

Wetlands are Wonderful

2024-25 Durham Soil and Water Public Speaking Contest

Eligibility

Grade divisions for this contest are 7th, 8th, and 9th-12th grade.

This contest is open to all public schools, private schools, homeschool students, and student clubs in Durham County.

Due Date

Entry forms are due to the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District office by **February 14, 2025, at 5 PM.** Speech performances will be scheduled for the following week. We'll do our best to accommodate people's schedules.

Email your entry form to Lisa Marochak at lmarochak@dconc.gov.

Public Speaking Contest Details

Show off your creativity by participating in the 2024-25 Durham Soil and Water Conservation District's Conservation Creativity Contests!

This year's theme is: Wetlands are Wonderful.

Deliver a speech that explores questions such as:

- Who lives in a wetland and how are they interconnected?
- How do wetlands benefit us or their ecosystem?
- Why is it important to protect wetlands?
- And more!

Students are encouraged to be original in their poster. The judges are looking for the entries that best convey the message to a viewer while being original and creative.

Official Rules

Speeches must be:

- 4 to 6 minutes long. Over or under the limit will be penalized.
- Be a reflection of the current topic: Wetlands are Wonderful.
- To ensure impartiality in judging, personal information such as name, school, etc. shall not be stated during the 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.
- Complete scoring criteria and rubrics are available upon request before the event.

Prizes

1st place: \$50, a certificate, and a yard sign.

2nd place: \$25, a certificate, and a yard sign.

Teachers: If your student wins 1st place, you will receive \$30!

Contact

Lisa Marochak
lmarochak@dconc.gov
919-560-0558.



Official Rules - Public Speaking: 7th, 8th, and 9th - 12th Grades

Speeches must be

- 4 to 6 minutes long. Over or under the limit will be penalized.
- Be a reflection of the current topic: "The Living Soil."
- In order to ensure 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.
- Complete scoring criteria and rubric are available upon request before the event.

Entry Form

2024-2025 PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST ENTRY FORM *(required)*

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student's Mailing Address: _____

Parent's Name and Email: _____

Educator's Name: _____

Educator's Phone #: _____

Educator's Email: _____

School Student Attends: _____

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