The New Jersey Conservation Poster Contest is open to all students in grades 2-12 and students compete in grade categories. Local Soil Conservation District prizes may also be awarded!

Prizes for Statewide Competition
1st Place $200
2nd Place $100
3rd Place $50

Contest Sponsors:
The NJ Department of Agriculture, the NJ Association of Conservation Districts, and your local Soil Conservation District

New Jersey Natural Resources Conservation Program
Who Can Participate?
The Poster Contest is open to all students in grades 2-12 — public, private, home schooled and youth groups included.

Why Participate?
Designing a poster and researching the theme can give you a voice in your community about important conservation issues. Good posters capture people’s attention and deliver stories in a way that everyone can understand. A powerful graphic can inspire people to be concerned about conservation.

Information Resources: Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper
You will want to learn all you can about what lives in the soil. It is very important to understand that we all need healthy soil. Plants grow in soil. Soil cleans the water we drink and grows the food we eat. Houses are built on soil. Soil takes thousand or even millions of years to form. Healthy soil increases the amount of available ground to farm. Recycling can keep soil healthy by cutting down on our need for landfills, mining and the need to cut trees. Composting also gives soil nutrients that it needs to grow healthy plants and trees. Only 10% of Earth’s land surface has suitable soil, which is why it is vital that we practice good soil conservation.

You can find resources at your school or public library, science books, local newspapers, nature centers and from the NACD website www.nacdnet.org Stewardship & Education section. Get guidance from your teacher or parents to find information on the internet about watersheds.

Web Resources:
- https://www.doctordirt.org/
- https://www.soil-net.com/legacy/schools/index.htm
- http://www.purpleplowchallenge.org/about/

DID YOU KNOW…..
- Almost all the food you eat, material for the clothes you wear, and wood for the house you live in is produced by soil?
- There are thousands of different types of soil across the world? The USA alone has more than 70,000 varieties of soil.
- It takes 500 years to produce an inch of topsoil, which is the most productive layer of soil?
- About 70% of the weight of a text book or magazine is soil?
- Soil is alive? There are more microorganisms in a handful of soil than there are people on Earth.
- Almost all the antibiotics we take to help us fight infections and disease were obtained from soil microorganisms?
- Some animals, like chimpanzees in Uganda eat soil? This lets them absorb nutrients in harmful foods.
- Soil is a non-renewable natural resource? This should make us think of how much we value it.

NJ Soil Conservation Districts (SCD) are special purpose subdivisions of the State. In cooperation with the State Soil Conservation Committee, they are empowered to conserve and manage soil and water resources and address stormwater, soil erosion and sedimentation problems that result from land disturbance activities. There are 15 Soil Conservation Districts in New Jersey. (See back page for list.)

In response to growing public concern for water quality, NJ conservation districts have become the primary local governmental agencies responsible for monitoring nonpoint sources of pollution associated with agriculture, construction and mining. The technical services of the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service and other resource agencies are made available through the districts.

Online Tips for Creating an Effective Poster
The National Association of Conservation Districts at www.nacdnet.org provides links to assist with creating posters. Click on the “Stewardship & Education” tab and find “Poster Contest” under “Contests” for an overview of the 2019 theme, and for tips on what makes a good poster and the National Visual Arts Standards.
New Jersey Rules

These rules must be followed for your poster to be accepted by your local Soil Conservation District. Entries that do not conform to the rules will not be judged.

Please review and follow your local Soil District rules for the deadline!

1. Clearly print your name and information on the entry form AND tape the completed entry form to the back of your poster.
2. Tape a 1-3 sentence explanation of your poster, neatly written on a 3" x 5" or 4" x 6" index card, to the back of the poster. Be sure to write your name and county on the index card.
3. Contest theme “Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper” must appear somewhere in your poster. Leave a 1 inch border of white space at the edges of the poster; lettering should not run on to the edges.
4. The poster must be flat, no 3-D objects.
5. Poster size must be between 8.5” x 11” and 22” x 28”.
6. Any medium may be used including paint, crayons, colored pencils, charcoal and paper. Computer designed artwork is allowed but clip art is not acceptable. No collage or montage.
7. One poster per student.
8. The poster must be the original artwork of the student.
9. ENTRY DEADLINE: See Local District Rules
10. Decisions of the judges are final and all entries become the property of the contest sponsors.

