

# Nominees sought for 2026 Kentucky Leopold Conservation Award

**BY ERA STAFF**

Kentucky farmers and foresters are being sought for nomination for the 2026 Kentucky Leopold Conservation Award, which recognizes outstanding stewardship of land, water and wildlife habitat on private working lands.

Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell invited Kentuckians to nominate individuals or families for the award, which includes a \$10,000 prize, according to a news release from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

“Our farmers are the true stewards of our land,” Shell said in the release. “This award

**“Our farmers are the true stewards of our land.”**

*Jonathan Shell*  
— Commissioner of Agriculture

honors those who go above and beyond to practice conservation efforts. The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is honored to work with the Sand County Foundation to present the Leopold Conservation Award to a Kentucky farm family who shows true devotion to the management of our natural resources.”

The award is given in honor

of Aldo Leopold; a renowned conservationist whose work emphasized an ethical relationship between people and the land they own and manage. Leopold outlined that philosophy in his 1949 book, “A Sand County Almanac.”

Sand County Foundation, which presents the Leopold Conservation Award in 28 states, describes the honor

as recognizing private agricultural landowners who inspire others through their commitment to conservation and land ethics, according to the release. In Kentucky, the award is presented in partnership with the Kentucky Agricultural Council and the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts.

Nominations may be submitted by third parties or by landowners themselves. Application materials are available online and must be submitted electronically.

The deadline to apply is March 31, 2026. Completed applications must be emailed to

KentuckyLCA@sandcountyfoundation.org.

The Leopold Conservation Award has been presented in Kentucky since 2013. The first recipient was Sherwood Acres Farm of LaGrange. The 2025 award was presented to John and Randy Seymour of Upton, a father-and-son team who operate Riders Mill Farms and Roundstone Creek.

Support for the Kentucky Leopold Conservation Award comes from a wide range of agricultural, conservation and educational organizations,

including American Farmland Trust, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, among others listed in the release.

Additional information about the award and the nomination process is available at [leopoldconservationaward.org](http://leopoldconservationaward.org).

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**OLDHAM COUNTY FISCAL COURT**  
**ORDINANCE KOC 26-920-003**

An ordinance amending the Oldham County Comprehensive Zoning Map.

The second reading/public hearing and adoption of the above proposed ordinance is scheduled to be held in the Fiscal Court Room located on the second floor of the Fiscal Court Building, 100 West Jefferson Street, La Grange, Kentucky on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 2:00 pm.

KOC-26-920-003 is a proposed ordinance for a Zoning Map Amendment on approximately 0.36 acres located at 3604 & 3608 W. Highway 146, La Grange. The proposed change is from R-2, Residential District & C-1, Local Business District, to R-4, Residential District for Key Homes, LLC.

All interested parties are hereby notified that a copy of the proposed ordinance is available in its entirety for public inspection in the County Judge-Executive's office during regular business hours and online at <https://www.oldhamcountyky.gov/public-notices>.

David Voegele  
Oldham County Judge-Executive

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**CITY OF LA GRANGE**  
**Monday, March 2nd, 2026**

The City of La Grange City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, March 2, 2026, at approximately 6:30 p.m. pertaining to the second reading on the following item. The Public Hearing will be held at La Grange City Hall located at 307 W. Jefferson St. La Grange, Kentucky.

**ORDINANCE NO. 02, SERIES 2026- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF OLDHAM COUNTY KENTUCKY FOR PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF LA GRANGE 1000 BLOCK OF COMMERCE PARKWAY**

All interested parties are hereby notified that a copy of the proposed ordinance is available in its entirety for public inspection at La Grange City Hall, 307 West Jefferson Street, LaGrange, Kentucky, and may be examined during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). All those interested are invited to be present and participate in the discussion.

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