POSTER CONTEST

The Poster Contest is sponsored by the N.C. Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (NCASWCD), which also sets the rules.

The title for the 2020-2021 school year is "We All Live in a Watershed".

The Poster Contest is open to 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students only.

Contest Procedure:

Contests will be conducted on the Conservation District, Area and State levels. District first place winners will be eligible to enter Area contests, and Area First Place winners will be eligible to enter the State contest. Each contest coordinator shall see that contestants and judges have a copy of the rules and shall urge them to study these rules, especially the sections on content, specifications, copyright, and judging criteria.

All posters entered into District sponsored competitions become the property of that District. These entities are entitled to use these posters for promotion of the conservation District program.

Students are urged to be aware of the following definitions to ensure that the posters display content are relevant to the nature of conservation.

- Conservation- the wise use and management of natural resources (soil, water, air, plants, animals) to fulfill human needs now and in the future.

- Soil Conservation- to protect soil from erosion; to keep it productive and out of waterways; to use and manage soil wisely now to ensure a rich soil resource for future generations.

- **Water Conservation- to protect water quality by keeping water clean from sediment, chemicals, oil, and Animal wastes; to protect water quality by using smaller amounts; to use and manage water wisely now to ensure good water quality for future generations.**

Judging Criteria:

A standard score sheet is to be used for all contest levels. Posters will be judged on the following points (Refer to **Poster Pointers** and the score sheet for tips):

- Conservation Message   50%
- Visual Effectiveness   30%
- Universal Appeal   10%
- Originality   10%

Posters should be designed along the following specifications. See **Poster Pointers**.
*Posters should be no larger than 24 x 36 inches.
*Pictures or other materials may be mounted on the posters, if mounted securely. Only materials that are flat or create a two dimensional effect may be used.
*Any coloring materials available to students and suitable for poster work may be used.
*Posters must be the **original work** of the individual student. Original work is created by the student and shows a fresh, new idea. Students should be made aware of **copyright protection.** (See Copyright section.) Hand drawn pictures are preferred over computer generated drawings.
*Posters should be submitted flat and not rolled.

Posters should be identified on the back using the following format:

Student's Name
Student's Address
Teacher's Name
School
Grade
County
District: Caldwell (Area 2)

Infractions:

Points will be deducted for the following infractions:

- Copyright violation   -5 points
- Exceeding the size limit   -5 points
- Personal Information   -5 points

Conservation District Contest:

- Entries must be submitted through a school.
- Teachers will ask students to prepare a poster.
- **According to the local District's guidelines, each school will select one winning poster from each grade level.**
- The District will select one winner from each grade level to compete in the Area contest.
- Districts will present awards during the Awards Banquet held in February/March.

POSTER CONTEST
ENTRY FORM

Student's Name_____   **Grade**_____

Student's Address_____

_____

Parent's Name_____

Student's Telephone Number_____

School_____

Teacher_____

County_____

District_____

Attach this form to the <u>back</u> of the poster.

Return to or call for pickup arrangements:

Pam Steuer, Education Coordinator
Caldwell Conservation District
120 Hospital Avenue Suite 2
Lenoir, NC 28645
(828) 758-1111 phone

Poster pointers—examples of how to make your conservation message and design more readable and attractive

What makes a good poster?
- A brief, catchy message; one theme that can be read in 10 seconds
- A slogan telling viewers to do something and making them want to do it
- Colors and white space to get and hold attention
- Letters large enough to be easily read and words separated enough to make them quickly grasped

Avoid these poster faults:
- More than one theme
- Too busy – too many and / or too scattered pictures or words
- Material not relevant to topic
- Message becomes lost

Other tips to remember:
- Margins should be larger at the bottom and equal on the other three sides
- Pan ahead
- Illustrations add emphasis and attract attention
- Small lettering is hard to read at a distance. Consider the following lettering heights for readability from 10 feet:

Easiest to read	1 inch
Easy to read	¾ inch
Fairly easy to read	½ inch
Possible to read	¼ inch
Cannot be read	3/16 inch

- Boldness makes a difference
- Plain lettering is more readable than **FANCY LETTERING**
- Use guide lines for word and art placement
- R E M E M B E R   S P A C I N G rememberspacingremember spacing

COPYRIGHT:

Copyright is a protection by U.S. laws for the authors and creators of original work. A copyright protects the particular manner of expression of ideas, but not the ideas themselves.

