

New Jersey Conservation POSTER CONTEST

2014



Prizes for
Statewide
Competition

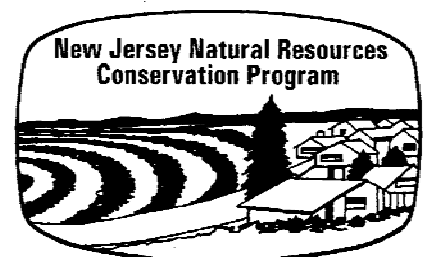
1st Place	\$200
2nd Place	\$100
3rd Place	\$50



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!

Contest Sponsors:

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



Who Can Participate ?

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: *Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil*

You will want to learn all you can about the importance of soil in your daily life. There is much to learn about soil. Almost all of the minerals and nutrients we need for life, to nurture us, to help us grow, to give us energy and keep us healthy come from fields, gardens, trees and pastures. Every plant, vegetable, or fruit that we eat gets its nutrients from the soil in which it grows. The clothes you wear, the sports fields you play on, the shoes on your feet, the paper you write on, the water you drink all have connections to soil.

You can find resources at your school or public library, science books, local newspapers, nature centers and from the NACD website www.nacdnet.org Stewardship & Education section. Get guidance from your teacher or parents to find information on the internet about *Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil*

Web Resources:

- <https://www.soils.org>
- <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/soils/health/>
- <http://njaes.rutgers.edu/spotlight/soil-health.asp>
- <http://soilquality.org>
- <http://apl.org/?p=sustainability>
- <http://soils.usda.gov/education>

Healthy soil is a
Heavyweight!!

DID YOU KNOW.....

Soil is a precious natural resource. It can take up to 500 to 1,000 years to form 1 inch of soil. If people grew that slowly it would take 80,000 years to grow a basketball player.

- ◆ Soil is an amazing substance. A complex mix of minerals, air, and water, soil also teems with countless micro-organisms, and the decaying remains of once-living things. Soil is made of life and soil makes life.
 - ◆ To the farmer, soil is where crops grow.
 - ◆ To the engineer, soil is a foundation upon which to build.
 - ◆ To the ecologist, soil supports communities of living things.
 - ◆ To the archaeologist, soil holds clues to past cultures.
 - ◆ To the city dweller, soil nurtures grass and gardens.
- To the soil scientist, soil is of all these things. Soil has been called “the skin of the earth” because it is the thin outermost layer of the Earth’s crust. Like our own skin, we can’t live without soil.



Online Tips for Creating an Effective Poster

The National Association of Conservation Districts at 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 2014 theme, and for tips on what makes a good poster and the National Visual Arts Standards.



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 15 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.

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 "Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil" or "Dig Deeper" 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 and paper. Computer designed artwork is allowed **but clip art is not acceptable.** 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: **"Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil"**

— Conservation message	— Visual effectiveness
— Originality	— Overall appeal

CASH PRIZES for the New Jersey Statewide competition are awarded by the:

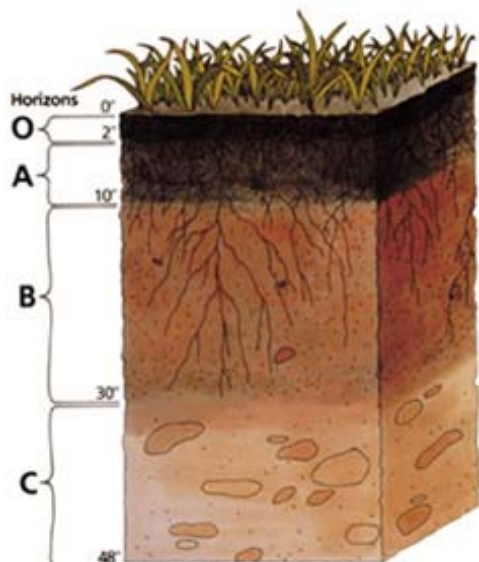
New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts

First - \$200 Second - \$100 Third - \$50

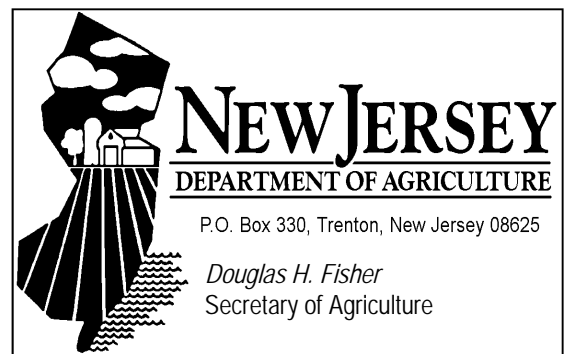
Local District Rules & Prizes

Contact your local district to verify participation (Page 4)

Soil Profile



**New Jersey Association
of
Conservation
Districts**



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.bscd.org

Camden County SCD

423 Commerce Lane, Suite 1
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) 625-1517
www.capeatlantic.org

Cumberland-Salem SCD

P. O. Box 68
1516 Route 77
Deerfield, NJ 08313
(856) 451-2422
www.cumberland-soil.deeweb.com

Freehold SCD

(Monmouth & Middlesex Counties)
4000 Kozloski Rd., Suite 5
Freehold, NJ 07728
(732) 683-8500
www.freeholdscd.org
info@freeholdscd.org

Gloucester County SCD

14 Parke Place, Suite C
Sewell, NJ 08080
(856) 589-5250
gloucester@gloucesterscd.org
www.gloucesterscd.org

Hudson, Essex, Passaic SCD

15 Bloomfield Avenue
North Caldwell, NJ 07006
(973) 364-0786
information@hepscd.org

Hunterdon County SCD

687 Pittstown Road
Frenchtown, NJ 08825
(908) 788-9466
hcsd687@embarqmail.com

Mercer County SCD

508 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 or 538-1557
www.mcscd.org

Ocean County SCD

714 Lacey Road
Forked River, NJ 08731
(609) 971-7002
www.ocscd.org

Somerset-Union SCD

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

Sussex County SCD

Middleton Park Bldg.
186 Halsey Rd., Suite 2
Newton, NJ 07860
(973) 579-5074
www.sussexscd.org

Warren County SCD

224 Stiger Street
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
(908) 852-2579
www.warrencountyscd.com

2014 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