



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors

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2004 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS TO BE RECOGNIZED

There is still time to submit nominations before the January 15 deadline

The Delaware Nutrient Management Commission (DNMC) has partnered with five commercial fertilizer companies to select and recognize the 2004 environmental stewards. Gromark FS, Meherrin AG Chemical, Southern States Cooperative, UAP Northeast, and Willard Agri Service will fund the program. Nominations must be submitted to the Nutrient Management Program or a sponsoring fertilizer company.

Bill Rohrer, Program Administrator, said, "Nutrient Management is important and those who go above the requirements and set the example within the Ag community should be recognized. For the past three years, we've awarded poultry farmers; this year, we will award non-poultry farmers."

The Environmental Stewardship program awards farmers whose stewardship and general farm practices contribute to the preservation of the environment, water quality and farmland. Awards are based on the following criteria:

- Nutrient Management
- Best Management Practices
- Farm management, innovation, biodiversity and wildlife management;
- Off-farm agricultural related activities;
- General nature of the farming operation;
- Aesthetics and community involvement;
- Other environmental and agricultural awards.

The finalists will receive a cash award, plaque and a lane recognition sign. The judging committee will represent the DNMC, Gromark FS, Meherrin AG Chemical, Southern States Cooperative, UAP Northeast, Willard Agri Service, Environmental/Conservation organization, Delaware Department of Agriculture, University of Delaware, and the Dept of Natural Resources Environmental Control.

For nominations or more information, please contact the DDA Nutrient Management Program: Steve Hollenbeck at (302) 698-4500 or (800) 282-8685 (DE only).

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