Example: You can make a poster using cartoon characters that talk about soil and water conservation in comic-strip fashion if the ideas are yours (this main idea cannot be copyrighted). But if classmates recognize your cartoon characters as popular characters, then your work is copied from the original artists. Remember to use your imagination because your own ideas are the **BEST!!**

ESSAY CONTEST

The Essay Contest is sponsored by the N.C. Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (NCASWCD), which also sets the rules.

The title for the 2020-2021 school year is "We All Live in a Watershed".

The Essay Contest is open to 6th grade students only.

Contest Procedure:
Contests will be conducted on the Conservation District, Area and State levels. District first place winners will be eligible to enter Area contests, and Area First Place winners will be eligible to enter the State contest. Each contest coordinator shall see that contestants and judges have a copy of the rules and shall urge them to study these rules, especially the sections on content, specifications, and judging criteria.

All essays entered into District sponsored competitions become the property of that District. These entities are entitled to use these essays for promotion of the conservation District program.

For clarification, the difference between an essay and a report, as applied to this contest, is as follows:
> Essay- A short composition dealing with a single subject from a personal point of view; facts may be interwoven into the essay which stimulates thinking.
> Report- A formal presentation of facts in a report style.

Judging Criteria:
A standard score sheet is to be used for all contest levels. Essays will be judged on content and writing skills as described on the score sheet.
- Essays will be the work of the individual student.

- Essays may be either handwritten or typed on the computer.

Essays must:

*Reflect the current title "We All Live in a Watershed".
*Be limited to 300-500 words.
*Be presented on standard 8 ½" x 11" paper.

Be properly identified <u>on a separate sheet</u> using the following format:

Student's Name
Student's Address
Teacher's Name
School
County
District: Caldwell (Area 2)

Infractions:

Points will be deducted for the following infractions:
- Incorrect length   -5 points
- Current title not on essay   -5 points
- Wrong paper size   -2 points
- Personal identification   -5 points

Conservation District Contest:

- Essays must be submitted through a school.
- Teachers will ask students to prepare an essay.
- According to the local District's guidelines, each school will select one winning essay to represent the school at the District's Annual Essay Contest.
- The District will select one winner to compete in the Area contest.
- Districts will present awards during the Awards Banquet held in February/March.

ESSAY CONTEST
ENTRY FORM

Student's Name_____   **Grade**_____

Student's Address_____

_____

Parent's Name_____

Student's Telephone Number_____

School_____

Teacher_____

County_____

District_____

Include this form as the last page of the essay.

Return to:

Pam Steuer, Education Coordinator
Caldwell Conservation District
120 Hospital Avenue Suite 2
Lenoir, NC 28645
(828) 758-1111 phone
Psteuer@caldwellcountync.org

COMPUTER DESIGNED SLIDE SHOW CONTEST

The Computer Designed Slide Show Contest is sponsored by the N.C. Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (NCASWCD), which also sets the rules.

The title for the 2020-2021 school year is "We All Live in a Watershed".

The Computer Designed Slide Show Contest is open to 6th grade students only.

Contest Procedure:

Contests will be conducted on the Conservation District, Area and State levels. District first place winners will be eligible to enter Area contests, and Area First Place winners will be eligible to enter the State contest. Each contest coordinator shall see that contestants and judges have a copy of the rules and shall urge them to study these rules, especially the sections on content, specifications, copyright, and judging criteria.

All slide shows entered into District sponsored competitions become the property of that District. These entities are entitled to use these slideshows for promotion of the conservation District program.

Students are urged to be aware of the following definitions to ensure that the slideshow display content are relevant to the nature of conservation.

- Conservation- the wise use and management of natural resources (soil, water, air, plants, animals) to fulfill human needs now and in the future.

- Soil Conservation- to protect soil from erosion; to keep it productive and out of waterways; to use and manage soil wisely now to ensure a rich soil resource for future generations.

- Water Conservation- to protect water quality by keeping water clean from sediment, chemicals, oil, and Animal wastes; to protect water quality by using smaller amounts; to use and manage water wisely now to ensure good water quality for future generations.

- Best Management Practices (BMPs) – agricultural practices that are suitable for reducing or minimizing the amount of water pollution generated by non-point sources; an engineered structure or management activity, or combination of these, that eliminates or reduces adverse environmental effects of pollutants. Often called Best Management Practices.

