

LOUDOUN'S 2023 ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST
Sponsored by Loudoun Soil & Water Conservation District
Deadline: Wednesday, April 12, 2023

The 2023 Loudoun Arbor Day poster contest is a creative way to learn about trees and express your artistic talent to create a poster that illustrates the 2023 contest theme:

PLANT TREES FOR THE BEES, PLEASE!

Background: The health and well-being of everyone in the world depends on trees and bees. A tree in full bloom produces enormous amounts of pollen and nectar that bees depend on to survive. Trees' flowers are an important food source for bees, providing pollen and nectar that bees use for food and to make honey. Trees like: American Yellowwood, Redbud, Black Locust, Sourwood, Tupelo, Linden, Tulip Poplar and Hawthorn produce flowers that attract bees. Apples, peaches, pears, coconuts, and coffee are just a few of the assortment of foods that trees produce thanks to bees and other pollinator species. Trees produce an enormous amount of oxygen for all of us to breathe and some of life's essentials like food and medicine. It's amazing that a chemical compound found in Willow trees can cure a headache, that cinnamon comes from the inner bark of a tree and it's incredible that a tree leaf takes in sunshine and gives back oxygen. Trees filter tons of pollutants from the air and purify gallons of groundwater. Tree roots perform an amazing job of holding soil in place. Trees growing next to streams and rivers in the riparian zone are very effective at slowing flood waters. Branches and leaves that create the canopy of a tree are unique to each species. The canopy provides shelter from the wind, rain, and scorching sun. Throughout the four seasons, trees provide magnificent beauty. Trees supply people with lumber for building homes and furniture as well as homes and habitats for wildlife. It is good to know that trees are working all day, every day, all over Loudoun County and around the world.

Poster contest prizes will be awarded to the top 50 posters. A virtual awards ceremony is being planned to recognize winners and digitally display posters. The release of the Loudoun Arbor Day Awards Ceremony u-tube video will be announced the last week in April. Contest prizes will be delivered to the school principal at the main office for distribution to students along with all original poster entries.

POSTER CONTEST GUIDELINES:

The 2023 Loudoun Arbor Day poster contest is open to all Loudoun County students in grades K-12. Posters must measure no larger than 11" X 16" and be the original artwork of the student. The poster contest theme must be on front side the poster. All entries become the property of LSWCD for use as educational and promotional purposes. Original posters will be returned to students.

DEADLINE to SUBMIT POSTERS is WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2023:

1. **PREFERRED METHOD is to MAIL OR DELIVER POSTERS to:**
Loudoun Soil & Water Conservation District, 30 Catoctin Circle, SE, Suite 218, Leesburg, VA 20175.
Or use the County Courier Mail (Pony Mail) addressed to: Loudoun SWCD #95
DELIVER to LSWCD office at the address above, a Box for Posters is located outside the office door, On the 2nd floor of the Wells Fargo Bank building - open 8am – 6:30pm Mon – Fri or 8am – 12pm Sat.
2. **If submission is sent electronically each entry must have 2 attachments:**
#1. a JPEG image of the poster and # 2. a PDF file with the entry form information
Send to: pat.mcilvaine@lswcd.org; jennifer.venable@lswcd.org

Each entry must have the following entry form information:

Student's Name _____ Grade Level _____
School Name _____
School contact/Teacher's Name _____ email _____
Parent/Guardian signature _____ email _____
Parent/Guardian signature allows LSWCD to utilize a poster for educational & promotional purposes.

For more information email: pat.mcilvaine@lswcd.org