

# New Jersey Conservation POSTER CONTEST



# 2023

Prizes for  
Statewide

Competition

1st Place \$100

2nd Place \$50

3rd Place \$25



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 ?

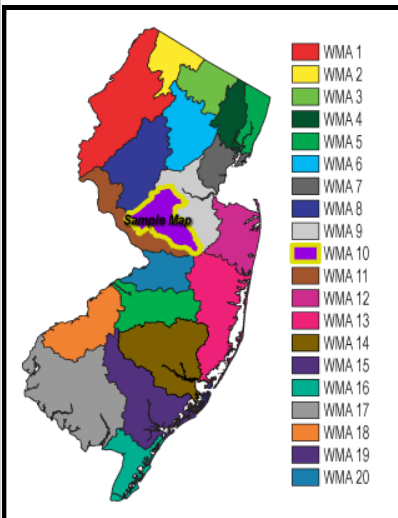
Designing a poster and researching the theme can give you a voice in your community about important conservation issues. Good posters capture people's attention and deliver stories in a way that everyone can understand. A powerful graphic can inspire people to be concerned about conservation.

## Information Resources: *One Water*

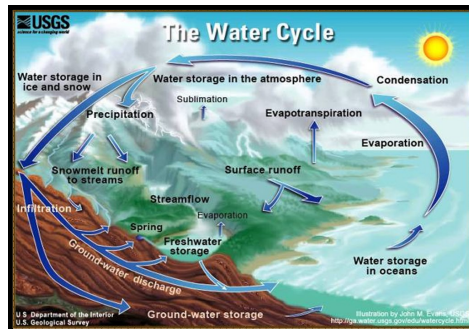
The water on earth is one of our most precious resources. There is a limited supply of fresh water, yet it must be balanced with our many needs for clean and plentiful water. Water takes various forms in the environment, and it is used over and over again by plants, animals and people as it moves through the water cycle. From the top of the mountain all the way to the coast, it is all one water. A lot of the water we use and drink every day comes from water in the ground. The raindrops fall on the ground and flow through the soil. Water soaks through the soil until it reaches groundwater, which is water that moves through spaces in soil and rock underground. As it rains and the water runs off, it collects in rivers, lakes, and oceans and then returns to the atmosphere to fall as rain somewhere else. We all live in a watershed. We share the water in our watershed with other people, with animals, and with plants because... it is all one water. You can find resources at your school or public library. Books and local newspapers are also great resources as well as the internet. Get guidance from your teacher or parents to find information on the internet about *One Water*.

## Web Resources:

- <https://water.usgs.gov/edu/watershed.html>
- <http://https://www.watereducation.org/water-kids>
- <http://www.discoverwater.org/>
- <http://wateruseitwisely.com/kids/>
- <http://www.cleanwaterj.org/>
- <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/kids/index.html>
- [https://http://njwrri.rutgers.edu/watershed\\_orgs.htm](https://http://njwrri.rutgers.edu/watershed_orgs.htm)
- <https://www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/water-topics#our-waters>
- <https://thewaterproject.org/resources/>
- <https://wateruseitwisely.com/kids-teachers/teacher-resources/>
- <https://www.nacdnet.org/conservation-education-hub/curriculum-3/>



**NJ has 20 watershed management areas.**



## 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 2023 theme, and for tips on what makes a good poster and the National Visual Arts Standards.

## DID YOU KNOW.....

- ◆ All land across the entire earth is made up of watersheds.
- ◆ In the continental US, there are 2,100 watersheds. If Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico are included, the count would rise to 2,267 watersheds.
- ◆ Only 1% of the water on our planet is fresh useable water.
- ◆ Water can soak into the soil until it reaches underground rivers or aquifers.
- ◆ Plants prevent erosion which lead to soil being moved through the watershed into our lakes and rivers.
- ◆ Watersheds can vary greatly in climate, animal life, plant life, human population, amounts of water and size.
- ◆ The average person uses 70 gallons of water every day!
- ◆ Groundwater is water that moves through spaces in soil and rock underground.
- ◆ Pet waste left on the ground can wash into storm drains and ditches. From there it flows into lakes and streams where it can contaminate the water with harmful bacteria.

