

Haywood Soil & Water Conservation District

Announces

The 2016 **POSTER CONTEST**

We All Live in a Watershed

Open to **3rd, 4th & 5th Grades**

☺ Prizes:

1st - \$50 & Trophy

2nd - \$25 & Trophy

3rd - \$15 & Trophy

Hon. Mention - \$10 & Trophy



*****Deadline: January 29th, 2016*****

- ◆ Size: Poster should be no larger than 24" x 36"
Either foam-type or heavy paper posters are fine, but the type of board with sections that fold out is not recommended (exceeds size limit).
- ◆ Posters should be submitted flat, not rolled
- ◆ If materials are attached to posters, they should be relatively flat, never 3-D (for instance, no plastic trees, cars, etc.).
- ◆ Posters should relate to the theme (watersheds)
- ◆ Student's name should only be ON THE BACK of the poster

Please use this format (self-sticking labels are available on request):

Student's Name _____ Grade _____
Student's Address _____
Teacher's Name _____ School _____
County: Haywood District Haywood SWCD

Teachers will be notified in February if they have a winner and will receive an invitation to Awards Night on February 11th to give to the student. For more info, a classroom visit or materials, call Gail Heathman at 452-2741, ext. 131 or email gheathman@haywoodnc.net

Poster Pointers:

Posters should be about the *subject* - for instance, if it's water conservation, a poster that focuses on recycling does not reflect the message as well.

Attention-getting posters are colorful with large, clear lettering and bright colors. Posters should demonstrate knowledge of what a watershed is and the ways we humans may impact it in good or negative ways by our actions.

Watershed Facts:

- The word "watershed" simply means an area of land that water drains into or over on its way to the lowest point - a stream, river or lake. If it seeps into the soil, it will travel as ground water unless it filters even deeper to an aquifer.
- Watersheds come in many shapes and sizes
- *Everyone* lives in a watershed, so our choices affect others in our watershed as well as the soil, water, air, plants and animals
- Ways we can help our watershed to be healthy include only using the amount of fertilizer that plants need, recycling used motor oil, protecting wetlands, leaving a buffer area of vegetation next to a stream, planting cover crops and preventing erosion by planting plants and grass on bare ground
- We do harm to our watershed by using too much fertilizer, insecticide and herbicide (read the instructions first!), allowing cattle and horses to get into the stream, washing the car on pavement instead of the ground, pouring things like paint thinner and used motor oil onto the ground or into storm drains, and draining wetlands

Rules:

- Size: Poster should be no larger than 24" x 36"
- Posters should be submitted flat, not rolled
- Posters should be the work of the individual.
- Posters should not violate copyright laws (for instance, using Garfield)
- If materials are attached to posters, they should be relatively flat, never 3-D (for instance, plastic trees, cars, etc.)
- Make sure the poster is about watersheds
- Student name and other information should be **ON THE BACK** of the poster

*****Deadline: January 29th, 2016*****

Additional Details:

- Teachers may bring posters to the District office or they may contact Gail Heathman to have posters picked up at the school. The office is located at 589 Raccoon Road in Waynesville, across from the Test Farm. You can park at the curb in the back. Turn right after entering the building and go to the end of the hall.
- If doing the posters in the fall works better for you than in the winter, no problem! We will take care of the posters until they are judged in February
- As soon as the posters are judged in early February and winners chosen by the panel of judges, an email will be sent to all participating teachers with the names of the four winning students. The teachers of those four will also receive an email with a letter of invitation to Awards Night attached to give to their winning student(s).
- Teachers are always welcome to come to Awards Night, scheduled for February 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Regional High Tech Center, 112 Industrial Park Drive in Waynesville.
- Seventh and eighth grade speech contestants do their speeches during the first part of the evening during Awards Night
- Students are not told how they placed (1st, 2nd, etc.) until they receive their award - that's part of the surprise!
- In the event that no student won in a particular class, a "class winner" is chosen and a small prize delivered for that winner when posters are returned.
- Posters are returned to schools following Awards Night - please be patient.
- First place winning entries advance to the Area 1 contests, meaning they compete against winners from other WNC soil and water districts. With the exception of the speech contestants, there is no need for students to do a thing - we will keep winners posted on how they did in the Area competition.
- Area winning entries go on to compete in the State contests, held in May. With the exception of Speech contestants, other competing students on the state level need do nothing. As soon as we hear the outcome of the State Contest, we will contact the student, his or her family and the teacher.
- If a student wins the Area Poster Contest, he or she will receive a \$50 gift card
- If a student wins the State Poster Contest, he or she will receive \$200
- State winning posters are returned, but (as happened in 2015) sometimes those folks in Raleigh get attached to a poster and just want to enjoy it for awhile, framed and hanging on the wall there. We hope the student understands that this is an honor - and he or she will still get the poster back. We promise we will not forget to deliver it in the future.

Questions? Call Gail at 452-2741, extension 131, or email gheathman@haywoodnc.net