



Ross Paulenich Memorial Conservation Scholarship

Mercer County Conservation District

The Mercer County Conservation District is proud to offer the Ross Paulenich Memorial Conservation Scholarship. Ross was raised in Hermitage and graduated from Hickory High School. He then graduated from Clarion University with two bachelor's degrees – one in Environmental Biology and another in Geographic Information Systems. Ross was passionate about conservation and loved the outdoors. In addition to working in the environmental field, he spent much of his free time hunting and fishing. He also enjoyed mushroom hunting and cheering on the Pittsburgh Penguins. This scholarship is awarded in his honor.

Funds raised through the Mercer County Conservation District's 2020-2021 Photo Contest support the scholarship. The Photo Contest highlights the natural resources and natural beauty of Mercer County through a cooperative effort with residents and visitors to our great county.

ELIGIBILITY

- The applicant must be a senior at a Mercer County high school.
- The applicant must be planning to major in Environmental Science/Studies, Agriculture, Biology, Engineering, Conservation, Natural Resource Management, or similar.

CRITERIA

- The applicant must have exceptional academic achievement.
- The applicant must have significant involvement in school and community activities.
- Involvement in local conservation activities is preferred.

PROCEDURE

- The applicant must submit their completed form and supplemental materials via email to jrichael@mcc.co.mercer.pa.us by **February 28, 2022**.
- All applications must be typed. Hand-written applications will not be accepted.
- All questions must be answered completely, and all attachments must be submitted with the application.
- Applications must include a signature from the student, a parent/guardian, and a guidance counselor.
- All applications will be reviewed and awarded by the Mercer County Conservation District.
- The winner will be announced in Spring 2022, and the award will be presented to the winner during their high school's award ceremony.



APPLICATION

1. Student Name: _____
2. Email address: _____
3. Home address: _____
4. Phone number: _____
5. Parent/guardian name(s): _____
6. High school: _____
7. Current GPA: _____ Guidance Counselor Name: _____
8. Expected college (if you are unsure, write "TBD"): _____
9. Expected major (if you are unsure, write "TBD"): _____
10. Extracurricular activities from the past two years:

11. Volunteer experience from the past two years:

12. What does conservation mean to you?

Attach a 250-500-word essay about what conservation means to you. Include an example of a local conservation effort you have been involved with and how you plan to incorporate conservation into your future.



13. Letter of recommendation

Attach a letter written by someone not related to you, such as a teacher, guidance counselor, or scout leader. The letter should speak to the character and integrity of the student.

14. Guidance Counselor signature: _____ Date: _____

15. Student signature: _____ Date: _____

16. Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____