Judging Criteria:

A standard score sheet is to be used for all contest levels. Slide Shows will be judged on the following points:

- Conservation Message   50%
- Visual Effectiveness   30%
- Universal Appeal   10%
- Originality   10%

Specifications

- No more than 15 slides
- The last slide should be blank and then immediately following the blank slide should have identifying information (see below)
- May use any slideshow program available but preference is on Microsoft Powerpoint
- Audio is **not** allowed
- Slide animation is allowed
- Video is prohibited. The use of video will automatically disqualify the entry.
- Slide shows should not exceed 5 minutes in length.
- Must be submitted electronically (CD, Jump Drive, Emailed)
- Must be the original work of the individual student and should show a fresh, new idea.

Infractions:

Points will be deducted for the following infractions:

- Copyright violation   -5 points
- Exceeding the maximum number of slides   -5 points
- Exceeding the maximum time limit (5 minutes)   -5 points
- Use of video   DISQUALIFIED

Conservation District Contest:

- Computer generated slide shows must be submitted through a school.
- Teachers will ask students to prepare a slideshow.
- **According to the local District's guidelines, each school will select one winning slideshow from each grade level.**
- The District will select one winner from each grade level to compete in the Area contest.
- Districts will present awards during the Awards Banquet held in February/March.

COMPUTER GENERATED SLIDE SHOW CONTEST INFORMATION

Student's Name_____   **Grade**_____

Student's Address_____

_____

Parent's Name_____

Student's Telephone Number_____

School_____

Teacher_____

County_____

District_____

Pam Steuer, Education Coordinator
Caldwell Conservation District
120 Hospital Avenue Suite 2
Lenoir, NC 28645
(828)758-1111 phone
Psteuer@caldwellcountync.org

What makes a slide show?
- Follow a logical order; start with a title/introductory slide; have the slide progress so that they build on previous slides; end the slide show with a conclusion
- A catchy message; use on theme
- A slogan telling viewers to do something and making them want to do it
- Good use of colors and backgrounds to get and hold attention
- Letters large enough to be easily read and words separated enough to make them quickly grasped
- Good use of pictures and illustrations

Avoid these slideshow faults:
- More than one theme
- Too busy – too many and / or too scattered pictures or words
- Text too small to read easily
- Text is difficult to read due to not enough color contrast with background
- Material not relevant to topic
- Message becomes lost

Other tips to remember:
- Balance the placement of text and photos/illustrations on the slide
- Plan ahead
- Illustrations add emphasis and attract attention
- Small lettering is hard to read at a distance. Consider the following lettering heights for readability from 10 feet:

Easiest to read	1 inch
Easy to read	¾ inch
Fairly easy to read	½ inch
Possible to read	¼ inch
Cannot be read	3/16 inch

- Boldness makes a difference
- Plain lettering is more readable than **FANCY LETTERING**

COPYRIGHT:

Copyright is a protection by U.S. laws for the authors and creators of original work. A copyright protects the particular manner of expression of ideas, but not the ideas themselves.

Example: You can make a computer generated slide show using cartoon characters that talk about soil and water conservation in comic-strip fashion if the ideas are yours (this main idea cannot be copyrighted). But if classmates recognize your cartoon characters as popular characters, then your work is copied from the original artists. Remember to use your imagination because your own ideas are the **BEST!!**

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

The Public Speaking Contest is sponsored by the N.C. Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (NCASWCD), which also sets the rules.

The title for the 2020-2021 school year is "We All Live in a Watershed".

The Speech Contest is open to 7th and 8th grade students only.

Contest Procedure:

Contests will be conducted on the Conservation District, Area and State levels. District first place winners will be eligible to enter Area contests, and Area First Place winners will be eligible to enter the State contest. Each contest coordinator shall see that contestants and judges have a copy of the rules and shall urge them to study these rules, especially the sections on content, specifications, copyright, and judging criteria.

All speeches entered into District sponsored competitions become the property of that District. These entities are entitled to use these speeches for promotion of the conservation District program.

Time Limit:
The speech is limited from 4 to 6 minutes. If any speech is under 4 minutes or over 6 minutes, then 5 points will be subtracted from the final score by the judges. An official timekeeper will be appointed for all contests (District, Area, State).

Judging Criteria:

A standard score sheet is to be used for all contest levels. Students will be judged on content and speaking skills as described in the

score sheet. Visual aids may not be used. Contestants shall identify themselves by their assigned number only or not at all. Personal information such as name, school and hometown cannot be given,

Infractions:

Points will be deducted for the following infractions:

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

Conservation District Contest:

- Public speaking contestants must be submitted through a school.
- Teachers will ask students to prepare a speech and then select several speeches for presentation at school.
- According to the local District's guidelines, each school will select one winning speech from each grade level.
- At the District's Annual Speech Contest, contestants will draw numbers to determine their order of speaking.
- Districts will present awards during the Awards Banquet held in February/March.

