

CONSERVATION education

Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District

February 2019

Welcome to the Conservation Education Newsletter from the Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District. This quarterly publication will keep you up to date on conservation education news from our District.



High Schoolers Interested in Conservation...

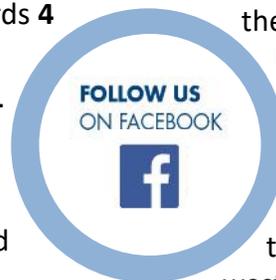
Scholarships

Know a **graduating senior** interested in studying Conservation? The Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Education Foundation together with the Virginia Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society awards **4 \$1,000 scholarships** to eligible students.

Applications can be found on our website. **Deadline is this Friday, March 1, 2019.**

Conservation Camp

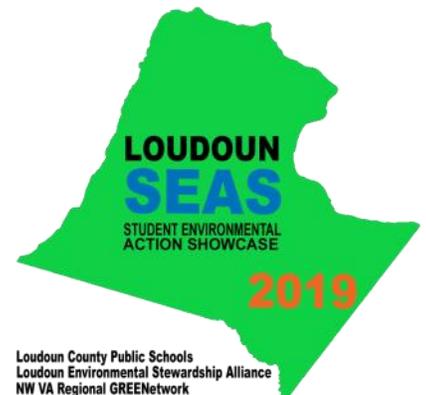
Current 9-12 graders are eligible to attend Youth Conservation Camp held at Virginia Tech. The Loudoun SWCD offers partial scholarships to two students. This lowers the cost of camp to \$150 for a week of active learning and fun. Application and more information can be found on our website.



Get ready ready to Sail the Loudoun SEAS...

The inaugural Loudoun Student Environmental Action Showcase (SEAS) will be held on **Tuesday, March 26, 2019, from 5-8 p.m. at Heritage High School in Leesburg, Virginia.** The event is co-hosted by Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS),

the Loudoun Environmental Stewardship Alliance (LESA), and the North-west Virginia Regional GREENetwork.



Got questions? Want to know more about SEAS or LESA? **Join us this Thursday at 6pm on the 5th floor of the LCPS Admin building.** We'll talk about LESA and it's community groups and our projects, including the SEAS. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP is preferred but not required to seas@loudounnature.org.

For more information visit loudounnature.org.

Loudoun SWCD

30 Catoctin Circle, SE., Suite 218
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www.loudounsoilandwater.org



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Conservation Contest for ALL Ages...

The Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts is pleased to announce the 2019 VASWCD Photo Contest is open and ready to take submissions.

The VASWCD is committed to conservation of natural resources through stewardship and education programs and we want to see it through your eyes.

For our 2019 Photo Contest, we'd like you to take photos that showcase "Conservation in Action." Capture those vibrant moments and express what conservation in action looks like to you! The contest is from Feb. 15st - Aug. 15th, 2019, and you can submit up to 10 photos.

For more information please check out their website <http://vaswcd.org/photocontest>.



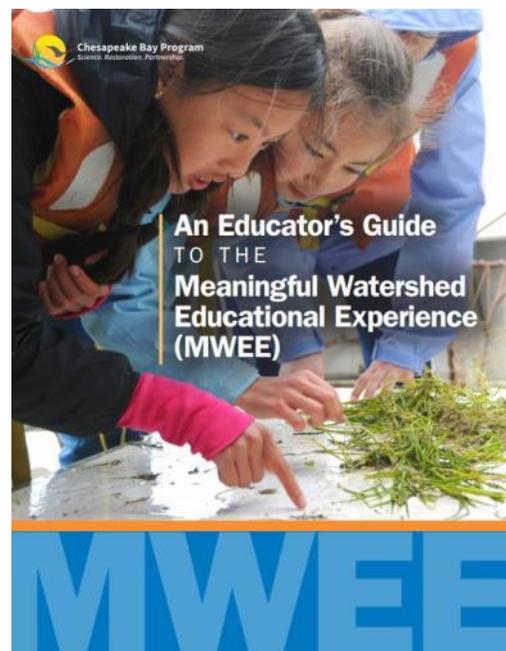
Let's Talk MWEE's...

Does your class participate in a Meaningful Watershed Education Experience? Do you need help planning a MWEE? Do you have a MWEE planned but need some outside expertise?

