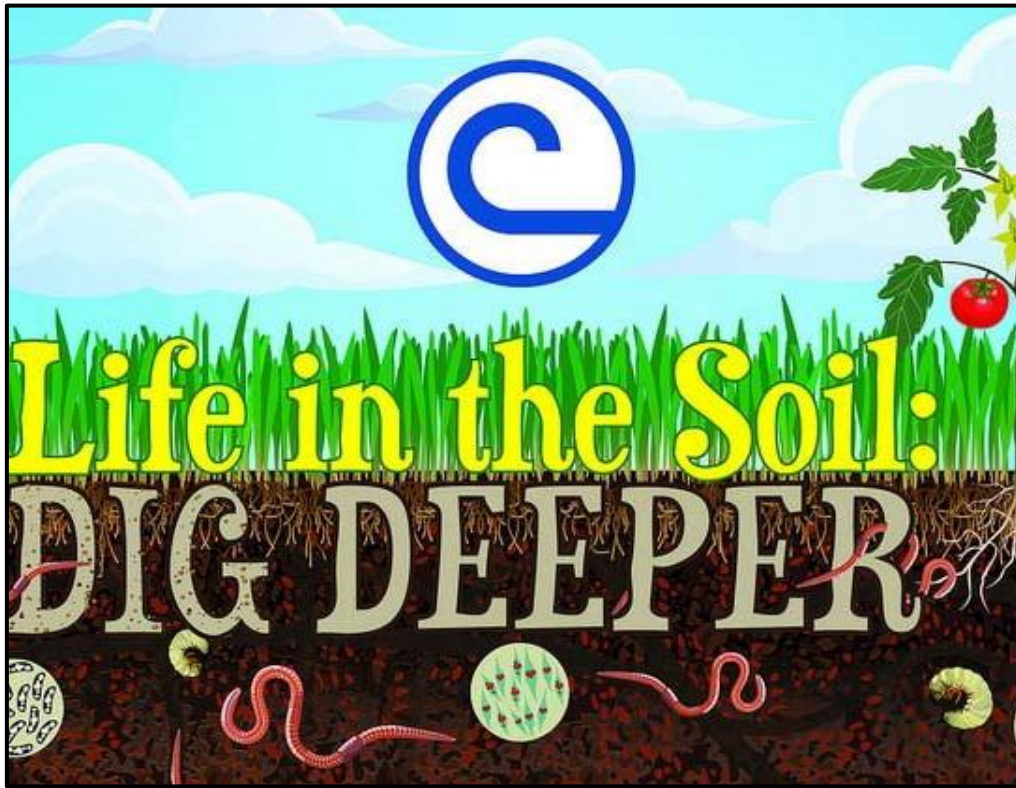


# New Jersey Conservation POSTER CONTEST



# 2019

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.

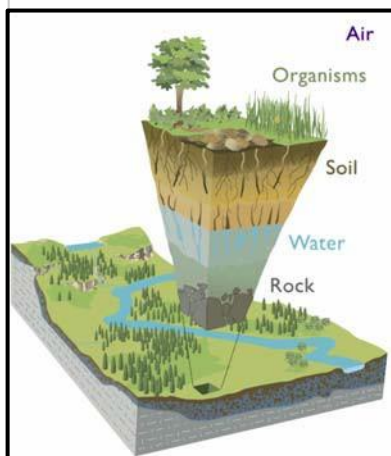
## Information Resources: Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper

You will want to learn all you can about what lives in the soil. It is very important to understand that we all need healthy soil. Plants grow in soil. Soil cleans the water we drink and grows the food we eat. Houses are built on soil. Soil takes thousand or even millions of years to form. Healthy soil increases the amount of available ground to farm. Recycling can keep soil healthy by cutting down on our need for landfills, mining and the need to cut trees. Composting also gives soil nutrients that it needs to grow healthy plants and trees. Only 10% of Earth's land surface has suitable soil, which is why it is vital that we practice good soil conservation.

You can find resources at your school or public library, science books, local newspapers, nature centers and from the NACD website [www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org) Stewardship & Education section. Get guidance from your teacher or parents to find information on the internet about watersheds.

