



58th Annual Local Poster Contest

Hosted By:

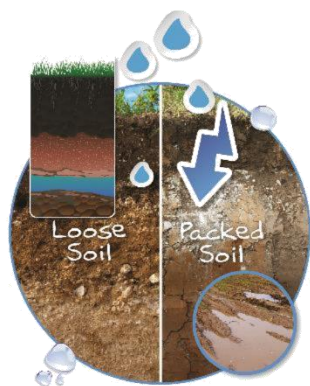
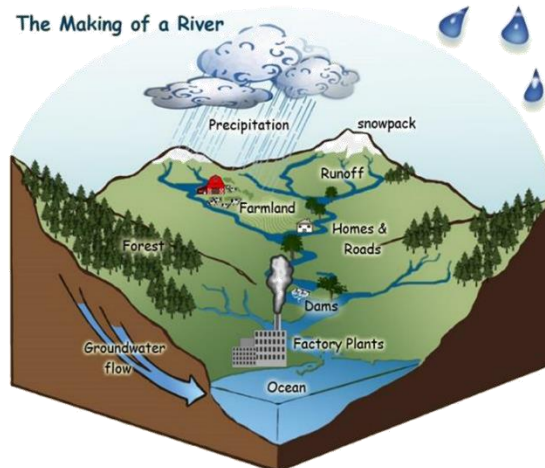
Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District
2018 Theme: "Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home"



Fact Sheet for Parents and Educators

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is land that sheds water. Water from rain or snow can flow over the land it falls on. The water can flow to a river, lake, stream or ocean. All of the water under or draining off of a particular watershed goes into the same place. Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. They cross county, state and national boundaries. Some are millions of square miles, others are just a few acres. Homes, farms, ranches, forests, small towns, big cities and more can make up watersheds. **You're sitting in a watershed now.**



Gravity helps the rain, sleet, and snow flow from the ground to join the rest of the water in the oceans, lakes, rivers, streams, or ponds.

Water can also soak into the soil until it reaches underground rivers or aquifers. Some rain, sleet, and snow soak into the ground where it is stored as ground water. Groundwater is water that moves through spaces in soil and rock underground.

Watersheds can vary greatly in climate, animal life, plant life, human population, amounts of water, and size. Even the desert known as Death Valley is part of a watershed – the Bad Water Basin Watershed. Deserts typically receive ten inches or less of precipitation per year. The rain usually comes in brief downpours resulting in flooding as the water flows across the dry, caked soil. Remember, not all water in a watershed is above ground. Even in the desert, there are underground rivers and aquifers where water flows.

Below are some examples. Believe it or not, these are all watersheds!





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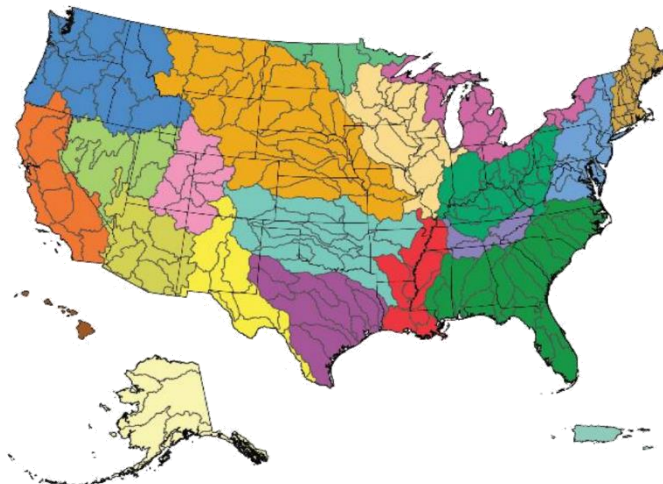
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Where is the Watershed?

Everywhere! Remember, **every** piece of land on the planet is part of a watershed. In the continental US, there are 2,100 watersheds. If Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico are included, the count rises to 2,267 watersheds.



Who lives in the Watershed?