Feeling shaky about your MWEE knowledge? Partners from the Chesapeake Bay Program Education Workgroup have launched an online course created to provide in-depth understanding of the Meaningful Watershed Education Experience. It's called MWEE 101. You can check it out at <http://bit.ly/MWEECourse> or find out how it can be used for professional development by contacting elise.trelegan@noaa.gov for more details.

You can find even more resources at baybackpack.com. There you can download the MWEE Guide, learn how to develop a MWEE and read about other MWEEs.

I'd love to know all about MWEEs in your curriculum and how the Soil and Water District can help. Send me an email with what you do with your class OR what you would like to do.



"Take care of the land and the land will take care of you..."

~Hugh H. Bennett

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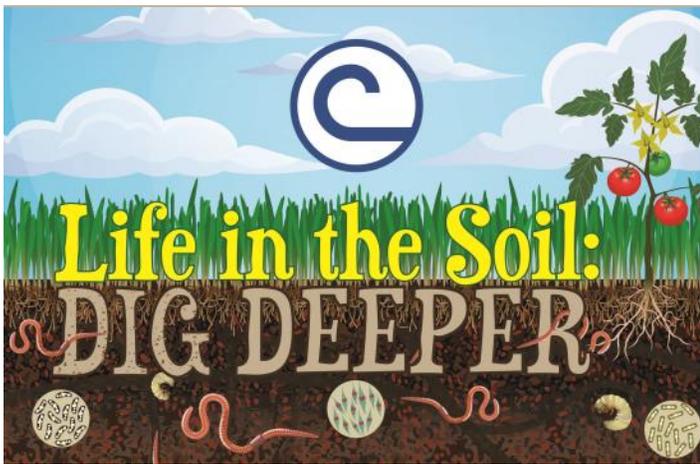
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**JOIN LOUDOUN SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT IN CELEBRATING
SOIL AND WATER
STEWARDSHIP WEEK**

April 28 – May 5, 2019

This year the Loudoun SWCD in partnership with Loudoun County Public Schools will continue its special stewardship education program for local elementary and middle schools by providing printed educational materials. Educational materials include an **Activity booklet on, a Placemat/Activity Sheet, Bookmark and Mini-Poster.** Email me if you need the full flyer of materials available.



DEADLINE FOR ALL ORDERS IS THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019

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2019 Poster Contest

Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper

This year's theme is "Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper." Soil is a dirty topic, but everyone needs to learn more about it! Soil is the foundation for many of the items we use in our daily life, such as food, clothing, clean water, homes and more. Healthy soil equals healthy food, which equals a healthy you. Don't treat your soil like dirt!

Designing a poster and researching the theme can give you a voice in your community on important conservation issues! Posters capture people's attention and tell important stories in a language that everyone can understand.

They inspire, increase awareness, and encourage us to work together to protect our natural resources.

The Poster Contest is open to all Loudoun County public, private and homeschooled students in grades K—12.

CONTEST RULES

- Any media may be used, including paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper, or other materials.
- Posters must be hand drawn but can be any size. Originals can digital entries (photographs or scanned copies of the hand drawn posters in a JPEG format) can be submitted.
- All posters must be created by an individual student, rather than a team of students.
- The 2019 theme "Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper" **must** be included on the front side of each poster.
- Each entry **must** be submitted with an entry form to be eligible for judging. The form **must** be completed and signed by a parent or guardian. Entry form can be found on our website.
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, NACD encourages each student to do their own work. (Note: Entries with student handwriting and coloring will score better than those designed, drawn, and colored by adult assistance.)
- Only local contest sponsor (Loudoun SWCD) can submit entries to the state and only the state sponsor (VASWCD) can submit for the national contest.

POSTER EVALUATION

- Conservation message (50 percent) (Poster uses correct theme)
- Visual effectiveness (30 percent)
- Originality (10 percent)
- Universal appeal (10 percent)

PRIZES

Local awards and recognition will be given. Local winners in each category will be sent to the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. State winners will be eligible for NACD's National Poster Contest and prizes.

All poster entries should be sent to Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District. (Drop off or County Mail Stop 95).

POSTERS ARE DUE MAY 15, 2019

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