

# Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District presents the 2026 Poster Contest titled...

# We All Live In A Watershed

*For students in grades 3-5*

QUESTIONS ? Contact Amelia Harold at 336-593-2490 or email [aharold@co.stokes.nc.us](mailto:aharold@co.stokes.nc.us)

## THEME

We All Live In A Watershed

## CONTEST DATE

Thursday, February 12, 2026

## ENTRY DEADLINE

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

## LOCATION

Call us and we will pick-up posters at your school. Posters will be judged at Central Office in Danbury

## CATEGORIES

Contest open to grades 3-5

## AWARDS – (COUNTY LEVEL)

1<sup>st</sup> Place 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Poster – \$30  
1<sup>st</sup> Place 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster – \$30  
1<sup>st</sup> Place 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster – \$30

2<sup>nd</sup> Place 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Poster – \$15  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster – \$15  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster – \$15

*Awards given at Soil & Water Banquet in May*

## REQUIREMENTS

On the back of each poster submitted please put the child's name, grade, home address, parent's names, teacher's name, and school name. See following pages for a template to use on back of entries...

contest rules & entry form template on the following page...

## POSTER CONTEST RULES

The poster contest is sponsored by the NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, which also sets the rules.

**THEME:** A set of five themes have been selected by the Association's Education Committee and adopted by the Association. These themes rotate on a yearly basis. The theme does not have to be written on the poster. The approved theme and rotation schedule is as follows:

2022-2023 Water . . . the Cycle of Life

2023-2024 The Living Soil

2024-2025 Wetlands are Wonderful

**2025-2026 We all live in a Watershed**

**PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY:** Separate contests will be held for 3-6 grades at the District (County), Area (13 Counties in Northwest NC) and State level.

**CONTEST PROCEDURE:** Contests will be conducted on the Conservation District, Area and State levels. All posters entered into the district sponsored competition become the property of the respective District. These entities are entitled to use these posters for promotion of the conservation district program. (Posters will be returned after the contests if requested by the teacher.)

**SPECIFICATIONS:** Posters should be designed along the following specifications:

- Posters should be no larger than 24 x 36 inches.
- **MOUNTED MATERIALS CANNOT STICK OUT MORE THAN 1/8" FROM PAPER.**
- Any coloring materials available to students and suitable for poster work may be used.
- **Posters must be the original work of the individual student (no partnering with other students).**  
Students should be made aware of copyright protection. Hand drawn pictures are preferred over computer generated drawings. (Do not draw popular cartoon characters from TV this would be a copyright infringement and 5 points will be deducted.)
- Posters must be identified on the back with student's name, their parent's names, student's address, grade, teacher's name, school (see next page for poster identification slips).

**JUDGING CRITERIA:** Posters will be judged on the following points:

Conservation Message – 50%

Visual Effectiveness – 25%

Universal Appeal – 10%

Originality – 10%

Hand-Drawn Element – 5% (*NEW – extra points given if the student shows good skill with original hand drawn elements*)

**INFRACTIONS:** Points will be deducted for the following infractions:

Copyright violation minus 5 points

Exceeding the size limit minus 5 points

**AWARDS:**

***District Level (County) – 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$30 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$15 (1<sup>st</sup> Place will advance to Area Comp.)***

***Area Level (13 Counties in Northwest NC) – 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$75, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$35, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$25 (1<sup>st</sup> Place will advance to State Comp.)***

***State Level – 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$200, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$100***

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S PARENTS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

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STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S PARENTS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

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STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S PARENTS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_