



# 2014 NACD Poster Contest Rules & Resources



## Eligibility

The National Conservation Poster Contest is open to kindergarten through twelfth grade students. Artwork entered into the national competition must have been judged in a local or area conservation district sponsored poster contest and a state conservation association or state auxiliary sponsored contest. Posters not sent by authorized state poster group will not be considered for judging.

There will be judging at the national level for all categories. To be eligible for national contest your state must have a state sponsor of the contest. Be sure what categories your state sponsor will be sponsoring before completing your poster. To find who in your state is in charge of the poster contest visit the NACD State Directory and contact your state association for conservation districts. Visit:

<http://www.nacdnet.org/about/districts/directory/index.phtml>

## 2014 Contest Theme

The National Poster Contest theme "DIG DEEPER – Mysteries in the soil or poster can have on it DIG DEEPER

Poster category by grade: K-1; 2-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12

The contest is open to public, private or home school students.

The state conservation association, auxiliary or state poster contest sponsor selects a poster for entering in each of the grade divisions and submits it to NACD Stewardship and Education contact. The state does not have to enter a poster for every grade level.

Please send with your state winning posters – the information sheet provided on the 2014 NACD Poster Contest website titled: State Poster Entries to National contest, in the local and state organizers section. Also please encourage your county or area contests to send you the form: County entry to area or state contest. We are working to gather how many participants are in the poster contest across the United States.

## Contest Rules

The contest rules were created so as not to limit or revise the current rules of local and state conservation poster contests:

- Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect (paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper or other materials on regular posters (no computer only special category)
- Poster size must be between 8.5" x 11" and 22" x 28". (or as rules at your local or state level)
- 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 2014 Stewardship title DIG DEEPER – Mysteries in the soil or just DIG DEEPER must be on your poster. This is the only title eligible for the national poster contest.
- Each entry must have signed entry form to be eligible for judging.
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, NACD encourages each student to do as much of the work as possible by him/herself. Entries completed by students in their handwriting and coloring will score better than those designed, drawn and colored by adult assistance.
- Each entry to state contest must have been judged at each conservation district's or area contest prior to the state evaluation/contest.
- Posters must be judged at the state level. Individual posters cannot be sent for national judging by individuals. They must follow their state's contest rules and deadlines.
- **Only official state poster contest sponsors** can mail entries for national contest. Entries must be postmarked by December 1, 2014 and mailed to: (No onsite delivery – must arrive via mail or delivery company)

**NACD National Poster Contest**  
**Susan Schultz, 968 East 600 North**  
**Greenfield, IN 46140**

Each entry for the national contest must have the Entry form filled out and signed by guardian or parent to be judged. Forms are available at <http://www.nacdnet.org/education/contests>

### Poster Evaluations

National Poster Contest entries are reviewed judges. The posters are evaluated on the following criteria:

- Conservation message (50 percent)  
(Poster uses correct theme)
- Visual effectiveness (30 percent)
- Originality (10 percent) and
- Universal appeal (10 percent)
- Also taken into consideration artwork is completed on poster is that of participant (unless noted on entry form)

The top two posters in each category of the national contest will receive monetary prizes. First place winners will receive \$100 and second place winners will receive \$75. Prizes at the national level are sponsored by the NACD Auxiliary.

Local and state contest awards and sponsors will differ from state to state.

Depending on the sponsoring state's conservation association, auxiliary or agency's preference, the national awards will be presented at a national, regional, state and/or local conservation ceremony. The winning posters will be featured at the NACD Annual Meeting.

Each state conservation association, auxiliary or agency contact will receive notification of the judging results and a news release announcing the winners. Posters not receiving national awards will be returned to the state contact in a timely manner following judging.

Please note option for 2014 for state entries to national contest. Please fill out state form when submitting posters for the national contest, with information on number of participants at the area or local contest and to whom the posters are to be returned to at the state level. The National poster contest is not responsible for returning posters back to each individual poster winner.

## **Sponsors**

The National Poster Contest program is sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and the NACD Auxiliary. NACD, founded in 1946, is a nonprofit organization representing nearly 3,000 local conservation districts in the 50 states and U.S. Territories. The NACD Auxiliary assists NACD with informational and educational outreach efforts.

Questions? Contact Susan Schultz – NACD Stewardship and Education at [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org) or call 317-326-2952.

