

Piedmont Soil & Water Conservation District 2026

Poster Contest



Eligibility

The Conservation Poster Contest is open to **kindergarten through twelfth grade** students in **Amelia, Nottoway and Prince Edward Counties**.

There are three levels of competition – School, District, and Grand Winner.

- **Grade Level Competition**- each grade level competes with others in the same grade from their school for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Winning poster will be recognized with a ribbon. All participants at this level will be awarded a participation certificate and a bookmark and can have their picture in the paper. First place winners advance to the district competition.
- **District Competition**- First place winning posters are combined and judged in five categories: K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

District 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners receive ribbons and can have their picture in the local newspapers. First place District Competition posters proceed to the Grand Competition and may be submitted to the October State Poster Contest.

- **Grand Competition** –One poster will be chosen as the grand winner. The grand winner will receive a medal, \$30.00 gift card, will be featured in the PSWCD's annual report, will be displayed during the month of June at Red Door 104 and can have their picture in the local newspapers.
- **Judges Choice** -One poster will win judges choice. This winner will receive an award certificate, and the poster will be displayed during the month of June at Red Door 104.

Contest Rules

- Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect (paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, paper or other materials).
- Poster size should be 8.5 x 11"
- Include the words "**Soil. Where It All Begins**" on the front side of each poster.
- A completed [entry form](#) must be attached to the back of each poster.

(See attached Entry Form to make copies – two forms on each page, to cut in half)

- An [artist list](#) that includes the teacher's name, school name, grade level and name of every student entering the contest must be included for each class. (List of students provided by school can be attached to form).

(See attached artist list template)

- 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.
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, the Piedmont SWCD encourages each student to do as much of the work as possible by him/herself.
- Entry deadline is **April 14, 2026**. Please notify the Piedmont SWCD (katkinson@piedmontswcd.org) of your intent to enter posters.

OVER

- A drop-off box for posters will be placed in the lobby of the Ag Building 100 Dominion Drive (next to Lowes) starting April 2, 2026. The lobby is open from 8:30-4:30 M-F.
- If you cannot drop the posters off, contact Kelly Atkinson to make alternate arrangements.

Poster Evaluations

Poster Contest entries will be reviewed by Audrey Sullivan, artist and owner of Red Door 104. The posters are evaluated on the following criteria:

- Conservation message (50 percent)
- Visual effectiveness (30 percent)
- Originality (10 percent)
- Universal appeal (10 percent)

For more information, please email katkinson@piedmontswcd.org