You and everyone you know lives in a watershed. We share the water in our watershed with other people, with animals and with plants. We all live in the watershed.

Watershed Conservation



Some of the water you drink comes from your watershed! Water from the watershed drains into lakes, rivers, and streams or through the soil into ground water. The world's fresh water supply is not new. Our water is being constantly recycled through the earth's water cycle. A drink of water, whether from a fountain, faucet, or bottle, could be thousands of years old and may have travelled around the world a few times.

The way we treat the land in our watersheds can have a big impact on the water we drink. We all need clean water to drink and use in our daily lives. It is very important to take good care of our watershed.



We all need to work hard to keep our watershed clean. It is important to take good care of our watershed so that we have fresh, clean water. Only **1%** of the water on our planet is fresh useable water. The average person uses **70 gallons** of water every day! Tell your family and friends how important it is to practice good conservation habits in your watershed.

Our daily habits are very important to the health of our watershed and our water! Some of our habits keep our watershed healthy, and some of them can harm it.



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Take Action!



Turn water off while brushing teeth and flush down toilet. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks. Cover bare soil by planting trees, shrubs, flowers, and other plants.

Pick up litter so that it doesn't end up in a river, lake, or stream. Six out of every 10 homes have a four-legged pet. Do you? Care for your watershed by disposing of pet waste in the trash or toilet. Proper disposal means proper treatment. Pet waste left on the ground can wash into storm drains and ditches. From there it flows into lakes and streams where it can contaminate the water with harmful bacteria.



Compost leaves, grass, and food. Compost makes a great natural fertilizer and helps keep chemicals out of our water supply.

Recycling saves water and other natural resources. Water vapor in the atmosphere condenses to form clouds and weather systems that can travel around the world. Eventually the



condensation becomes precipitation in the form of rain, snow, sleet, hail, or fog. Once the precipitation lands, it can do two things: it can be SHED off the land into a body of water like a stream – OR it can soak through the soil until it reaches an underground body of water like an aquifer. Water re-enters the atmosphere to start the cycle all over again by evaporation and transpiration.



Plant trees, shrubs, and other plants in spots where the soil is bare. Plants help hold the soil in place and keep it from washing into storm drains. If there are bare spots in your yard, get busy planting. Plants prevent erosion which leads to soil being moved through the watershed into our lakes and rivers. Grow some healthy vegetables like broccoli or tomatoes.

*To sign up for your local Poster and/or Speech Contest, please review the flyer, registration form, and rule sheet prior to submitting your/your student's entry. All entries MUST have a registration form and be received by the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District by **December 20, 2017**.*

Submit posters to:

Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District

201 S. Collins Street, STE 202

Plant City, FL 33563

(813) 752-1474, ext. 3

For inquiries, please contact our Outreach Coordinator:

Kaila.kelly@fl.nacdnet.net



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Guidelines for submission

The national winning poster will be used for local and state level promotion materials – therefore, every poster submitted **must** include a parent or guardian-signed registration form. Posters that do not have this form firmly attached to their students' artwork will not be considered until a signed form is submitted.

Contest Categories:

Kindergarten – 1st Grade
2nd – 3rd Grade
4th – 6th Grade
7th – 9th Grade
10th – 12th Grade

Details for Entry:

Send entries to your local conservation district:
ATTN: Kaila Kelly
Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District
201 S. Collins Street, Ste. 202
Plant City, FL 33563

Phone: (813) 752-1474, ext. 3

Email: kaila.kelly@fl.nacdnet.net

Results:

First, your local Conservation District will judge posters based on the given criteria. One first, second, and third place winner in **each** grade-level category (see "Contest Categories") will receive the corresponding prize amount in the form of a check (see flyer), and a trophy. Those entries will then be sent to the Area, then State competitions, respectively.

NOTE: If your student wins the Local, Area, or State contest, the artwork will not be returned until it is eliminated from competition. All artwork that does not advance past the Local, Area, or State contest will be returned to the address provided on the student's registration form.

