



Durham Soil & Water Conservation District 2022-2023

Soil & Water

DEADLINE

All contest entries are due to the Durham SWCD office by **5:00 pm February 22, 2023**

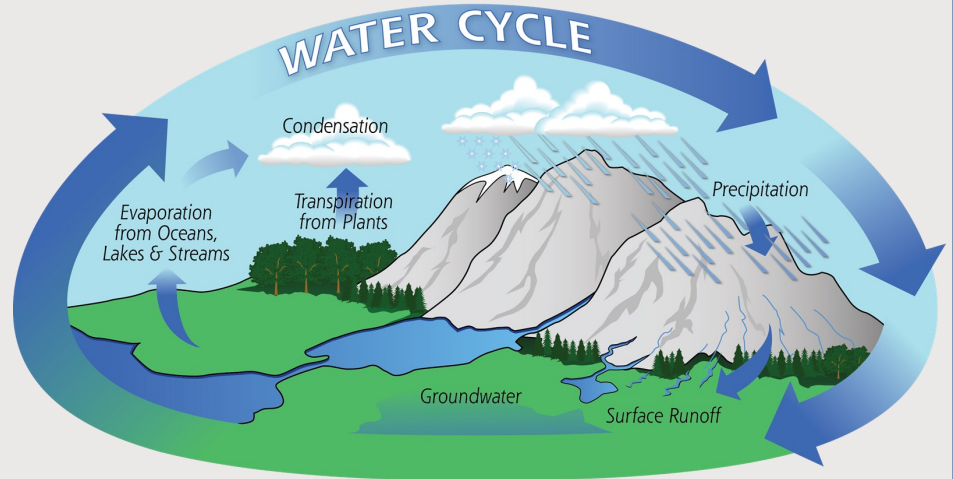
ESSAY Contest

6th and 9th- 12th Grade

Water...the Cycle of Life

Did you know the water that falls from the sky as rain today might have fallen last week, last month, last year, or thousands of years ago? It is the greatest recycler of all time and is called the Water Cycle!

There are four main stages in the water cycle. They are evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection; **Evaporation:** Warmth from the sun causes water from oceans, lakes, streams, ice, and soils to rise into the air and turn into water vapor (gas). Water vapor droplets join together to make clouds! **Condensation:** When water vapor in the air cools down and turns back into liquid water. **Precipitation:** Water (in the form of rain, snow, hail, or sleet) falling from clouds in the sky. **Collection:** is when water that falls from the clouds as rain, snow, hail, or sleet collects in the oceans, rivers, lakes, and streams. Most will infiltrate (soak into) the ground and will collect as under-ground water.



The water cycle is powered by the sun's energy and by gravity. First, the sun kick-starts the whole cycle by heating all the Earth's water and making it evaporate. Then, gravity causes the moisture to fall back to Earth.

We are looking for your creative interpretations of just what it means when we say "Water...the Cycle of Life"

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

ESSAY Contest: 6th, and 9th - 12th grade

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

Contest Correlation

This contest, "Water...the Cycle 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

ESSAY Contests & Grade Eligibilities 6th, and 9th -12th 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*)

Theme - Water...the Cycle for Life

All entries 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 essay. The judges will be looking for the entries that best conveys the message to a viewer, while at the same time being original and creative.

Possible essay ideas can include, but are not limited to:

- Why is WATER so important for life?
- Interaction of soil and the Water Cycle
- Water Cycle processes
- Water Quality
- How does WATER affect the planet's Ecosystems?
- or more....



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SWCD
office by **5:00 pm**
Wednesday, February 22, 2022
(201 E Main St, floor 5, Durham, NC 27701)

Official Rules - ESSAY, 6th, and 9th - 12th grades

- NO NAMES ON THE FRONT, NO EXCEPTIONS!
- Bear the current title of the essay contest
- Be limited to 300 – 500 words.
- Be presented on standard 8 ½” X 11” paper.
- Essays must be identified on the back using the attached entry form below
- Essays must be the work of individual student, no team entries are allowed.

ENTRY FORM (Attach to the back of essay)

2022-2023 ESSAY CONTEST ENTRY FORM *(required)*

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student's Mailing Address: _____

Parents name and email: _____

Educator's Name: _____

Educator's Phone #: _____

Educator's Email: _____

School student attends: _____

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