

2018 NACD POSTER CONTEST

Sponsored By:



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.



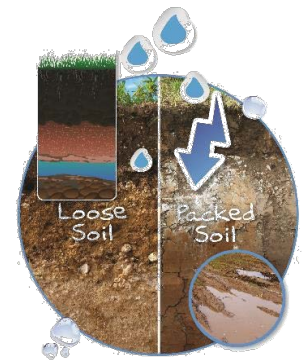
How does Water flow in a Watershed?

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.

Flowing through the Watershed



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.



Not all Watersheds are Alike

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.



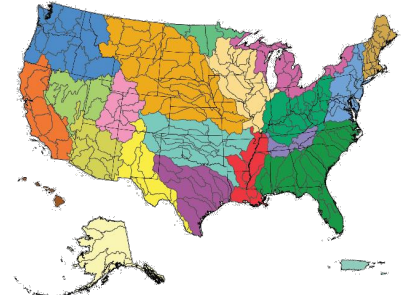
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Where is the Watershed?

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 Watersheds?

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.



Drinking Shed Water



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.

Clean Water is Important



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

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Conservation

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.



Take action – your drinking water depends upon it



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. 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.

Take Action: Be a Picker Upper!

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.



Take Action: Compost

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



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Take Action: Recycle



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.

Take Action: Plant and Grow

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 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 Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District by December 19, 2017.

Submit posters to:

Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District

1800 27th Street, Building B;

Vero Beach, FL 32960

(772)226-4397

For inquiries, please contact our Staff Assistant:

Linda Caggiano: lcaggiano@ircgov.com

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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 – 5th Grade

Details for Entry:

Send entries to your local conservation district:

ATTN: Linda Caggiano

Indian River County Soil and Water Conservation District

1800 27th Street

Building B

Vero Beach, FL 32960

Phone: (772) 266-4397

Email: lcaggiano@ircgov.com

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 (see flyer). Those entries will then be sent to the Area, then State competitions, respectively.

NOTE: If your student wins the Local or State contest, the artwork will not be returned until it is eliminated from competition. All artwork that does not advance past the Local District or State contest will be returned. 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.

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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 19, 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 Pencils	Charcoal
Stickers	Paper or other materials

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 presentation.
- Look around your community for ideas.
- Talk to professionals in the industry.
- Research watersheds online and use the information found in your poster

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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.

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