name/ District Name / Other)

INDIVIDUALS TO BE RECOGNIZED (if any): _____

AWARD CATEGORY (choose only one):

- Producer** ~ any and all producers involved with crop production, livestock raising, ranching, or rangeland preservation
- Non-producer** ~ crop consultants; political subdivisions such as groundwater conservation districts, irrigation districts, soil and water conservation districts; and other entities, etc.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Applications must be received by **December 15, 2018.**

You may submit your nomination application by emailing your *Word* or *pdf* document to wcac@twdb.texas.gov

← or →

You may mail your application to
Water Conservation Advisory Council
c/o Texas Water Development Board
Attn: Conservation Division
PO Box 13231
Austin, TX 78711

PHOTOS: You may choose to either mail in copies of your photos to the address above or email digital files of your photos to wcac@twdb.texas.gov, regardless of how you submit the text portion. Please note that photos may need to be sent in separate emails due to file size.

NOTE: Please notify us by phone or email if you are submitting anything by regular mail.

QUESTIONS: Please contact us by calling 512.936.0825 or by sending an email to wcac@twdb.texas.gov with any questions you may have about the application or the awards.

****APPLICATION CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE****

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Please type your responses for the sections below into a separate document **no more than 5 pages in length**.

SECTION I. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS AND STEWARDSHIP PRACTICES

1. Please describe the water conservation program and/or activities being submitted for the award including the nature of the business, farm, and production history of the operation. In this description, include major crops and acreage, number and type of livestock, and so on.
2. Please describe the use of **best management practices** or innovative practices as they pertain to water quality, water conservation, and efficient use of water resources. A list of best management practices for agricultural water conservation can be viewed at www.twdb.texas.gov/conservation/BMPs/.
3. Please include, if possible, estimated water savings or application efficiency improvements that demonstrate the success of the program and how those values were obtained.
4. Please include a minimum of 2 photos. Photos may be of equipment, crops, fields, the farm, the producer and his or her family. You may submit up to a maximum of 10 photos. Photos may be emailed in digital format or you may mail the photos along with your nomination packet.

An application must include photos to be considered complete. By submitting photos to the Blue Legacy Awards program, you hereby grant permission to the Water Conservation Advisory Council and support staff at the Texas Water Development Board to use the photos at their discretion in publications, websites, and other media outlets as deemed appropriate. Please provide preferred credit for the photos to be referenced, if any, and circumstances under which you do not grant permission for the use of a photo. If any subjects in the photo(s) are under 18, consent for use must be provided by a parent or legal guardian.

SECTION II. LEADERSHIP IN CONSERVATION WITHIN COMMUNITY AND INDUSTRY

5. Please describe how the nominee demonstrated leadership in water conservation within the community and the agricultural industry.
6. Please list and describe outreach efforts such as a farm tours, public speaking, community programs, and/or organizational involvement or membership. Additional experience may include membership in conservation groups and initiatives.
7. Please list any conservation or agricultural honors or awards the nominee has received.

SECTION III. WATER CONSERVATION LEGACY

8. Please describe the importance of agricultural water conservation and why the individual or organization should be recognized with a Blue Legacy Award.

OPTIONAL ITEMS – SUPPORTING INFORMATION

9. You may include supporting information such as brochures, maps, data charts, press clips, letters of support, etc. These items are not required to complete the nomination packets.