

New Jersey Conservation POSTER CONTEST



2025

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. Cape Atlantic
Conservation District prizes
are also awarded!

Contest Sponsors:

The NJ Department of Agriculture,
the NJ Association of Conservation Districts, and
Cape Atlantic 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: *Home is Where the Habitat is*

The phrase carries a message of appreciation for our habitat, the ecosystem we call home. It suggests that we should recognize the value of our terrestrial and aquatic habitats and the benefits they provide to us and for our future generations. These vital ecosystems support diverse plant and animal life. They provide clean air and water, give us food, fuel, and provide shelter and natural resources. They offer recreational opportunities, serve as homes for wildlife, and contribute to the overall well-being of the planet. By saying "Home is Where the Habitat is," we express our dependence on healthy habitats and our desire for people to maintain a strong connection with nature. It encourages us to protect and preserve these important natural resources so that they can continue to thrive and benefit us in the long run. Find curriculum on this theme at: <https://www.nacdnet.org/conservation-education-hub/>



DID YOU KNOW.....

- ◆ In the United States, approximately **1.2 billion acres** of terrestrial habitat in the United States are protected. This includes areas under federal, state, and local protection, such as national parks, wildlife refuges, national forests, and other protected lands.
- ◆ These protected areas are crucial for the conservation of biodiversity and provide habitats for many species of plants and animals. The figure includes a variety of land types, such as national parks, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, and conservation easements.
- ◆ Approximately **10-12%** of New Jersey's total land area is under some form of protection, including state parks, wildlife management areas, and other conservation lands.
- ◆ New Jersey's protected lands include places like the Pinelands National Reserve, the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, and many state forests and parks.
- ◆ The Pinelands National Reserve in New Jersey covers 1.1 million acres and portions of seven counties.
- ◆ The Pinelands are a unique forest because they are home to many rare plants and animals.
- ◆ Many forest plants have broad leaves to capture sunlight effectively

Online Tips for Creating an Effective Poster

The National Association of Conservation Districts at 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 2024 theme, and for tips on what makes a good poster and the National Visual Arts Standards.

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 the Cape Atlantic Conservation District. Entries that do not conform to the rules will not be judged.

Please review and follow District rules for details and deadline!

1. Clearly print your name and information on the entry form **AND** tape the completed entry form to the back of your poster. See back page for entry form.
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 "Home is Where the Habitat is" 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 (unless poster is created by blind / low vision students and can then include braille and any media for tactile elements).
5. **Poster size** must be between 8.5" x 11" & 22" x 28"
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: March 21, 2025**
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: **"Home is Where the Habitat is"**

- 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



Home is where the terrestrial and aquatic habitat are!

Cape Atlantic Conservation District Rules & Prizes

Local awards will be presented by the District for grades 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12.

First place winners in each category will receive a \$50.00 gift card.

Second place winners in each category will receive a \$25.00 gift card.

All posters must be received in the Cape Atlantic Conservation District Office no later than

March 21, 2025

All District winners will be selected by **March 28, 2025.**

All first place winners will have their posters entered into the Statewide level competition.

**** Mail entries to:**

Cape Atlantic Conservation District
6260 Old Harding Highway
Mays Landing, NJ 08330
609-625-3144
www.capeatlantic.org

**** Posters may also be picked up, upon arrangement**

**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.bscd.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
hcsd687@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.mcsd.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



2025 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