**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 14 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 "One Water" 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 14" x 22"
6. Any medium may be used including paint, crayons, colored pencils, charcoal, paper or other materials. 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: **"One Water"**

- 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 - \$100    Second - \$50    Third - \$25

# 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 17, 2023

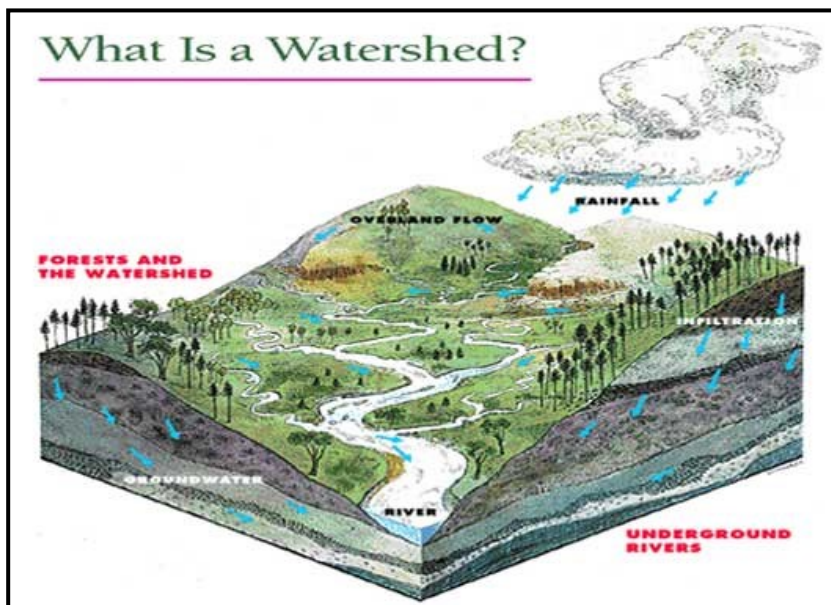
Teachers are asked to submit the top three entries from their class. Make sure that students include contest theme on their entries.

Mercer County winners will receive recognition and a small award. Plus, 1<sup>st</sup> Place entries will be forwarded to the statewide contest. Statewide prizes include: \$100 for 1<sup>st</sup> Place, \$50 for 2<sup>nd</sup> Place and \$25 for 3<sup>rd</sup> Place.

## SEND ENTRIES TO:

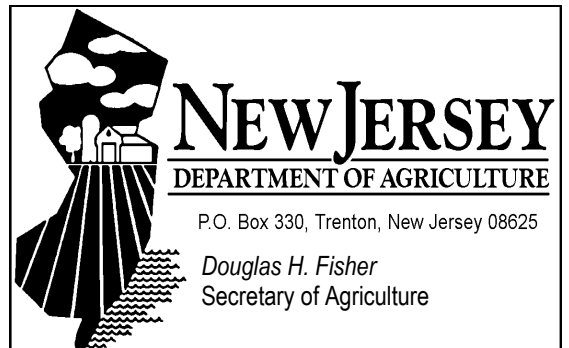
Mercer County SCD  
590 Hughes Drive  
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690  
(if hand delivering, please call ahead)

Questions? Call 609-586-9603  
or e-mail Linda at: Linda1mercer@aol.com



# 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**

408 Commerce Lane  
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  
hcscd687@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  
soilconservation@co.somerset.nj.us

## **Upper Delaware SCD**

P.O. Box 198  
51 Main Street, Suite B  
Blairstown, NJ 07825  
(908) 852-2579  
www.upperdelawarescd-nj.com



## 2023 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**