



# National Association of Conservation Districts

## 2024 NACD Hand Drawn Poster Contest

The National Association of Conservation Districts Poster Contest is open to K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Artwork entered in the national competition must first have been judged in a local or area conservation district sponsored poster contest and a state conservation association or state auxiliary sponsored contest.**

**Posters must be uploaded through the online submission form found on the NACD Education Hub Contests page.**

To find who in your state/territory is in charge of the NACD poster contest, visit the [NACD Conservation District Directory](#) and contact your state/territory association of conservation districts.

States conservation association, auxiliary or state poster contest sponsors select a poster to enter in each of the two-grade divisions. (K-1; 2-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12) States are not required to enter a poster for every grade level.

### Contest Rules

- Traditional painted or drawn posters should be scanned and uploaded as a PDF.
- **Size:** The poster design size should meet the requirements of the state contest.
- Any media may be used, including paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper, or other materials.
- All posters must be created by an individual student, rather than a team of students. Entry must be contestant's original creation and may not be traced from photographs or other artists' published works.
- The 2024 Stewardship theme **“MAY THE FOREST BE WITH YOU, ALWAYS”** must be included on the front side of each poster submission to be eligible for the national poster contest.
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, NACD encourages each student to do their own work.
- **Only official state poster contest sponsors** can submit entries for the national contest. Entries must be uploaded by December 1, 2024.



## Poster Evaluations

National Poster Contest entries are reviewed based on the following criteria:

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

Local and state contest awards and sponsors will differ from state to state. Depending on the sponsoring state's conservation association, auxiliary, or agency's preference, the national awards will be presented at a national, regional, state, and/or local conservation ceremony.

The winning posters will be featured at the 2025 NACD Annual Meeting.

Each state conservation association, auxiliary or agency contact will receive notification of the judging results and a news release announcing the winners.

For more information, please email [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org).



# National Association of Conservation Districts

2024 NACD Inclusive Poster Contest for **students who require additional assistance**.

The National Association of Conservation Districts **Additional Assist Poster Contest** is open to K-12th grade students with require additional assistance with completing a poster for the contest.

Artwork entered in the national competition must first have been judged in a local or area conservation district sponsored poster contest and a state conservation association or state auxiliary sponsored contest.

Posters must be uploaded through the online submission form found on the NACD Education Hub Contests page.

To find who in your state/territory oversees the NACD poster contest, visit the NACD Conservation District Directory and contact your state/territory association of conservation districts.

State conservation association, auxiliary, or state poster contest sponsors select a poster to enter in each of the five-grade divisions: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12. States are not required to enter a poster for every grade level.

## Contest Rules

- Traditional painted or drawn posters should be scanned and uploaded as a PDF.
- Size: The poster design size should meet the requirements of the state contest.
- Any media may be used, including paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper, or other materials.
- All posters must be created by an individual student, rather than a team of students. Entry must be contestant's original creation and may not be traced from photographs or other artists' published works.
- The 2024 Stewardship theme "May the Forest be with You, Always" must be included on the front side of each poster submission to be eligible for the national poster contest.

## Inclusive Contest Additions

- Students that participate in an this contet are permitted to have an adult assist them in the creation of their posters making it an inclusive and accessible contest for all.
- While it is understood that some students may benefit from assistance, NACD encourages each student to actively participate in creating their poster. We celebrate the diverse abilities and talents of all participants in this inclusive contest, and we value the unique contributions of every student. Entries that prominently feature the handwriting and coloring of the student will be especially appreciated, as they reflect the individuality and creativity of each participant, with or without additional assistance.



# National Association of Conservation Districts

Only official state poster contest sponsors can submit entries for the national contest. Entries must be uploaded by December 1, 2024.

**NACD Contact Information** NACD 509 Capitol Ct, NE Washington, DC 20002 Phone: (202) 547-6223

Website: [www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org)

**Poster Evaluations** National Poster Contest entries are reviewed based on the following criteria:

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

This document is only a guide. Local and state contest awards and sponsors will differ from state to state. Depending on the sponsoring state's conservation association, auxiliary, or agency's preference, the national awards will be presented at a national, regional, state, and/or local conservation ceremony. The winning posters will be featured at NACD's Annual Meeting. Each state conservation association, auxiliary, or agency contact will receive notification of the judging results and a news release announcing the winners.

For more information, please email [stewardship@nacdn.net](mailto:stewardship@nacdn.net).



# National Association of Conservation Districts

The National Association of Conservation Districts **2024 Braille Poster Contest** is open to K-12th grade students who are blind or have low vision. This contest will provide an inclusive platform for students to express their creativity and conservation messages through Braille and tactile elements.

## Eligibility

- The contest is open only to K-12th grade students who are blind or have low vision and require Braille **or** tactile assistance to participate.

