

New Jersey Conservation POSTER CONTEST



2019

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



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.

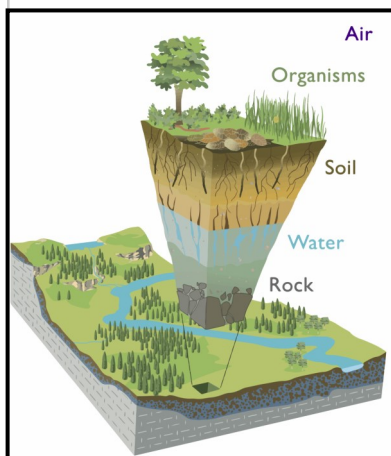
Information Resources: *Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper*

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/>
- <http://www.blm.gov/nstc/soil/Kids/index.html>
- <http://soild4teachers.org/lessons-and-activities>
- <http://www.eschooltoday.com/soils/what-is-soil-conservation.html>
- <http://lifeunderyourfeet.org/en/soileco/intro/whatis.asp>
- <https://www.soil-net.com/legacy/schools/index.htm>
- <http://www.purpleplowchallenge.org/about/>
- <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/edu/kthru6/>



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.

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.

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.

New Jersey Rules

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

Please review and follow your County 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 "conservation message" about 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 County District Rules** →
10. Decisions of the judges are final and all entries become the property of the contest sponsors.

Poster Evaluations

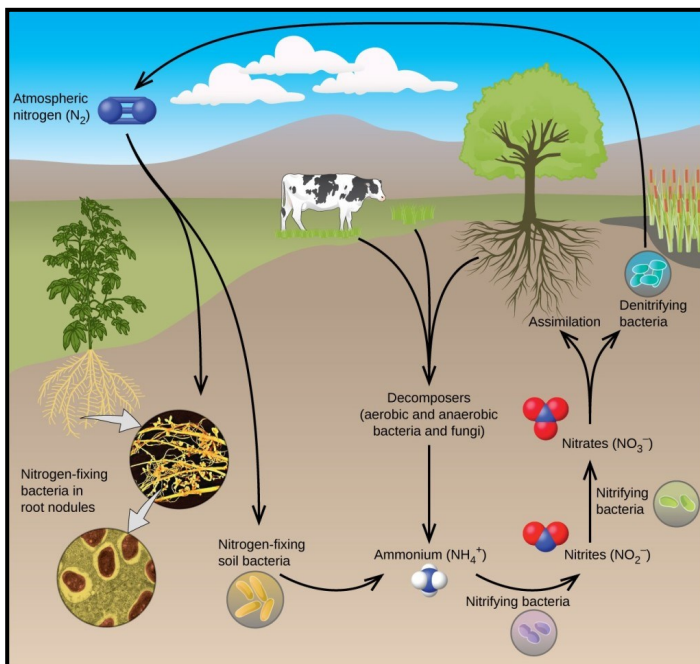
Posters will be judged on the following criteria: Relevance to contest theme: **"Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper"**

- 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



Ocean County Rules & Prizes

Contact your local district to verify participation (Page 4)

1. The teacher of each class/group is responsible for selecting 2-3 winning posters per class. **Please do not send in posters from an entire class.** (If you teach multiple classes you may submit 2-3 posters from each class period.)
2. **Follow ALL the rules to the left. The contest theme "Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper" must appear on the poster.**
3. Taped to the back of **each poster** should be an entry form, along with an index card containing a brief "conservation message" explaining the poster.

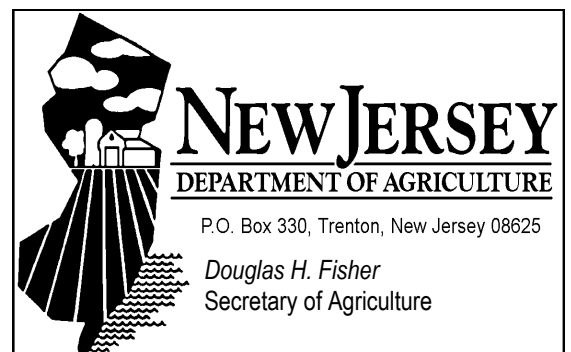
Ocean County Soil Conservation District will declare a First Place winner for each grade group. One Grand Champion Winner will be selected among the First Place winners. The Grand Champion will be awarded a \$50 cash prize; their school will be offered an array of native plants for a "Jersey-Friendly" school garden, valued at \$200. All First Place winning entries are submitted to the Statewide Competition where they will compete for cash prizes. Please contact (609) 971-7002 ext. 114 or education@soildistrict.org for details.

ENTRY DEADLINE (post-marked by): **February 28, 2018**

Mail or deliver entries to:
Ocean County Soil Conservation District
714 Lacey Road
Forked River, NJ 08731

**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.cumberlandsalemsoil.com

Freehold SCD

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

Gloucester County SCD

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

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) 788-9466
hcsd687@embarqmail.com

Mercer County SCD

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

Morris County SCD

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

Ocean County SCD

714 Lacey Road
Forked River, NJ 08731
(609) 971-7002 ext. 114
www.soildistrict.org
education@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

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.

Signature ☐ **Parent** ☐ **OR Teacher**

Student Signature