



## 2015 Conservation Poster Contest



### Contest Theme

The 2015 National Poster Contest theme is “**Local Heroes—Your Hardworking Pollinators**” (with or without the hyphen). **This title must be on the poster for it to be eligible for judging.**

Heroes are admired for their deeds, abilities, or noble qualities. Why might pollinators be called heroes? Consider this: Three-fourths of the world’s flowering plants depend on pollinators such as bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, birds, and bats to reproduce. Approximately one in three mouthfuls of food and drink require the presence of a pollinator. The United States and Canada alone produce more than a hundred different crops that need pollinators, including apples, pumpkins, melons, and strawberries. Pollinators contribute more than 24 billion dollars to the US economy; honey bees alone account for more than 15 billion dollars. Mammals from voles to grizzly bears depend on insect-pollinated fruits and seeds, and one-fourth of all birds consume the fruits and seeds of plants that depend on animal pollinators. Pollinators themselves are an important part of the food web and are eaten by birds, lizards, and spiders.

We invite you to learn more about pollinators and the many ways they support life, then share your knowledge with the world in the form of a poster.

### Eligibility

The National Conservation Poster Contest is open to students in grades K through 12. Richland County students should submit their posters to the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District for local judging by April 3, 2015; students in other counties in SC should contact their local conservation district for entry deadlines and details.

### Rules

- Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect (e.g., paint, crayon, charcoal, colored pencil, stickers, collage, or other materials on regular poster paper). There is no computer-only special category.
- Posters must be no smaller than 8.5”x11” and no larger than 22”x28”.
- Posters should be packaged so they remain flat when sent for judging.
- All posters must be created by an individual student rather than a team of students.
- The 2015 Stewardship Title, “Local Heroes—Your Hardworking Pollinators” (with or without the hyphen), must be on the poster. This is the only title eligible for judging.

- Each entry must include a signed entry form (page 3).
- Although younger students may receive help in planning their posters from parents or teachers, we encourage students to complete as much of the work as possible by themselves. Entries completed by students in their own handwriting and coloring will score better than those designed, drawn, and/or colored with adult assistance.

### **Evaluation**

Posters will be evaluated by grade level (K-1; 2-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12) according to the following criteria:

- Conservation message (50%)
- Visual effectiveness (30%)
- Originality (10%)
- Universal appeal (10%)

### **Submission**

Posters completed by Richland County students should be delivered to the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District by **April 3, 2015**. Posters may be dropped off in person or mailed. Posters should be packaged to remain flat when sent for judging.

Richland Soil and Water Conservation District  
 2020 Hampton Street, Room 3063A  
 Columbia, SC 29204  
 Phone: (803) 576-2080  
 Fax: (803) 576-2088  
 E-mail: [fisherc@rcgov.us](mailto:fisherc@rcgov.us)

### **Competition Progression and Awards**

Richland County winners will progress to the state competition; state winners will progress to the national competition. Cash prizes will be awarded at each level.

- County Competition—Sponsored by the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District
  - Prizes: \$25 prizes will be awarded to the winning poster in each of five grade level categories (Grades K-1; 2-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12).
- State Competition—Sponsored by the SC Association of Conservation Districts
  - Prizes: \$25 prizes will be awarded to the winning poster in each of five grade level categories (Grades K-1; 2-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12).
- National Competition—Sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts
  - Prizes: First place posters in each grade-level category will receive \$200, second place posters will receive \$150, and third-place posters will receive \$100. Grade-level categories are K-1; 2-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12. Monetary prizes at the national level are sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts and the Albert I Pierce Foundation.

### **Resources**

A complete list of resources, including age-appropriate websites and books, is available online at <http://www.nacdnet.org/education/contests/poster/>.



Please  appropriate grade category  
\_\_\_ K-1 \_\_\_ 2-3 \_\_\_ 4-6 \_\_\_ 7-9 \_\_\_ 10-12

## STUDENT

First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ The poster is an original completed by the student.

\_\_\_\_\_ The student received assistance from another person or materials/ideas from another source. If so, please explain on another piece of paper.

Parent or guardian name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent or guardian allowing the Conservation District and the State and National Associations of Conservation Districts to use the poster for educational or promotional purposes:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHOOL

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please  one: Public School \_\_\_\_\_ Private School \_\_\_\_\_ Home School \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Columbia, SC 29204

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