



Conservation Contests:
Wetlands are Wonderful



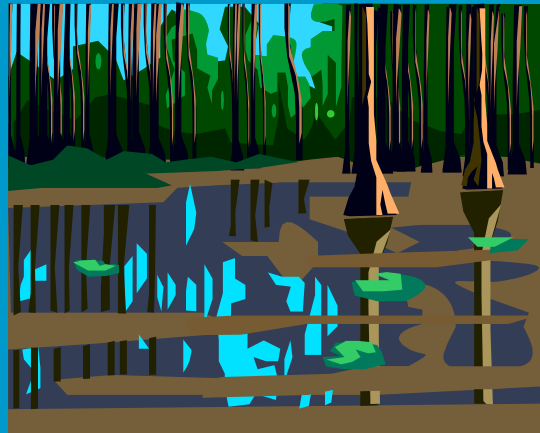
Public
Speaking
7th & 8th
Grades

The Durham Soil & Water Conservation District is sponsoring our annual Conservation Education Public Speaking Contests for Durham County students! The theme for the 2011-2012 contest is:

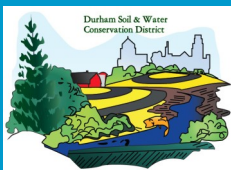
Wetlands are Wonderful

There will be a 1st and 2nd place award given in Durham County for each grade level:

- 1st place - \$50 and poster entered in regional competition
- 2nd place - \$25



This encompasses a wide range of topic ideas that the students can incorporate in their entries, such as ecology, conservation, natural resources, and will meet the NC DPI Standard Course of Study in a variety of Goals & Objectives.



Durham Soil and Water Conservation District

721 Foster St
Durham, NC 27701

Phone: 919-560-0558
Fax: 919-560-0563
E-mail: jbrooks@durhamcountync.gov
Website:

www.co.durham.nc.us/departments/swcd/Environmental_Education.html

Registration for contest participants is due to the Durham SWCD office by **February 10, 2012**. The contest date, time and location will be announced to those participating after the registration closes. Please call, email or visit our website for complete rules and registration.

Theme - “Wetlands are Wonderful”

All entries should reflect the theme’s content and be a representation of what the student feels best exemplifies this topic. Students are encouraged to be original in their message. The judges will be looking for the speech that best provides the message to an audience while at the same time being original and creative.

Judging Criteria

The NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts have adopted a standard score sheet to be used for all contest levels. Speeches will be judged on content and speaking skills as described on the score sheet. A copy of the score sheet criteria is available upon request.

Infractions:

Points will be deducted for the following infractions:

- Incorrect time limit 5 points
- Use of visual aids 5 points
- Gives personal information 2 points

Official Rules

Speeches must:

- Be 4 to 6 minutes long. Over or under limit will be penalized.
- Be a reflection of the current topic, **“Wetlands are Wonderful”**
- In order to insure impartiality in judging, personal information such as name, school, etc... shall not be stated during speech. Infractions will be taken during scoring for violation of this rule.
- No visual aids are allowed. Note cards should only be used as a backup only.

Registration

Participants must be registered with the Durham SWCD by February 10, 2012 in order to be eligible to compete. Please register, by calling 919-560-0558 or emailing jbrooks@durhamcountync.gov with your students name, grade level and contact information. Further details about the competition date, time and location will be given once registration closes. (As in the past, the public speaking competition is usually held during the last 2 weeks of February in the afternoon after normal school hours)