

New Jersey Conservation

# POSTER CONTEST



# 2024

Prizes for  
Statewide

Competition

1st Place \$100

2nd Place \$50

3rd Place \$25



## Contest Sponsors:

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

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!



The Poster Contest is open to all students in grades 2-12 — public, private, home schooled and youth groups included.

### Why Participate ?

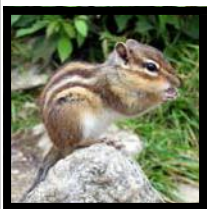
Designing a poster and researching the theme can give you a voice in your community about important conservation issues. Good posters capture people’s attention and deliver stories in a way that everyone can understand. A powerful graphic can inspire people to be concerned about conservation.

### Information Resources: *One Water*

You will want to learn all you can about the important role forests play in your everyday life. Forests cover nearly a third of all land on Earth, providing vital organic infrastructure for some of the planet’s densest, most diverse collections of life. They support countless species, including our own, yet we often seem oblivious of that. Humans now clear millions of acres from natural forests every year, especially in the tropics, letting deforestation threaten some of Earth’s most valuable ecosystems. Have you ever heard the saying, “You can’t see the forest for the trees?” There is a lot of truth to that statement because when we look at a forest we tend to see only trees because they dominate the scene, but they don’t dominate when it comes to the number of species. There are hundreds of thousands of species of plants and animals in a single forest ecosystem. More than you can imagine... plants, mosses, fungi, animals, insects and millions of micro-organisms.

### Web Resources:

- <https://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/forest/urbanandcommunity/>
- <https://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/forest/>
- <https://www.americanforests.org/>
- <https://www.fs.usda.gov/>
- <https://forests.org/>
- <https://njforestry.org/>
- <https://www.nacdnet.org/about-nacd/what-we-do/forestry/>
- <https://www.epa.gov/nps/nonpoint-source-forestry>
- <https://www.forestryimages.org/>
- <https://www.stateforesters.org/districts/new-jersey/>
- <https://www.nacdnet.org/conservation-education-hub/curriculum-3/>



Red Oak: NJ State Tree



### DID YOU KNOW....

- ◆ Forests are home to over 80 percent of land animals and plants and cover 31 percent of the world’s total land area.
- ◆ A tree can sequester up to 150 kilograms of carbon dioxide per year.
- ◆ Trees are important for creating sustainable cities: in urban areas, they can cool the air by up to 8 degrees, reducing air conditioning needs by 30 percent.
- ◆ More than 25 percent of the medicines we use originate in rainforest plants.
- ◆ A large oak tree can transpire 151,000 liters of water in a year.
- ◆ More than one third of our biggest cities, including New York, Bogota, Tokyo and Barcelona, get a significant proportion of their high-quality drinking water from protected forests.
- ◆ Using wood for construction saves about 40 percent of carbon emissions in comparison to concrete, and about 30 percent in comparison to steel.
- ◆ Wood fuel provides 40 percent of today's global renewable energy supply.

**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 14 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](http://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 2024 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 "May the Forest Be with You, Always" 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, paper, or other materials. 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: **"May the Forest Be with You, Always"**

- 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 - \$100    Second - \$50    Third - \$25

## Local District Rules & Prizes

Contact your local district to verify participation (Page 4)

Mercer County entries must be received by 4pm  
On Friday April 19, 2024

Teachers are asked to submit the top three entries from their class. Make sure that students include the Contest theme on their posters.

Theme: MAY THE FOREST BE WITH YOU  
ALWAYS

Mercer County winners will receive recognition and a small award. Plus, 1<sup>st</sup> Place entries will be forwarded to the statewide contest.

SEND ENTRIES TO:

Mercer County SCD  
590 Hughes Drive  
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690  
(if hand delivering, please call ahead)

Questions? Call 609-586-9603  
Or email Linda at: [Linda1mercer@aol.com](mailto:Linda1mercer@aol.com)



**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.bsacd.org

**Camden County SCD**

408 Commerce Lane  
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  
www.soildistrict.org

**Somerset-Union SCD**

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

**Upper Delaware SCD**

(Warren & Sussex Counties)  
P.O. Box 198  
51 Main Street, Suite B  
Blairstown, NJ 07825  
(908) 852-2579  
www.upperdelawarescd-nj.com



## 2024 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** \_\_\_\_\_