Poster Evaluations

Posters will be judged on the following criteria: Relevance to contest theme: “Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper”
— Conservation message — Visual effectiveness
— Originality — Overall appeal

CASH PRIZES for the New Jersey Statewide competition are awarded by the:

New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts

First - $200 Second - $100 Third - $50

Local District Rules & Prizes

Contact your local district to verify participation (Page 4)

Posters Due to Camden County Soil Soil Conservation District
March 15, 2019

New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts

http://www.njacd.org/
**NEW JERSEY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**
*Please contact your local SCD to verify their participation!*

Bergen County SCD  
700 Kinderkamack Rd. Ste 106  
Oradell, NJ 07649  
(201) 261-4407  
www.bergenscd.org

Burlington County SCD  
1971 Jacksonville Jobstown Rd.  
Columbus, NJ 08022  
(609) 267-7410  
www.bscd.org

Camden County SCD  
423 Commerce Lane, Suite 1  
W. Berlin, NJ 08091  
(856) 767-6299  
www.camdenscd.org

Cape-Atlantic SCD  
Atlantic County Office Bldg.  
6260 Old Harding Highway  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330  
(609) 625-3144  
www.capeatlantic.org

Cumberland-Salem SCD  
P. O. Box 68  
1516 Route 77  
Deerfield, NJ 08313  
(856) 451-2422  
www.cumberlandsoilscd.com

Hudson, Essex, Passaic SCD  
80 Orchard St  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
(862) 333-4505  
information@hepscd.org

Hunterdon County SCD  
687 Pittstown Road  
Frenchtown, NJ 08825  
(908) 789-9466  
hcsd98@embarqmail.com

Freehold SCD  
(Monmouth & Middlesex Counties)  
4000 Kozloski Rd., Suite 5  
Freehold, NJ 07728  
(732) 683-8500  
www.freeholdsoil.org  
info@freeholdscd.org

Mercer County SCD  
590 Hughes Drive  
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690  
(609) 586-9603  
www.mercerscd.org

Gloucester County SCD  
14 Parke Place, Suite B  
Sewell, NJ 08080  
(856) 589-5250  
gloucester@gloucesterscd.org  
www.gloucesterscd.org

Morris County SCD  
Court House, P.O. Box 900  
Morristown, NJ 07960-0900  
(973) 285-2953  
www.mcsd.org

Ocean County SCD  
714 Lacey Road  
Forked River, NJ 08731  
(609) 971-7002  
www.soildistrict.org

Somerset-Union SCD  
Somerset County  
308 Milltown Road 4-H Bldg.  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807  
(908) 526-2701  
soilconsrv@co.somerset.nj.us

Sussex County SCD  
Middleton Park Bldg.  
186 Halsey Rd., Suite 2  
Newton, NJ 07860  
(973) 579-5074  
www.sussexscd.org

Warren County SCD  
224 Stiger Street  
Hackettstown, NJ 07840  
(908) 852-2579  
www.warrencountyscd.com

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**NEW JERSEY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**
*Please contact your local SCD to verify their participation!*

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**2019 Poster Contest Entry Form**

*Attach this form to back of each poster*

Circle Your Grade Category:   2nd—3rd     4th—6th     7th—9th     10th—12th

Your County Soil Conservation District: (see above)  
__________________________________________________________

Student Name:  
__________________________________________________________  Grade:  
__________________________________________________________

Home Address:  
__________________________________________________________  Town:  
__________________________________________________________  NJ   Zip Code:  
__________________________________________________________  Phone:  
__________________________________________________________

Winners will be notified by email, if possible. Please neatly print a suitable email address:

__________________________________________________________

If your poster was created through a school project or assignment please complete teacher & school information.

Teacher Name:  
__________________________________________________________

School Name:  
__________________________________________________________

School Address:  
__________________________________________________________  Town:  
__________________________________________________________  NJ   Zip Code:  
__________________________________________________________  Phone:  
__________________________________________________________  Email:  
__________________________________________________________

I certify that this poster is the original artwork of the student named above. Parent OR Teacher Must Sign.

__________________________________________________________  Parent                 OR Teacher

Signature  [ ] Parent          OR [ ] Teacher

Student Signature