



2011 WLWCA/NACD Poster Contest Rules



2011 Contest Theme

The WLWCA/NACD Poster Contest theme “Forests for People-More Than You Can Imagine!” is based on the 2011 NACD stewardship theme. Additional information can be found at the NACD Web site’s stewardship and education section. Visit www.nacdnet.org to find out more.

Why Participate?

Designing a poster and researching the theme can give you a voice in your community on important conservation issues. Good posters tell important stories to present and future generations. Posters capture people’s attention with a powerful graphic and inspire with a message to your community. Designing a poster also meets many of the national visual art standards. You can find a list of the standards by visiting www.wlwca.org.

Eligibility

The entry form posted on the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association (WLWCA) Web site www.wlwca.org must be signed by a parent or guardian, fully completed, and attached to the back of the poster to make it eligible for judging. No other entry forms will be eligible for participation.

The WLWCA/NACD Conservation Poster Contest is open to kindergarten through twelfth grade students. Artwork entered into the national competition must be judged in a local conservation department sponsored contest, and/or advanced to an area conservation association contest, and then advanced to the WLWCA contest. Wisconsin posters sent by anyone other than WLWCA to the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) competition will not be considered for judging.

The poster categories are by grade: K-1; 2-3; 4-6; 7-9; and 10-12. The contest is open to public, private and home school students. There will be judging at the national level for all categories except Special Needs K-6 and Special Needs 7-12. To be eligible for the national contest your state must have a state sponsor for the contest, in this case WLWCA. To find out who in your county is in charge of the poster contest, contact WLWCA or visit our Web site at www.wlwca.org to find a list of county land conservation departments. WLWCA is not responsible for counties that do not host a county land conservation department sponsored contest.

Contest Rules

- 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 computers).
- Poster size must be between 8.5” x11” and 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 2011 Stewardship title “Forests for People-More Than You Can Imagine!” must be on the poster. Poster title may be shortened to “Forests for People.” These are the only titles that will be considered for eligibility at the national level.
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, WLWCA/NACD encourages each student to do as much of the work as possible by him/herself. Posters created by students in their handwriting and coloring will score better than those designed, drawn, and colored by adult assistance.
- **A fully completed entry form with parental signature must be firmly attached to the back of the poster to make it eligible for judging. The entry form is part of this packet, found on the WLWCA Web site under WLWCA Programs (www.wlwca.org). No other entry forms will be eligible for participation.**
- Each entry to the WLWCA Poster Contest must have been judged at a county conservation department’s or area association’s contest prior to the WLWCA Poster Contest. County contest coordinators will advise contestants of the time and place of the county contest, and will make arrangements for first place winners at the county level to participate in the area contest. First place winners at the area contest may advance to the WLWCA Poster Contest. **County and Area poster contests must be completed on or before October 28, 2011 and first place posters with a typed list of state entries listing name, county and division must be sent to the WLWCA office postmarked October 29, 2011, or hand delivered by Tuesday, November 1, 2011. POSTERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED DAY OF COMPETITION – MUST BE RECEIVED AT WLWCA OFFICE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- Posters must be judged at the state level to move on to NACD. Individual posters cannot be sent for national judging. They must follow the WLWCA Poster Contest rules and deadlines.

Poster Evaluations

WLWCA/NACD Poster Contest entries are reviewed by judges. The posters are evaluated on the following criteria:

- Conservation message (poster uses correct theme) (50 percent)
- Visual effectiveness (30 percent)
- Originality (10 percent)
- Universal appeal (10 percent)
- Also taken into consideration is whether the poster appears to be artwork of the participant (unless noted on entry form).

County land conservation departments sponsor the contests in each respective county, and area associations sponsor the area competitions. Prizes may vary.

First, second and third place plaques will be awarded by WLWCA in each of the categories in the WLWCA Poster Contest. Certificates of participation will be awarded to all WLWCA Poster Contest level participants.

Prizes will be awarded by the NACD Auxiliary in each of the five grade categories accepted in the NACD Poster Contest. First place winners receive \$100 and second place winners receive \$75.

The winning posters at the NACD Poster Contest will be featured at the NACD Annual Meeting in early February 2012, and then all posters will be returned to WLWCA for redistribution, typically by the end of March.

