



Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists

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Providing leadership and advocacy for the enhancement of fish and wildlife resources for the benefit of all hunters, anglers and conservationists. Protecting our 2nd Amendment Rights.

John F. Laudadio Conservation Leadership Award

The John Laudadio Conservation Leadership Award is a unique annual award presented by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists to honor the life and commitment of John Laudadio to the Natural Resources of the Commonwealth.

John Laudadio, a former Federation president and House of Representatives member, was perhaps one of the most influential conservationists in Pennsylvania history. A man with a sincere devotion to the outdoors, sportsmanship, and the conservation of our natural resources. Upon his return from service during World War II, he was disheartened by the effects of acid mine drainage and poor mining practices in Pennsylvania near his home in Westmoreland County. With the support of his sportsmen colleges, he began his legislative campaign in Sportsmen's Clubs with a slogan on a beer glass "*Join the fight for clean water, vote for John Laudadio.*"

He went forward, leading the charge for sweeping changes to the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Laws and the passage of 28 crucial conservation laws, including the All Surface Mining Act, the Clean Air Act, and the first recycling legislation of the Commonwealth.

John Laudadio was often described as a difficult man, in fact, "*a bull in a china shop,*" but he was also blessed with the ability to form partnerships. He embraced individuals for a common goal from both sides of the aisle, and to those that disagreed, he proclaimed, "*be right on conservation or be gone.*"

His friends knew John Laudadio on the hill as "Mr. Conservation." His legacy continues in the amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution that he co-sponsored that guarantees the people of the Commonwealth:

"The right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment."

In remembrance of John Laudadio, the PFSC recognizes young adults who have demonstrated a commitment to the conservation effort in Pennsylvania. The John F. Laudadio Conservation Leadership Award is a great honor to the recipient. It continues to promote the behavior that John Laudadio would be proud of - a longstanding commitment to conserving our valuable natural resources.

CONSERVATION PLEDGE

I give my pledge as an American, to save and faithfully defend from waste, the natural resources of my country, its air, soil and minerals, its forests, waters and wildlife.

John F. Laudadio Conservation Leadership Award Application Instructions

In remembrance of John Laudadio, the Federation, since 1978, has recognized young adults who have shown a long-term commitment to the conservation effort in the Commonwealth. The purpose of the award is to identify and reward rising young conservationists, publicly recognize their efforts and encourage their continued participation and performance of leadership functions for the Commonwealth and the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists.

This is a recognition program, not a contest. Recipients must be no older than 23 years old as of the Spring Banquet at which the award is presented. There is no minimum age. Recipients must be residents of Pennsylvania.

Nominations for potential recipients may be made by PFSC affiliated clubs, counties, divisions, organizations or individual members. All nominations must be pre-approved by the nominee's local Division. Each Division may submit only one nomination per year.

Once approved by the appropriate Division, the application form must be submitted to the state office by January 1 for review by the PFSC board during the January board meeting. (See attached)

Application packages should include a resume, description of activities, newspaper clippings, photographs, and letters of recommendation. (Materials from application packets will be returned if requested.)

Awards will be presented during the Spring Banquet of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists. Recipients will receive notification of the date, location, and other details on or before February 1.

The approving Division shall be responsible for all expenses related to the award. Expenses may include: reimburse the recipient for travel expenses, three (3) banquet tickets, one night's lodging, and costs of the award plaque.

Recipients are encouraged to continue their conservation leadership efforts and activities, including involvement with the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists and the County and Division Affiliates. Recipients will be given a one (1) year membership to PFSC.