**Submission Requirements** Artwork entered in the national competition must first have been judged in a local or area conservation district-sponsored poster contest and a state conservation association or state auxiliary sponsored contest.

Posters must be uploaded through the online submission form found on the NACD Education Hub Contests page.

To find who in your state/territory oversees the NACD poster contest, visit the NACD Conservation District Directory and contact your state/territory association of conservation districts.

State conservation association, auxiliary, or state poster contest sponsors select a poster to enter in each of the five-grade divisions: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12. States are not required to enter a poster for every grade level.

## Contest Rules

- Participants can create Braille posters in one of two ways:
  1. Using their imagination and drawing, and then adding Braille labeling using a Braille embosser or similar tools.
  2. Using a Braille (a Braille typewriter) to create Braille elements, and then adding color or additional drawings.
- Traditional painted or drawn posters should be scanned and uploaded as a PDF.
- Size: The poster design size should meet the requirements of the state contest.
- Any media may be used for tactile elements, including Braille, raised textures, and other materials.

## Inclusive Contest Additions

- Students participating in this contest are permitted to have an adult assist them in the creation of their posters, particularly in the Braille labeling process, making it an inclusive and accessible contest for all.



# National Association of Conservation Districts

- While it is understood that some students may benefit from assistance, NACD encourages each student to actively participate in creating their poster. We celebrate the diverse abilities and talents of all participants in this inclusive contest, and we value the unique contributions of every student.

**Submission Deadline** Only official state poster contest sponsors can submit entries for the national contest. Entries must be uploaded by December 1, 2024.

## **NACD Contact Information**

NACD

509 Capitol Ct, NE

Washington, DC 20002

Phone: (202) 547-6223

Website: [www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org)

**Poster Evaluations** National Braille Poster Contest entries are reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Conservation message (50 percent) (Poster uses correct theme)
- Originality (20 percent)
- Universal appeal (30 percent)

**Accessibility Information** This contest ensures accessibility for students with blindness or low vision by allowing Braille and tactile elements. It encourages creativity and inclusivity while promoting conservation awareness.

**Additional Notes** This document is only a guide for local district. Local and state contest awards and sponsors will differ from state to state. Depending on the sponsoring state's conservation association, auxiliary, or agency's preference, the national awards will be presented at a national, regional, state, and/or local conservation ceremony. The winning Braille posters will be featured at NACD's Annual Meeting. Each state conservation association, auxiliary, or agency contact will receive notification of the judging results and a news release announcing the winners.

For more information, please email [stewardship@nacdn.net](mailto:stewardship@nacdn.net).



# National Association of Conservation Districts

## 2024 NACD Digital Poster Contest

The National Association of Conservation Districts **Digital Poster Contest** is open to 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Artwork entered in the national competition must first have been judged in a local or area conservation district sponsored poster contest and a state conservation association or state auxiliary sponsored contest.**

**Posters must be uploaded through the online submission form found on the NACD Education Hub Contests page.**

To find who in your state is in charge of the NACD poster contest, visit the [NACD Conservation District Directory](#) and contact your state association of conservation districts.

States conservation association, auxiliary or state poster contest sponsors select a poster to enter in each of the two-grade divisions (7-9; 10-12) and submit them to NACD by through electronic submission found on the NACD Education Hub Contests page. States are not required to enter a poster for every grade level.

### Contest Rules

- The posters must be a digital design and can be created in any platform used for digital projects such as Canva, PicMonkey, Google Slides, Photoshop, InDesign, etc.
- The poster design size should meet the requirements of the state contest.
- Digital posters must be original work and not include any copyrighted, trademarked or branded marks, images or phrases besides the NACD 2024 themed logo.
- Digital posters should be submitted in JPEG or PNG format.
- The 2024 Stewardship theme “MAY THE FOREST BE WITH YOU, ALWAYS” must be included in each poster submission to be eligible for the national poster contest.
- All posters must be created by an individual student, rather than a team of students.
- **Only official state poster contest sponsors** can submit entries for the national contest. Entries must be submitted by December 1, 2024.



## Digital Poster Evaluations

National Poster Contest entries are reviewed based on the following criteria:

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

Local and state contest awards and sponsors will differ from state to state. Depending on the sponsoring state's conservation association, auxiliary, or agency's preference, the national awards will be presented at a national, regional, state, and/or local conservation ceremony.

The winning posters will be featured at 2025 NACD's Annual Meeting.

Each state conservation association, auxiliary or agency contact will receive notification of the judging results and a news release announcing the winners.

For more information, please email [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org).





# National Association of Conservation Districts

## Photo Contest

**The 2024 Photo Contest is open for submissions until December 1, 2024.** Winners will be announced during NACD's Annual Meeting in February 2025.