Posters that do not advance to NACD will be mailed back to the counties by mid-November 2011. WLWCA will receive notification of the NACD judging results, copies of judges' comments and a news release announcing the winners. Posters will be returned to WLWCA in a timely manner following judging. WLWCA will return all NACD qualifying posters to the county land conservation department that submitted the posters by end of March 2012. WLWCA and NACD are not responsible for returning posters back to each individual poster contest participant.

Sponsors

The WLWCA Poster Contest is sponsored and made possible by the annual WLWCA Youth Education Silent Auction. WLWCA is the nonprofit organization that serves county land conservation committees and departments to conserve and enhance Wisconsin's natural resources.

The NACD Poster Contest is sponsored by NACD and NACD Auxiliary. NACD, founded in 1946, is a nonprofit organization representing nearly 3,000 local conservation districts in the 50 states and US territories. The NACD Auxiliary assists NACD with informational and educational outreach efforts.

Questions? Contact Kirsten Moore – WLWCA Office Manager and Youth Coordinator at kirsten@wlwca.org or call 608-441-2677.

Find Out More!

Find resources at your school or public library, science books, local newspapers, nature centers and visit the NACD Web site's stewardship and education section at <http://www.nacdnet.org/stewardship/2011/index.phtml>. With assistance from your teacher or parents, the Internet can also provide information on the importance of forests. Ask your teacher about other possible resources in your community. Also, be sure to contact your local land conservation department who can direct you to local projects and other resources.



2011 WLWCA/NACD National Conservation Poster Contest Entry Form

Forests for People-More Than You Can Imagine!

Area Conservation Association winning posters must be received in the WLWCA office by **November 1, 2011**. County/Area contest dates vary.

Please print this entry form and firmly attach to the back of the poster to be considered eligible for the competition. No other forms will be accepted. Visit www.wlwca.org to find your local conservation department and contact them to participate.

Please Print or type all information below

STUDENT

First Name _____ Middle _____ Last _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Parent or guardian name (printed) _____

REQUIRED Signature of parent or guardian certifies that the information provided is accurate and allows local land conservation departments, WLWCA, and NACD to utilize the poster for educational or promotional purposes:

_____ Date _____

- 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 back of poster.

SCHOOL

Teacher Name _____ School Name _____

- Public School
- Private School
- Home School

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____ Phone (_____) _____

COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

County _____

Contact _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____ Phone (_____) _____

WISCONSIN LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION, INC. (WLWCA)



Kirsten Moore, Office Manager

702 East Johnson Street, Madison, WI 53703-1533

(608) 441-2677 FAX: (608) 441-2676 Email: kirsten@wlwca.org Web site: www.wlwca.org

Please



Appropriate grade level

- Grades K-1
- Grades 2-3
- Grades 4-6
- Grades 7-9
- Grades 10-12
- Special Needs Grades K-6
- Special Needs Grades 7-12



<http://www.nacdnet.org>

SUGGESTIONS FOR MAKING YOUR POSTERS

1. Read all poster contest rules carefully before starting, and review the judging criteria.
2. Use the annually selected theme designated by the WLWCA/NACD Poster Contest.
3. Be creative and original in expressing your ideas regarding the annually selected theme.
4. Do not try to crowd too many pictures or too much writing on your poster. Use a combination of illustrations and words.
5. Print or write words on sample paper before printing it on your poster. This way you will not have to crowd the words if you run out of space.
6. Be sure that the words are carefully spaced and spelled correctly on your poster.
7. Have words separated by two spaces and letters by one space (use one and two finger method).
8. Have your letters large and at least 1/8 inch wide.
9. Check your poster from 10 feet away to see if you can read it easily.
10. About your theme:
Have theme centralized on your poster, whether it goes up and down, slanting, or across.
Pictures and theme should be easy to understand by anyone interested in reading them.
11. Do not use staples, tacks or tape to adhere things to your poster. Make sure everything is secured and flat on the poster.
12. Avoid using fluorescent poster board.
13. Before handing in your poster, check for:
 - Neatness
 - Lines that are not erased
 - Dirty smudged marks
 - Correct size
 - Printing dark and readable
 - Everything completed
 - Spacing of your letters and words
 - Identification information on back
14. Also, before handing in your poster, judge it for yourself and ask the following questions:
 - Is the selected theme clear and easily understood?
 - Does the title or slogan go with the design?
 - Can the poster be easily read from 10 feet away?