

Middlebrook Resident Earns National Conservation Award



Volunteers are the driving force behind the National Wild Turkey Federation's conservation successes, and each year the NWTF recognizes the best of the best with the Roger M. Latham Sportsman Wild Turkey Service Awards. This year the NWTF presented a Latham Service Award to Rick Layser of Middlebrook, Virginia, for his contributions to the NWTF's conservation legacy. Layser received the award in Nashville, Tennessee, during the NWTF's 34th annual National Convention and Sport Show, themed "Conserve. Hunt. Share, Live the Tradition." The convention was sponsored by MidwayUSA.

"Rick Layser shows tireless dedication to promoting conservation and hunting and sharing his passion for the outdoors," said NWTF's chief conservation officer, James Earl Kenamer, Ph.D. "We are pleased to honor his commitment to excellence with this award."

The Latham Service Awards are given to NWTF members who are not employed as professional wildlife managers but have made significant contributions to wild turkey conservation. Winners are chosen from a field of the NWTF's nearly 350,000 volunteers.

"To be honored in front of so many people who care about hunting traditions, conservation and improving habitat, and to be able to share the moment with my wife, is pretty special," said Layser, who was joined at the 2010 convention by his wife, Linda.

Michael Turbyfill
National Wild Turkey Federation
Edgefield, South Carolina