



2025 Iowa Pork Industry Environmental Steward Award

The award for Environmental Steward recognizes an individual who demonstrates the positive contributions the pork industry makes to the natural environment.

Nominations:

Nominations may be made by county extension personnel, extension swine field specialists, conservation technical specialist county pork associations, production companies or other pork producers. Nominators and nominees are encouraged to identify all the natural resources conservation programs they have participated in that reflect the producer's commitment to environmental stewardship (examples: On Farm Assessment and Environmental Review, local county training workshops, etc.).

Nomination Criteria

- 1) Nominees must be:
 - a. A member of the Iowa Pork Producers Association
 - b. Iowa resident
- 2) Nominees must complete an application that provides details and full documentation on:
 - a. Farm Description: Describe the general nature, history, and production information of the operation.
 - b. Manure/Nutrient Management: Describe the farm's manure management system. Explain manure collection, transport and storage processes and the type of land application equipment used. Include details on how the farm utilizes manure nutrients and how the manure management fits into the overall farming operation, including the financial benefits of the manure nutrient management system.
 - c. Soil & Water Conservation: Highlight conservation programs the farm has participated in, including water and soil conservation practices. Also, include any weed and pest management practices used to protect the environment.
 - d. Air Quality: Describe any technologies or management strategies used to reduce odors and improve the air quality surrounding the farm.
 - e. Public Relations: Explain how the farm operation fosters positive neighbor relations and a good community image. Include any efforts to enhance farm aesthetics, manage odor, and improve communications with neighbors and community.
 - f. Wildlife: Describe steps taken to promote/manage wildlife habitat near this operation.
 - g. Environmental Management Innovations: List innovative ideas applied to the environmental management plan and/or renewable energy efforts.

Award Rules:

- 1) All nominations must be postmarked by **July 15, 2025**.
- 2) Nominations should be focused on a **single** production site.
- 3) Nominators should work with nominees to complete the nomination form.
- 4) Nominations **must** include a letter of recommendation detailing why the nominee should be recognized for the award.
- 5) The award recipient will receive a \$2,500 cash award and the person nominating the award recipient will receive \$500.

Selection Process:

Date	Activity
July 15 – August 5	Applications will be reviewed by IPPA staff for eligibility.
By August 29	The IPPA Environmental Committee Selection Panel will review applications and make an award decision.
August 25 – September 30	Nominees and IPPA Public Policy Director will schedule a zoom call for initial conversation.
By November 15	IPPA staff will complete an on-site visit with a winner. This will include photos and video interviews. Questions will be provided prior to the visit. Visits are scheduled to best fit winner's schedule.
Jan. 21, 2026	Individuals will be honored at the Master Pork Producer Banquet held during the Iowa Pork Congress.

Nomination Submission:

Mailed:

Iowa Pork Producers Association
Attn: Brielle Smeby
1636 NW 14th St
Clive, IA 50325

Emailed: bsmeby@iowapork.org

Questions:

Ben Nuelle – bnuelle@iowapork.org or 515-225-7675

2025 Iowa Pork Industry Environmental Steward Award Application Form

NOMINEE NAME(S) _____
(Please include spouse name only **if nominated**)

FARM NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

COUNTY _____ DISTRICT _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ NUMBER OF YEARS RAISING SWINE _____

SPOUSE'S NAME (if **not** nominated for award) _____

CHILDREN'S NAMES AND AGES _____

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE IOWA PORK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION? YES NO

If yes, list county: _____

Please list any local newspapers or radio stations with which we can share press information should nominee be selected for the award. _____

NOMINATED BY (Name, Phone, Email, Relation to Nominee): _____

*Nominators **MUST** include a letter of recommendation detailing why this individual stands out. (i.e. production performance, management skills and capabilities, industry/community involvement, issues and industry knowledge and other special achievements.)*

The next pages are for farm and production information

What is nominee role(s) in pork production? (Check all that apply)

Independent Producer/Pig Owner ____ Site Owner ____ Barn Manager ____

Contract Producer ____ if yes, please list production company _____

Please indicate the production stage involved in:

Sow Farm ____ Nursery ____ Finisher ____ Other ____

Breeding Operations:

No. of sows _____

No. of feeder pigs sold _____

Nursery/Finishing Operations:

No. of feeder pigs _____

No. of pigs finished _____

Who is involved in the operation and/or how many employees are overseen? _____

PQA Plus certification number _____

Do you have any row crops? _____ acres corn _____ acres soybeans

Is manure from hog barns utilized on nominee's crop operation? Yes ____ No ____

Has the Farm completed a Pork Cares Farm Impact Report? YES NO

Do you have any other livestock or other agriculture-related business? (i.e. cattle, custom manure application, seed sales, etc.)

The next pages are for detailed information about the farm and environmental stewardship information. If you do not have enough space in the boxes provided, you may complete and attach as separate pages.

Describe the general nature and history of the operation.

Manure/Nutrient Management: Describe the farm's manure management system.

Soil and Water Conservation: Highlight conservation programs in which the farm has participated.

Air Quality: Describe any technologies or management strategies used to reduce odors and improve air quality.

Public Relations: Explain how the operation fosters positive relationships within the community.

Wildlife: Describe steps taken to promote/manage wildlife habitat.

Environmental Management Innovations: List any innovative ideas applied to the operation regarding environmental stewardship.

Please attach separate page(s) with any supporting documentation (ex. assessments, articles, or county workshops etc.) and photos

This application, including a letter of recommendation, must be completed and submitted to IPPA by July 15, 2025.