## Web Resources:

- <https://www.doctordirt.org/>
- <http://www.blm.gov/nstc/soil/Kids/index.html>
- <http://soild4teachers.org/lessons-and-activities>
- <http://www.eschooltoday.com/soils/what-is-soil-conservation.html>
- <http://lifeunderyourfeet.org/en/soileco/intro/whatis.asp>
- <https://www.soil-net.com/legacy/schools/index.htm>
- <http://www.purpleplowchallenge.org/about/>
- <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/edu/kthru6/>



## DID YOU KNOW.....

- ◆ Almost all the food you eat, material for the clothes you wear, and wood for the house you live in is produced by soil?
- ◆ There are thousands of different types of soil across the world? The USA alone has more than 70,000 varieties of soil.
- ◆ It takes 500 years to produce an inch of topsoil, which is the most productive layer of soil?
- ◆ About 70% of the weight of a text book or magazine is soil?
- ◆ Soil is alive? There are more microorganisms in a handful of soil than there are people on Earth.
- ◆ Almost all the antibiotics we take to help us fight infections and disease were obtained from soil microorganisms?
- ◆ Some animals, like chimpanzees in Uganda eat soil? This lets them absorb nutrients in harmful foods.
- ◆ Soil is a non-renewable natural resource? This should make us think of how much we value it.

## Online Tips for Creating an Effective Poster

The National Association of Conservation Districts at [www.nacdnet.org](http://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 2019 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 "Life in the Soil: 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

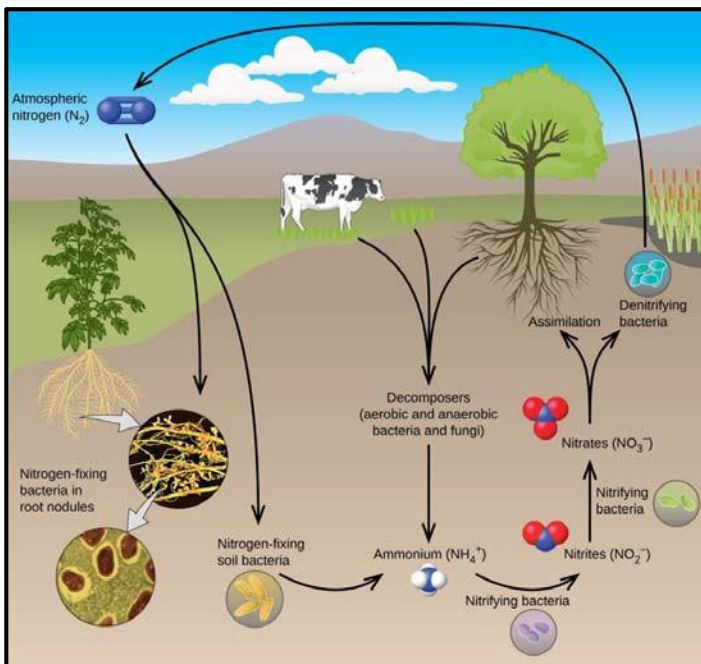
Posters will be judged on the following criteria: Relevance to contest theme: **"Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper"**

- 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)

In Mercer County, entries must be received by 4pm on Friday March 22, 2019.

Teachers are asked to submit the top three entries from their class. Make sure that students include the contest theme on their entries.

Mercer County winners will receive recognition and a small award. Plus, 1st place entries will be forwarded to the statewide contest. Statewide prizes include: \$200 for 1st Place, \$100 for Second Place, and \$50 for Third Place.

SEND ENTRIES TO:

Mercer County SCD

590 Hughes Drive

Hamilton Square, NJ 08690

(if hand delivering please call ahead)

Questions? Call 609.586.9603 or e-mail Linda at:

[linda1mercer@aol.com](mailto:linda1mercer@aol.com)

**New Jersey Association  
of  
Conservation  
Districts**

<http://www.njacd.org/>



# 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.bsacd.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) 625-3144  
www.capeatlantic.org

## **Cumberland-Salem SCD**

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

## **Freehold SCD**

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

## **Gloucester County SCD**

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

## **Hudson, Essex, Passaic SCD**

80 Orchard St  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
(862) 333-4505  
information@hepscd.org

## **Hunterdon County SCD**

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

## **Mercer County SCD**

590 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  
www.mcscd.org

## **Ocean County SCD**

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

## **Warren County SCD**

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

## 2019 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**