

Delaware Forest Service

Annual Arbor Day Poster Contest & Free Seedling Program



2016 Poster Theme:

Trees are Terrific...and Forests are Too!!

ELIGIBILITY

The Arbor Day Poster Contest is open to kindergarten through fifth grade students. The contest is open to all public, private, and home school students. Every student who participates in the contest will receive a loblolly pine seedling. The Arbor Day Poster Contest is a fun way to celebrate Arbor Day with your students. Arbor Day in Delaware is designated as the last Friday in April (April 29, 2016). All teachers who plan on participating in the Arbor Day Poster Contest must register by March 11th, 2016 (posters are not due until March 25th, 2016). Please register at <http://2016arbordaycontest.eventbrite.com/>

2016 CONTEST THEME

Trees are Terrific...and Forests are Too!

Deadline for poster submission: March 25th, 2016

FREE SEEDLING PROGRAM

All students and classes that participate in the Arbor Day Poster Contest are eligible to receive free loblolly pine seedlings. Seedlings will be delivered to schools the last week of April –just in time for perfect planting weather. When you register for the contest you will also register for your free seedlings.

Please register at <http://2016arbordaycontest.eventbrite.com/> before March 13th, 2016.

Deadline for poster submission: March 25th, 2016

POSTER CRITERIA

- 1. Posters must be the original work of the student.** The use of cartoons characters or television figures is not acceptable. Many of these figures are copyrighted and cannot be reprinted.
- 2. Posters must be created in the specified medium and adhere to size limits.** Posters may be done in marker, crayon, watercolor, ink, acrylic, colored pencil, pastels, or tempera paint. Collages are NOT acceptable. Computer-generated art or computer generated printing are NOT acceptable. **Posters must be between 8 ½" X 11" and 14" X 18" in size.**
- 3. Poster must be complete.** All art work on the poster must be finished. The student's name must be written or signed in the lower right-hand corner on the front of the poster. (First name and last name initial is acceptable, i.e. Ashley P.)
- 4. Poster must have completed Winner Report Form (last page in this packet) attached to the back of the poster.** Please attach it to the back of the poster with tape, do not staple.
- 5. Posters can be sent rolled. Do not fold the posters in any manner. Do not mat, mount, or frame the posters.**
- 6. The posters must reflect the contest theme. The theme "Trees are Terrific...and Forests are Too!" MUST be written on the front of the poster.** Please see "State Competition Judging Criteria" below for reference. Make sure the student makes the theme noticeable-it should grab your attention.
- 7. All words must be legible and correctly spelled. Any posters submitted with spelling mistakes will be disqualified from the state competition.** Teachers may write (not type) the theme on the poster for students in Kindergarten only.

SELECTING SCHOOL WINNERS

Only ONE first, second, and third place winner from each of the following entry categories will be accepted from each school for the state competition:

KINDERGARTEN

FIRST & SECOND GRADE

THIRD & FOURTH GRADE

FIFTH GRADE

NOTE: If all of the first grade and second grade classes in your school are participating; only the best three posters should be submitted. The teacher of students with winning entries in any of the above categories is responsible for completing a Winner Report Form (last page in this packet). Please attach the form to the back of the poster with tape.

SELECTING SCHOOL JUDGES

There are many people within your school and your community who might be willing to judge the school poster contest:

- Fellow teachers (current and retired), librarians, school nurses, janitors, etc.
- Volunteers active in school support groups and projects
- Community business people
- People involved with environmental issues or organizations

SEND WINNING ENTRIES TO:

Ashley Peebles
Delaware Department of Agriculture
2320 South Dupont Hgwy
Dover, DE 19901
302-698-4551

Deadline for poster submission: March 25th, 2016

STATE COMPETITION JUDGING CRITERIA

On a scale of 1-5, the following areas are used to judge posters on the county and state level. Please keep this in mind when selecting your school representatives.

USE OF THEME

ORIGINALITY

NEATNESS

ARTISITC EXPRESSION

Judges will be selected by the Contest Coordinator and judging will take place at the Delaware Department of Agriculture in Dover. All Winners will be announced in early April.

PRIZES AWARDED TO WINNERS

A county winner will be selected for each entry category (K, 1-2, 3-4, 5). From these 12 winners, a state winner will be selected to represent Delaware as we celebrate Arbor Day 2016. Please note the National Arbor Day Foundation is no longer hosting the National Poster Contest for fifth grade winners. The Delaware Forest Service is committed to continuing the Arbor Day Poster Contest at the state level.

County winners receive:

- a \$25.00 gift card (savings bonds are now electronic and not set up for state agency purchase)
- a ceremonial tree planting held at their school
- invitation to the State Arbor Day Ceremony (attended by the Governor)
- "Tree inspired" children's book
- winning posters will be reprinted on canvas and framed for display throughout the year at state events and will be return to winner as a keepsake
- winning posters will be displayed online

Please visit: <http://dda.delaware.gov/forestry/arborpost15.shtml> to see the 2014 winners

The State winner will receive all of the above plus an additional \$25.00 gift card.

PRIZES AWARDED TO TEACHERS

Teachers of students with a winning poster will receive \$50.00 to spend on classroom material to help promote environmental education. Only one award per teacher/home school will be awarded. Teachers will be contacted with more information after the posters have been judged. All purchases must be made by July 1st 2016.

Deadline for poster submission: March 25th, 2016

RESOURCE INFORMATION

National Association of Conservation Districts
[Forestry Notes Newsletter](#)

[USDA-Forest Service – Conservation Education](#)

[American Forest Foundation](#)

[Discover the Forest](#)

[Natural Inquirer](#)

(See the Ecosystem Services Issue as well as the many other issues)

[Urban and Community Forests Resources](#)

[Arbor Day Foundation](#)

[Resource Categories](#)

[National Association of State Foresters](#)

[Forestry Organizations](#)

[World Forestry Center](#)

[Forestry Careers](#)

[Dr. Arbor Talks Trees](#)

Lesson Plans and resources

Deadline for poster submission: March

WINNING ENTRY REPORT FORM

2016 Theme:
Trees Are Terrific ... and Forests are Too!

Grades K-5 Arbor Day Poster Contest

Teachers should complete this form for each winning entry and attach it to the back of the poster with tape (*Please do not staple*). Send winning entry and completed form to the state coordinator at the address below. Please note that posters sent to the state coordinator will not be returned.

DATE: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____ PHONE _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTY _____

WINNER'S NAME _____ GRADE _____

TEACHER'S E-MAIL: _____

WINNER'S HOME PHONE: _____

PARENT'S EMAIL _____

NUMBER OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN CLASS CONTEST: _____

RETURN TO:

**Ashley Peebles
Delaware Forest Service
2320 South DuPont Highway
Dover, Delaware 19901
(302) 698-4551
(800) 282-8685**

DEADLINE: March 25th, 2016