



It is time to register for the Conservation Poster Contest Sponsored by Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District

The Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) sponsors an annual poster contest for Cuyahoga County students in grades K-12. Awards will be given for 1st and 2nd place in the following grade categories: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12.

Contest rules:

- **The theme: "Soil. Where it all Begins" must be included in the poster design.**
- Students may begin posters on or after, Monday, 1/5/2026
- Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect (paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper or other materials. National judging is based on a digital photo of winning posters.
- Any type of or size of paper may be used, you can even reuse paper that has been used on one side. Any form of coloring, writing, or drawing may be used.
- All posters must be created by an individual student rather than a team of students.
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, NACD encourages each student to do as much of the work as possible by him/herself. Entries completed by students in their handwriting and coloring will score better than those designed, drawn and colored by adult assistance.
- Each teacher will select two posters from his/her class or group to represent that class in the county-wide competition. These posters will need a submission form.

Winning posters may be scanned into the computer and used in press releases and Cuyahoga SWCD promotional pieces. County winners will receive certificates of recognition at an awards ceremony. Their posters may be displayed at county-wide events and municipal meetings. First place in each grade category will advance to the state competition.

Evaluation Criteria:

50% Conservation Message (uses the correct theme)

30% Visual Effectiveness

10% Universal Appeal

10% Originality



Register your class online at www.cuyahogaswcd.org/events by **Thursday, April 30th, 2026.**

A photo of the 2 best posters per class must be emailed (with the signed submission forms) to csommers@cuyahogaswcd.org by **6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 28th, 2026.**

If you have questions please contact Callie Sommers at csommers@cuyahogaswcd.org. Our education team has also created poster contest kick off lesson available for classroom teachers and youth groups upon request.