



2026 Farming Heritage Award

Sponsored by the West Virginia Farm Bureau and the State Fair of West Virginia

West Virginia Farm Bureau and State Fair of West Virginia value all agriculture families who have played a role in our state's food production and helped to make our rural economy thrive.

THE AWARD

The Farming Heritage Award will be presented to a family that has strived to maintain its rural lifestyle by contributing to the community, acting as role models, dedicating time to efficient agricultural production, and maintaining the upkeep of their farm.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

1. State Farm Bureau and State Fair of West Virginia board members, employees, management, and immediate families are not eligible.
2. Applicants must be a resident of the state of West Virginia.
3. Applicants are not required to be members of the West Virginia Farm Bureau.
4. Winners of previous Heritage Awards, presented from 2001-2025, are not eligible.
5. Winners will be notified in late July. Award ceremonies will be Thursday, August 20, during the 2026 State Fair. Winners will be honored at a special luncheon reception where they will receive their "West Virginia Farming Heritage Award," treated to a day at the Fair including overnight accommodations, free admission, preferred parking, and receive a Natural Stone sign for indoor or outdoor display (**winner is responsible for transport of award**).
6. All winners will be asked to submit an 8" x 10" photograph of the family, as well as other photos for display at the State Fair of West Virginia. The photo(s) will need to be sent to the fairgrounds by July 1, 2026.
7. If additional space is needed, please attach an 8 ½" x 11" typewritten or legibly written page.
8. **ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED OR EMAILED BY MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026.**
9. **This application will be scored on the following criteria**

a. WV Family Farm with at least 3 generations	20 points
b. Community involvement and memberships	10 points
c. Farming related occupations	5 points
d. Overall farming operation	30 points
e. Farm history	15 points
f. Upgrades to farm	15 points
g. Other materials	5 points

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Butler at 1-800-398-4630, extension 301, or e-mail steveb@wvfarm.org, or call Kelly Collins at 304-645-1090, or e-mail kellyt@statefairwv.com.

ENTRY INFORMATION

This application may be completed by: 1) the applicant or 2) someone nominating a deserving family.

Name of Family applying/nominated _____

Address/City _____, WV Zip _____

County _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Please list the names and ages of each member of the applicant farming family: _____

How many generations of this family have been involved with farming?_____

Who is the patriarch/matriarch of the family?_____

How many acres are farmed?_____ What is the primary operation/product?_____

1. List community/civic activities in which family members are involved and leadership positions held:

2. List memberships held by family members with agriculture related associations:

3. List farming-related occupations of family members: _____

4. Is this an active farm? Yes_____ No_____ If so, please explain the overall operation of the farm:

5. Please provide a brief history of the farm: _____

6. Describe any upgrades that have been done on the farm:_____

7. Attach a brief description of what a farming lifestyle means to this family.

8. Please attach any supporting information (newspaper or magazine articles, pictures, etc.)

ENTRY VERIFICATION

Please verify by your signature that all of the information included in this entry, to the best of your knowledge, is true and applies to the applicant's farming involvement.

Signature _____ Date _____

IF SELECTED...

Who should be contacted about the award results? ☐ applicant or ☐ person who nominated by (indicate below)

Phone # _____ or fax # _____ or email _____

Name of local/regional newspaper to be contacted with information concerning the award winner? _____



**This application must be postmarked or e-mailed
by Monday, June 1, 2026.**
Send to: West Virginia Farm Bureau, Farming Heritage Award,
62 Farm Bureau Rd, Buckhannon, WV 26201
or
e-mail to steveb@wvfarm.org

