SDFFA MEMBERS WIN NATIONAL TREE FARMER OF THE YEAR!

CONGRATULATIONS MARY LAHOOD & BOB BURNS

Mary Lahood & Bob Burns Manage 320 acres LaHood-Burns Family Forests with their children in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

"The National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year is selected from the top nominations from all over the country. The LaHood-Burns Family Forest selection is a true testament to the hard work, many accomplishments, and their leadership in promoting sustainable forestry on private forest lands throughout the region." said Bob Bauer, chair of the Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year Committee.

Burns and LaHood are being recognized for decades of conscientious, pro-active, hands-on stewardship of the land and for their dedication and advocacy for the family forest landowners.

LaHoods-Burns Family Forest focuses on multiple uses that protect the timber stands, reduce wildfire danger, promote water quality, reduce the threat of Mountain Pine Beetles, reduce noxious weeds, and enhance wildlife habitats while improving recreation such as camping and hiking. They have also worked closely with the US Forest Service on their properties bordering their farm and helped in the reduction of off-highway vehicles' impact on pristine riparian areas.

But its not only their efforts on their own forest. "They are doing a lot of impressive outreach and advocacy by giving back to their community to provide values that tree farmers hold dear," said Dr. Salem Saloom (2010 ATFS TFOY) who visited property during the selection process. "This really made them stand out."

AFF Family Forest Blog: Black Hills Family Named National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year

Mary LaHood & Bob Burns: 2021 National Outstanding TFOY

Black Hills Pioneer: PIEDMONT FAMILY RECOGNIZED FOR FOREST STEWARDSHIP

NewsCenter1: 2021 NATIONAL OUTSTANDING TREE FARMER OF THE YEAR

Rapid City Journal: PEIDMONT COUPLE EARNS TOP HORNOR FROM AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION

CONGRATULATIONS MARY & BOB AT BEING SOUTH DAKOTA'S 1ST NATIONAL AWARD WINNER!