NACD hosts the annual Photo Contest, open to all amateur photographers who reside in the U.S. or its territories. Contestants are allowed to enter as many as five photos each year that each fit into [one of the following four categories](#):

[Conservation Practices](#)

[Conservation in Action](#)

[Close-up Conservation](#)

[Agriculture and Conservation Across America](#)

Photos are judged on technical merit and composition. On technical merit, photos will be judged on whether they are well-framed, properly exposed, and sharp/clear. On composition, the photos will be judged on imagination and creativity. One winner will be selected for each category and age division (adults are 19 and older as of December 1, 2024.)

Each first-place winner at the national level will receive a \$100 cash prize. Second place winners will receive \$50.

### ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

Complete and submit this [entry form](#) for each photo you would like to enter into the contest. Photo submissions should be uploaded through the form. Photos must be in a JPG, PNG or TIFF file format. Please note, although you do not need to submit a [photo release form](#) or subject and [model release form](#) along with your photo, you will need to attest that these forms have been completed.

- Minor digital enhancements for cropping, red-eye removal, filters and corrective functions are permitted; however, an image judged to be significantly altered may be disqualified.
- Contestants are not permitted to place borders, frames or backgrounds around their images or to place watermarks, dates, signatures or copyright images onto photos.
- Previously published photos are not eligible for the NACD Photo Contest.



# National Association of Conservation Districts

***All entries become the property of NACD. As such, NACD reserves the non-exclusive right to use submissions in official publications and for promotional purposes. The photographer retains rights and use to their photo.***

All emailed photo files must be named by category, age division, last name, state, and photo number. If you are submitting only one photo in a category, your photo number is "1." Additional photos in the same category should be numbered consecutively. Name the photo file for each entry as follows:

## **Conservation Practices**

Adult: CP-A- LastName\_FirstInitial-State-#

Youth: CP-Y- LastName\_FirstInitial-State-#

## **Conservation in Action**

Adult: CIA-A- LastName\_FirstInitial-State-#

Youth: CIA-Y- LastName\_FirstInitial-State-#

## **Close Up Conservation**

Adult: CUC-A- LastName\_FirstInitial-State-#

Youth: CUC-Y- LastName\_FirstInitial-State-#

## **Ag/Conservation Across America**

Adult: ACAA-A- LastName\_FirstInitial-State-#

Youth: ACAA-Y- LastName\_FirstInitial-State-#

*For example, John Smith, a 16-year-old from Texas, wishes to submit three photos, one in the Close-Up Conservation category and two in Conservation in Action. His file names would read as follows:*

- *CUC-Y-Smith-J-TX-1*
- *CIA-Y-Smith-J-TX-1*
- *CIA-Y-Smith-J-TX-2*



# National Association of Conservation Districts

**Before submitting your photo(s), please review the following examples of the four contest categories.**

Important: Your photos could be featured in NACD publications or on NACD's website. Be sure to include a signed photo release form from the people in your photos. Judges may also reassign a photo to a different category if needed.

## **1. CONSERVATION PRACTICES:**

Highlights conservation practices like Contour Buffer Strips, Cover Crops, Crop Rotation, and more. Entrants should capture these practices in action, emphasizing their role in environmental protection and sustainable agriculture. This includes showcasing the beauty of Contour Buffer Strips, Cover Crop growth, Crop Rotation, Livestock Management, Pest Management, serene Riparian Buffers, Terraces, Wetland Restoration, and Nutrient Management. These photos underscore the significance of these practices in conserving natural resources.

## **2. CLOSE UP CONSERVATION:**

Photographers can find inspiration in a variety of subjects, from aquatic insects that signify the health of freshwater ecosystems water in its various forms, including ponds and streams, highlighting its role in sustaining ecosystems. Textures and growth stages of crops, emphasizing sustainable agricultural practices, or native plants or wildflowers. Zoom in on healthy soil, sediment management, farm animals, innovative irrigation techniques, earthworms, roots, and composting processes, showcasing the details of conservation efforts and the natural world.

## **3. CONSERVATION IN ACTION:**

Focus on capturing conservation district activities in action. They might document the planning stages of conservation efforts, the energy of district events such as community meetings and field days, the interactions between district representatives and farmers or landowners, the essential role of irrigation in agriculture, the everyday work of office staff, the decision-making process in board meetings, the expertise of technical staff, and the enthusiasm of young participants engaged in various educational programs and events related to conservation.

## **4. AGRICULTURE AND CONSERVATION ACROSS AMERICA:**

Capture the essence of American agriculture and conservation. Photograph scenes of barns, crops, farm practices, farmers or landowners, fence rows, grazing, implements and tools, livestock, pastures, ponds, ranching, tree farms, and youth engaged in farming and conservation activities.

**Questions? Contact NACD at [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org)**