

2023 Conservation Teacher – Lynita Foster, [Bedias Creek SWCD #428](#)

The winner of the 2023 Conservation Teacher award is Lynita Foster. For Lynita, teaching is not just a job, it is a calling. Lynita has been teaching at Madisonville High School for nearly 30 years and she still exhibits the same passion and enthusiasm for the job today as she did when she first began. When asked about her inspiration for teaching Lynita stated, "I just focus on my students and the potential I see in them." Seeing her students not just retain the subject matter but witnessing them apply it to their daily lives is what Lynita strives for. Ms. Foster says, "What we teach is not just theory. We don't just say this is what is in the book. We go out and practice it and apply it." Her students participate in competitive events which allow them to develop practical skills related to the stewardship of soil, water, and wildlife. These events include Land Judging, Home Site Evaluation, Wildlife, Range Judging, Ag Issues Forum, Chapter Conducting, and many more. Lynita takes her passion for agricultural education beyond the classroom and utilizes her talents to serve on leadership boards and organizations. She is currently the President of the Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas and serves as a board member on the Texas FFA Board of Directors and Texas FFA Foundation Board of Directors. Lynita has previously been awarded Honorary Lone Star and American FFA Degrees. She has been named Teacher of the Year for FFA Area IX and Madisonville High School Teacher of the Year. Ms. Foster is also a Professional Accredited Parliamentarian with the Society of Agricultural Education Parliamentarians. Lynita has made advocacy her way of life through teaching and serving the agricultural community. Her work is solely for the students she teaches; in hopes that she's making a difference in their lives and that one day they will take on the responsibility of becoming effective agricultural advocates.