



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 28, 2016

Soil and Water Conservation District

Contact: Donna Foster, Administrative Program Officer

Telephone: 910-484-8479, option 3

E-mail: dfoster@co.cumberland.nc.us

Soil and Water Conservation Contests Open To Students

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) invites elementary, middle and high school students in the county to participate in the annual poster, essay and public speaking contests. The contests are sponsored by the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The theme for this year's contest is "Soil & Water Yours for Life." The deadline to enter is Jan. 20. The contest events are open to the following school grades.

Essay Contest – Grade 6

Each school may submit more than one essay to the Cumberland SWCD. One essay from all entries of 6th grade essays will advance to Area VII competition.

Poster Contest – Grades 3-6

Each school will judge posters from each grade level to determine 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Only submit 1st place poster to the Cumberland SWCD. The names of 2nd and 3rd place winners should be submitted. The winner of each grade level will advance to Area VII competition.

Public Speaking – Grades 7-8

Each school may select one or more contestants from each grade to compete in the public speaking contest. One winner from each grade will advance to Area VII competition.

Computer-Designed Slide Show – Grade 6

Each school may select one or more contestants for Cumberland SWCD competition. One winner will advance to Area VII competition.

Computer-Designed Poster Contest – Grade 9

Each school may select one or more contestants from 9th grade for district competition. One winner will advance to Area VII competition.

All participants will receive a ribbon. The 1st place winners will receive a \$50 gift card and certificate, 2nd place winners will receive a \$30 gift card and certificate, and 3rd place winners will receive a \$20 gift card and certificate.

Area VII includes Soil and Water Conservation Districts from Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Richmond, Robeson Sampson and Scotland County. A new addition to this year's contest is a \$30 prize to Area VII 1st place winners from each grade level for the Essay, Poster, Computer-Designed Slide Show, and

Computer-Designed Poster contests. Area VII 1st place winners for Public Speaking will receive \$50 for each grade level.

For complete contest rules and requirements, go to http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/documents/2016-2017_contest_handbook.pdf or co.cumberland.nc.us/soil_water/education/stewardship.asp. For information, call 910-484-8479, option 3 or email dfoster@co.cumberland.nc.us. The Cumberland Soil and Water District office is in the Agriculture Center, 301 East Mountain Drive.

Soil & Water . . . Yours for Life



**Poster, Essay &
Speech Contests**

Deadline January 20, 2017

Sponsored by



Public Speaking Contest

7th and 8th Graders

Specifications

Length of Speech – 4-6 minutes

Students will be judged on content and speaking skills.

Visual aids may NOT be used.

Personal information (name, school, hometown) cannot be given in speech.

Points will be deducted for:

- Incorrect title -10 points
- Use of visual aids -5 points
- Over or under time limit -5 points
- Giving personal information -2 points

District 1st place winner

\$50 gift card and a certificate.

District 2nd place winner

\$30 gift card and a certificate.

The District 3rd place winner

\$20 gift card and a certificate.

The District 1st place winner from each grade level will compete in the Area contest.

Poster Contest

3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th Graders

The "Soil & Water... Yours for Life" theme does not have to be written on the poster.

Specifications

Posters should be no larger than 24 x 36 inches. No smaller than 18 x 24 inches.

Pictures or other flat materials may be mounted on the posters, if mounted securely.

Posters cannot be three-dimensional.

Any coloring materials available to students and suitable for poster work may be used.

Posters must be the original work of the individual student. Hand drawn pictures are preferred over computer generated drawings.

Posters should be submitted flat and not rolled.

Posters must be identified on the back using the format shown below left.

Points will be deducted for:

- Copyright violation -5 points
- Exceeding size limit -5 points

District Poster Contest

Teachers will ask students to prepare a poster.

School holds grade level contest.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place school winners from grade levels 3rd, 4th and 5th will receive a ribbon and a certificate.

Each school may submit the 1st place winning poster from each of the grade levels (3rd, 4th and 5th) for District competition.

The District 1st place winner

\$50 gift card and a certificate

The District 2nd place winner

\$30 gift card and a certificate

The District 3rd place winner

\$20 gift card and a certificate

The District 1st place winner from each grade level will compete in the Area contest.

Essay Contest

6th Grade Students

Specifications

Bear the current title of this essay contest (Soil & Water... Yours for Life)

Be either handwritten or computer typed.

Be limited to 300 to 500 words.

Be presented on standard 8 1/2 x 11" paper.

Be properly identified on the back using the format shown below left.

District Essay Contest

Teachers will ask students to prepare an essay.

Each school may submit a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winning essay from their 6th grade students' essays. School winners will receive a ribbon and a certificate.

The District 1st place winner

\$50 gift card and a certificate

The District 2nd place winner

\$30 gift card and a certificate

The District 3rd place winner

\$20 gift card and a certificate

The District 1st place winner will compete in the Area contest.

Poster, essay and speech contests sponsored by



301 East Mountain Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28306

484-8479 Opt. #3

dfoster@co.cumberland.nc.us

co.cumberland.nc.us/soil_water

All posters, essays, speech contents and videos entered into District sponsored competition become the property of the respective District, Area or the Association. These entities are entitled to use these for promotion for the conservation program.

Attach this form to the back of your poster or essay
Contest deadline January 20, 2017.

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

School: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

School Phone: _____

County: Cumberland District: Cumberland