State winner entries will then be sent to the national level, where one overall winner will be selected and announced at the 2018 NACD Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN on January 28th. Winners will be posted to the NACD website.

All submissions will receive a certificate with the students' poster and name, and original artwork returned to the address given on the registration form.



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Prizes

Local

Monetary prizes and trophies will be awarded to the 1st - 3rd place winners in each category at the Local level. Each student receives a certificate featuring their submission.

Kindergarten – 3rd Grade

\$30 for 1st Place Winners
\$25 for 2nd Place Winners
\$15 for 3rd Place Winners

4th – 12th Grade

\$50 for 1st Place Winners
\$30 for 2nd Place Winners
\$20 for 3rd Place Winners

Area

Monetary prizes will be awarded to the 1st - 3rd place winners in each category at the Area level.

Kindergarten – 3rd Grade

\$30 for 1st Place Winners
\$25 for 2nd Place Winners
\$15 for 3rd Place Winners

4th – 12th Grade

\$50 for 1st Place Winners
\$30 for 2nd Place Winners
\$20 for 3rd Place Winners

State

Monetary prizes will be awarded to the 1st - 3rd place winners in each category at the State level.

Kindergarten – 3rd Grade

\$30 for 1st Place Winners
\$25 for 2nd Place Winners
\$15 for 3rd Place Winners

4th – 12th Grade

\$50 for 1st Place Winners
\$30 for 2nd Place Winners
\$20 for 3rd Place Winners

Monetary awards from the AFCD Ellis J. Putnal Foundation.

National

Monetary prizes will be awarded to the 1st - 3rd place winners in each category at the national level.

Kindergarten – 12th Grade

\$200 for 1st Place Winners
\$150 for 2nd Place Winners
\$100 for 3rd Place Winners

Monetary awards from the NACD Auxiliary & Albert I. Pierce Foundation.



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Details and Requirements:

Poster size must be 14" x 22" (1/2 of a standard poster board)

Any other size will not be submitted to the National contest, and therefore will not be accepted for the local competition.

Turn poster in on time for judging. The entry deadline is December 20th, 2017 for the 2018 contest.

Attach poster entry form on the back of each poster and be sure it is signed by a parent or guardian. Entry must be contestant's original creation and **may not** be traced from photographs or other artists' published works.

Any media may be used to create a flat poster:

Paint

Crayons

Colored pencil

Charcoal

Stickers

Paper

What makes a good poster?

- Attracts attention
- Is simple and concise
- Uses colors and white space effectively
- Text is large enough to be easily read

Where to Start:

- Research the topic of the theme
- Brainstorm ideas and make a list
- Use the theme as your title:
- "Watersheds – Our Water, Our Home"
- Use some of the important water issues from this sheet.
- Look around your community for ideas.
- Talk to professionals in the industry.
- Research watersheds online and use the information found in your poster

Do!

- *Do* limit text, and balance a combination of illustrations and words.
- *Do* be as neat as you can and be sure to erase any penciled sketches or guidelines.
- *Do* blend colors when using crayons or colored pencils.
- *Do* research the theme topic as a way to brainstorm poster ideas.



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What makes a Poster ineligible for competition? What should I avoid?

- **Ineligible:** Posters smaller than 14" x 22" will **not** be considered for competition.
- **Ineligible:** Missing signature or registration form.
- **Ineligible:** Posters that do not include the topic title – "Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home"
- **Avoid:** Staples, tacks, or tape make winning posters very difficult to mail - please do not use these materials.
- **Avoid:** Fluorescent-colored poster board.
- **Avoid:** Your parent or others drawing your poster for you to color in (*all submissions must be entirely completed by the student!*).
- **Avoid:** trying to include too many ideas. A single message – clearly illustrated – is most effective.

Judging Criteria

- Conservation message — 50 percent
- Visual effectiveness — 30 percent
- Originality — 10 percent and
- Universal appeal — 10 percent