SPEECH CONTEST
ENTRY FORM

Student's Name_____   **Grade**_____

Student's Address_____

_____

Parent's Name_____

Student's Telephone Number_____

School_____

Teacher_____

County_____

District_____

Mail or fax this form to submit entries.

Return to:

Pam Steuer, Education Coordinator
Caldwell Conservation District
120 Hospital Avenue Suite 2
Lenoir, NC 28645
(828)758-1111 phone
Psteuer@caldwellcountync.org

COMPUTER DESIGNED POSTER CONTEST

The Computer Designed Poster Contest is sponsored by the N.C. Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (NCASWCD), which also sets the rules.

The title for the 2020-2021 school year is "We All Live in a Watershed".

The Computer Designed Poster Contest is open to 9th grade students only.

Contest Procedure:

Contests will be conducted on the Conservation District, Area and State levels. District first place winners will be eligible to enter Area contests, and Area First Place winners will be eligible to enter the State contest. Each contest coordinator shall see that contestants and judges have a copy of the rules and shall urge them to study these rules, especially the sections on content, specifications, copyright, and judging criteria.

All posters entered into District sponsored competitions become the property of that District. These entities are entitled to use these posters for promotion of the conservation District program.

Students are urged to be aware of the following definitions to ensure that the posters display content are relevant to the nature of conservation.

- Conservation- the wise use and management of natural resources (soil, water, air, plants, animals) to fulfill human needs now and in the future.

- Soil Conservation- to protect soil from erosion; to keep it productive and out of waterways; to use and manage soil wisely now to ensure a rich soil resource for future generations.

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- Best Management Practices (BMPs) – agricultural practices that are suitable for reducing or minimizing the amount of water pollution generated by non-point sources; an engineered structure or management activity, or combination of these, that eliminates or reduces adverse environmental effects of pollutants. Often called Best Management Practices.

Judging Criteria:

A standard score sheet is to be used for all contest levels. Slide Shows will be judged on the following points:

- Conservation Message   50%
- Visual Effectiveness   30%
- Universal Appeal   10%
- Originality   10%

Specifications

- Posters should be designed along the following specifications. See Poster Pointers for tips.
- Posters shall be designed so that if they were to be printed on paper they would be no larger than 24 x 36 inches.
- Poster orientation may be portrait or landscape.
- Poster may be created using any software of the student's choice.
- The poster should be submitted electronically in one of the following approved formats:

    GIF   Graphics Interchange Format
    JPEG   File Interchange Format
    PDF   Adobe Acrobat File
    PNG   Portable Network Graphics Format
    PPT   Microsoft PowerPoint File
    PUB   Microsoft Publisher File
    TIFF   Tag Image File Format

Infractions:

Points will be deducted for the following infractions:

- Copyright violation   -5 points
- Exceeding the 24 x 36 "size limit   -5 points

Conservation District Contest:

- Computer generated posters must be submitted through a school.
- Teachers will ask students to prepare a poster.
- **According to the local District's guidelines, each school will select one winning poster from each grade level.**
- The District will select one winner from each grade level to compete in the Area contest.
- Districts will present awards during the Awards Banquet held in February/March.

COMPUTER GENERATED POSTER CONTEST INFORMATION

Student's Name_____ **Grade**_____

Student's Address_____

_____

Parent's Name_____

Student's Telephone Number_____

School_____

Teacher_____

County_____

District_____

Pam Steuer, Education Coordinator
Caldwell Conservation District
120 Hospital Avenue Suite 2
Lenoir, NC 28645
(828) 758-1111 phone
psteuer@caldwellcountync.org

Poster pointers—examples of how to make your conservation message and design more readable and attractive

What makes a good poster?
- A brief, catchy message; one theme that can be read in 10 seconds
- A slogan telling viewers to do something and making them want to do it
- Colors and white space to get and hold attention
- Letters large enough to be easily read and words separated enough to make them quickly grasped

Avoid these poster faults:
- More than one theme
- Too busy – too many and / or too scattered pictures or words
- Material not relevant to topic
- Message becomes lost

Other tips to remember:
- Margins should be larger at the bottom and equal on the other three sides
- Pan ahead
- Illustrations add emphasis and attract attention
- Small lettering is hard to read at a distance. Consider the following lettering heights for readability from 10 feet:

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- R E M E M B E R   S P A C I N G   rememberspacingremember spacing

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