## **Examples of Resource Information:**

*Unlock the Secrets – Soil Health* <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/soils/health/>

*Soil Quality Kit and Information Sheets*  
<http://soils.usda.gov/sqi/assessment/educators.html>

*Soil Biology Primer* [http://soils.usda.gov/sqi/concepts/soil\\_biology/biology.html](http://soils.usda.gov/sqi/concepts/soil_biology/biology.html)

*NACD Education Materials and Resources*  
<http://www.nacdnet.org/education/resources>

*Soil Forming Factors – DIG IT Smithsonian*  
[http://forces.si.edu/soils/02\\_03\\_00.html](http://forces.si.edu/soils/02_03_00.html)

*Underneath It All – Smithsonian – DIG IT*  
[http://forces.si.edu/soils/02\\_06\\_00.html](http://forces.si.edu/soils/02_06_00.html)

*Soil Science Society of America - SSSA*  
<https://www.soils.org>

*SSSA Education site*  
<http://www.soils4teachers.org>

*IL Extension- USDA-NRCS*  
<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/soil/>

*Nutrients for Life Foundation*  
<http://www.nutrientsforlife.org/teachers/curriculum>

*Web Soil Survey* <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>

*GLOBE Soils Investigations* <http://www.globe.gov/web/soil/overview>

*Field Museum – Underground Adventure*  
[http://archive.fieldmuseum.org/undergroundadventure/index.shtml?utm\\_source=fieldmain&utm\\_medium=landingpage&utm\\_campaign=underground](http://archive.fieldmuseum.org/undergroundadventure/index.shtml?utm_source=fieldmain&utm_medium=landingpage&utm_campaign=underground)

*Forest Soils* [http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs\\_other/wo\\_gtr078\\_042\\_044.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs_other/wo_gtr078_042_044.pdf)

*Soil Carbon Sequestration* <http://ohioline.osu.edu/aex-fact/pdf/0510.pdf>

Contact your local conservation district to learn more about your local soil types in your community  
To find your local district visit: <http://www.nacdnet.org/about/districts/directory>

## BOOK LIST

<b>SOIL</b>	Soil (True Books: Natural Resources)	9-12	978-0516293684	Christin Ditchfield
	The World Beneath Our Feet: A Guide to Life in the Soil	9-12	978-0195139907	James B. Nardi
	Life in a Bucket of Soil	4-8	978-0486410579	Alvin Silverstein, Virginia Silverstein
	Dirt: Jump Into Science	4-8	978-0792282044	Steve Tomecek
	An Earthworm's Life	4-8	978-0516265353	John Himmelman
	A Handful of Dirt	9-12	978-0802786982	Raymond Bial
	A Harvest of Color: Growing a Vegetable Garden		978-1929927319	Melanie Eclare
	How Groundhog's Garden Grew		978-0439560658	Lynne Cherry
	Lily's Garden		978-0761326533	Deborah Kogan Ray
	A Log's Life		978-1416934837	Wendy Pfeffer
	Mother Earth and Her Children		978-1933308180	Sibylle van Olfers
	A Place to Grow		978-1931969079	Stephanie Bloom
	Dirt: The Scoop on Soil	K-4	1404800123	Natalie M. Rosinsky
	Soil	K-4	0736809546	Adele D. Richardson
	How We Use Soil	4-8	978-1410906069	Carol Ballard
	SOIL! Get the Inside Scoop	gr 4-6	780891188483	David L. Lindbo & others
	Know Soil Know Life	6 and up	SSSA	<a href="https://www.soils.org/story/2013/jan/thu/know-soil-know-life">https://www.soils.org/story/2013/jan/thu/know-soil-know-life</a>
	DIG IT! The Secrets of Soil	Prek-3		<a href="http://www.nacdstore.org">www.nacdstore.org</a>
	Soil to Spoon BIG Book	Prek-3		<a href="http://www.nacdstore.org">www.nacdstore.org</a>
	Soil and Water	8 and up	978-0766027350	Robert Gardner
	Toil in the Soil	4 and up	978-0761318071	Michelle Myers Lackner
	Experiments with Soil	8 and up	978-1432953690	Christine Taylor-Butler
	Step-by-Step Experiments With Soils		978-1609735920	Gina Hagler
	Rocks and Soil		978-0750216005	Maria Gordon
	Earthworms Life	5 and up	978-0516265353	John Himmelman
	Soil	7 and up	978-0822566229	Sally Walker
	Super Soils	8 and up	978-1604537475	Christine Petersen
	Different Kids of Soil	8 and up	978-0778754138	Molly Aloian
	Materials Soil	4 and up	978-1432916329	Cassie Mayer
	Juniors Soil	7 and up	978-1410303110	Elaine Pascoe
	Using Soil	5 and up	978-1403493217	Sharon Katz Cooper
	Soil A resource our world depends on	9 and up	978-1403456182	Ian Graham
	Super Cool Science Experiments: Soil	8 and up	978-1602795266	Vickie Franchino
	Life in the Soil	7 and up	978-1410301246	John Farndon
	Soil Basics	4 and up	978-1429671101	Mari Schuh
	Micro Life In Soil	8 and up	978-0778754152	Natalie Hyde

	Microlife that lives in Soil	4 and up	978-1410918512	Steve Parker
	The Amazing Dirt Book	6 and up	978-0201550962	Paulette Bourgeois