



Soil & Water

DEADLINE

All contest entries are due to the Durham SWCD office by **5:00 pm February 25, 2022**

Durham Soil & Water Conservation District
2021-2022

PUBLIC SPEAKING Contest

7th and 8th Grade

Soil & Water... Yours for Life

We don't typically give the soil under our feet much thought, but it plays a big role in our lives. Bigger than most realize. It is more than just 'dirt'... it is life! One tablespoon of soil has more organisms in it than there are people on earth. In fact, it is the 2nd largest ecosystem on Earth. Similarly, water plays a critical role in our very survival. Our planet is about 71% water and our bodies 60%. More than 90 % of the planet's living biomass is found in the oceans. We need both **Soil AND Water** to grow the food to feed the world's population of over 7 billion!



Soil takes centuries to millions of years to form, yet can be harmed or lost in a matter of minutes by careless human actions. And although water is continuously being recycled, the quality of it can be greatly impacted by everyday human actions. There is still 11% of the world's population that do not have access to clean drinking water. Soil and Water are two of the four most fundamental and basic natural resources—soil, water, air and sunlight—that sustain life on Earth. **We are looking for your creative interpretations of just what it means when we say "Soil & Water...Yours for Life"**

Contests & Grade Eligibilities

PUBLIC SPEAKING Contest: 7th and 8th grade

There will be a 1st and 2nd place award given for each grade category:

- ◆ **1st place winners** - will receive \$50, a certificate, and a yard sign.
- ◆ **2nd place winners**- will receive \$25, a certificate, and a yard sign.

Important Notice Teachers!!!

Educators who have a 1st place winning student in any category will receive \$30 to use towards school supplies (*Parents, Scout Leaders, Children/Youth Leaders and other Educators are eligible for the \$30*)

Open to all public schools, private schools, homeschool students and student clubs in Durham County.

Contest Correlation

This contest, "Soil & Water...Yours for Life" can be incorporated into &/or used to enhance the NC DPI Standard Course of Study, Essential Standards for Science for each grade level and are available upon request

Learn more about Durham Soil and Water at <http://dconc.gov/swcd>



Theme - Soil & Water...Yours for Life

All Public Speaking contestants should reflect the theme's content and be a representation of what the student feels best exemplifies this topic. Students are encouraged to be original in their speech's. The judges will be looking for the Public Speaker that best teaches the message to an audience while at the same time being original and creative.

Possible Public Speaking ideas can include, but are not limited to:

- Why is Soil so important for life?
- Interaction of Soil and Water
- Soil Erosion prevention
- Water Quality
- How does Soil affect the planet's Ecosystems?
- The Soil Food Web
- or more....



DEADLINE

All contest entries are due to the
Durham SWCD
office by **5:00 pm**
Thursday, February 25, 2022
(201 E Main St, floor 5, Durham, NC)

Official Rules - PUBLIC SPEAKING, 7th & 8th grades

Speeches must:

- Be 4 to 6 minutes long. Over or under limit will be penalized.
- Be a reflection of the current topic, **“Soil & Water...Yours for Life”**
- In order to insure impartiality in judging, personal information such as name, school, etc. shall not be stated during speech. Infractions will be taken during scoring for violation of this rule.
- No visual aids are allowed. Note cards should only be used as a backup only.
- Complete scoring criteria and rubric are available upon request before the event.

Identification Information (email entry form to Imarohcak@dconc.gov)

2021-2022 PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST ENTRY FORM *(required)*

Student's First and Last Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student's Address: _____

Educator's Name: _____

Educator's Phone #: _____

Educator's Email: _____

School student attends: _____

County: **DURHAM** District: **Durham Soil & Water**