

Poster

Contest



The Living Soil

SPONSORED BY:

Pitt County Soil and Water Conservation District

Poster Deadline: March 5, 2010

Grades 4, 5, & 6

(Separate contest for each grade level.)

1st Place \$50, 2nd Place \$20, and Honorable Mention

Theme: "The Living Soil"

Considering the natural landscape, you might wonder how native prairies and forests function in the absence of tillage and fertilizers. These soils are tilled by soil organisms, not by machinery. They are fertilized too, but the fertility is used again and again and never leaves the site.

Soil-dwelling organisms release bound-up minerals, converting them into plant-available forms that are taken up by the plants growing on the site. The organisms recycle

nutrients again and again with the death and decay of each new generation of plants. There are many different types of creatures that live on or in the topsoil. Each has a role to play. These organisms will work for the farmer's benefit if we simply manage for their survival. Consequently, we may refer to them as soil livestock.

There a great variety of organisms which contribute to soil fertility. Earthworms, arthropods, and the various microorganisms merit particular attention.

The following information must be listed on the back of poster :



Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student's Address: _____

Teacher's Name: _____ County: _____

School: _____ District: _____

How:

Contests will be conducted on the District, Area, State and National levels. District winners will be eligible to enter Area contests, and Area winners will be eligible to enter the State contest. State winners will be eligible to enter National contest according to National specifications. 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.

Specifications:

Posters should be designed along the following specifications.

- ◆ Posters must be no larger than **24X36** inches.
- ◆ Pictures or other materials may be mounted on the poster, 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. Hand drawn pictures are looked upon more favorably than computer drawings.
- ◆ Poster should be flat and not rolled.

Judging Criteria:

Posters will be judged on the following points:

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

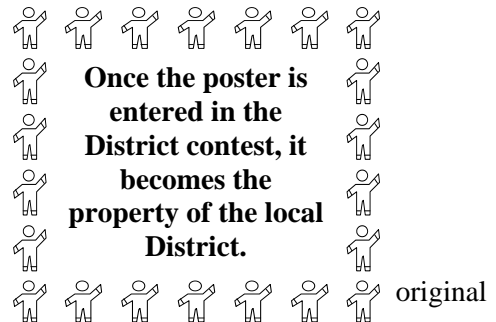
Infractions:

Points will be deducted for the following infractions:

Copyright violation	-5
Exceeding the size limit	-5

Copyright:

Copyright — a protection by U.S. laws to the authors or creators of work. A copyright protects the particular manner of expression of ideas, but not the ideas themselves.



Deadline Date: March 5, 2010 Please call Carolyn Garris at 752-2720 ext. 101 and she will pick up the posters from your school. Her email address is cygarris@pittcountync.gov. Visit us at www.pittswcd.us.

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