

2026 Conservation Poster Contest Guidelines

“Soil. Where it all Begins”

Details

- Open to grades K-12; public, private or home school students
- Each poster must go through the following contest process: Local/County, Area, State, Nationals.
- The National Poster Contest theme is: **“Soil. Where it all Begins”**

Contest Rules

- Poster size must be 12" x 18" or 14" x 22".
- The 2026 National Contest Theme, **“Soil. Where it all Begins”** must be written on each poster.
- All posters shall be created by an individual student, rather than a team of students.
- Any media may be used: paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper or other materials on regular posters. (Computer-generated posters will not be accepted)
- To be eligible for judging, each entry must have a completed and signed entry form attached to back.

Posters Due to County

- Poster Due Date: January 26, 2026
- Local entries due to: Shawano Co Land Conservation Dept
- Phone: 715-526-4820
- Address: 311 N. Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166

County Contest

- County: Shawano
- Date of County Contest: January 29, 2026
- Location: Shawano County Courthouse
- 1st place from each division moves to Area

Area Contest

- Area: Lake Michigan
- Date of Area Contest: TBD
- Location: Virtual
- 1st place from each division moves to State

State Contest

- Posters Due: February 6, 2026
- Dates of State Contest: March 4-6, 2026
- WI Land+Water Annual Conference, Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells

National Contest

- Submitted by December 1, 2026
- National Contest entries submitted by WI Land+Water



Poster Evaluations

Conservation Message 50%
Visual Effectiveness 30%
Originality 10%
Universal Appeal 10%



Contact your County Land/Water Conservation Department for details on how to get started and/or:
<https://wisconsinlandwater.org/our-work/youth-education/poster-speaking-contest/contest-dates>



2026 Conservation Awareness Poster Contest

County Entries Due: January 26, 2026

STUDENT

First Name _____ Middle _____ Last _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Parent/guardian name (printed) _____

REQUIRED Signature of parent or guardian certifies that the information provided is accurate and allows local land conservation departments, WI Land+Water, and NACD to utilize the photos for educational or promotional purposes:

X _____ Date _____

Please check appropriate grade level.

Grades K-1

Grades 2-3

Grades 4-6

Grades 7-9

Grades 10-12

LOCAL MEDIA

Name of your local newspaper _____

Newspaper Telephone Number _____

Newspaper Email _____



SCHOOL

Public School Private School Home School

Teacher Name _____

School Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State WI Zip _____

E-mail address _____ Phone (____) _____



COUNTY LAND/WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT (to be filled out by local rep)

County Shawano Area Lake Michigan

Contact Lori Mathew Title Office Assistant

Address 311 N. Main Street - Room 1

City Shawano State WI Zip 54166

E-mail Address Lori.Mathew@ShawanoCountyWI.gov Phone (715) 526-4820