

2027 Conservation Poster Contest Guidelines

From Source to Sea. Every Drop Has A Journey.

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: **From Source to Sea. Every Drop Has A Journey.**

Contest Rules

- Poster size: **11" x 17" (60 lb to 90 lb paper NACD recommended size and weight)**
Other sized accepted are: 12" x 18" or 14" x 22".
- The 2027 National Contest Theme, **From Source to Sea. Every Drop Has A Journey.** must be written on the front of each poster.
- All posters must be created by an individual student, team projects are not permitted, younger students must complete their own work. Tracing or copying from photographs or other artists' works is not allowed.
- 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 the back.

Posters Due to County

- Poster Due Date: January 8th, 2027
- Local entries due to: Land and Water Dept.
- Phone: 715-346-1334
- Address: 1462 Strong's Ave, Stevens Point

County Contest

- County: Portage County
- Date of County Contest: January 14th
- Location: Portage Cty. Annex Building
- 1st place from each division moves to Area

Area Contest

- Area: North Central
- Date of Area Contest: January 28th, 2027
- Location: Wood Cty. Wis. Rapids
- 1st place from each division moves to State

State Contest

- Posters Due: February 5, 2027
- Dates of State Contest: March 3-5, 2027
- WI Land+Water Annual Conference, The Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells

National Contest

- Submitted by December 1, 2027
- 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>

2027 Conservation Awareness Poster Contest

County Entries Due: _____

STUDENT

First Name _____ Middle _____ Last _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County where you live _____

County where you attend school (If different) Portage County Grade _____ Age _____

Parent/Guardian

Parent/guardian name (printed) _____

E-mail _____ Cell Number _____

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 _____

LOCAL MEDIA

Newspaper Name: _____

Email _____ Phone Number _____

SCHOOL

☐ Public School ☐ Private School ☐ Home School

Teacher Name _____

School Name _____

Address _____

City _____ County Portage County State WI Zip _____

E-mail address _____ Phone (____) _____

Please check appropriate grade level.

- ☐ Grades K-1
☐ Grades 2-3
☐ Grades 4-6
☐ Grades 7-9
☐ Grades 10-12



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

County _____ Area _____

Contact _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____ Phone (____) _____

2027 Conservation Speech Contest Guidelines



State Contest
Wednesday, March 3rd, 2027
Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells,
WI



Contest Divisions

1. Elementary Division... (3-5 minute speeches, *required*) Students enrolled in grades 5-6
2. Junior Division..... (4-6 minute speeches, *required*) Students enrolled in grades 7-8
3. Senior Division..... (5-7 minute speeches, *required*) Students enrolled in grades 9-12

Subject Matter

Speeches must promote the conservation of natural resources and the protection or enhancement of environmental quality. Topics should address soil and water conservation issues. Emphasis should be placed on the subject as it relates to your locality or to the state of Wisconsin.

Authenticity and accuracy of information is important, and the speaker should demonstrate familiarity with the subject matter. Feel free to contact Natural Resource professionals as they can provide knowledge on numerous topics. The internet is a rich resource; however, not all internet sources are reliable. When using the internet, be sure to consider your source!

All speeches should be backed up by facts. Both sides of an issue should be presented in a fair and non-accusatory manner. Using names of people or businesses for slander will not be accepted and shall result in disqualification.

Visual Aids

Use of visual aids (posters, charts, etc.) is prohibited; however, notes may be used.

Speeches

A speech, in part or whole, used in this contest in previous years may not be used again. However, speeches used for other speaking events may be used. Group presentations are not allowed.

County Contest

An individual student may only enter in one County level speech contest, either in the County in which they reside or in the county in which they attend school. If the County an individual lives in does not host a speaking contest, the individual may seek permission from another County to enter their contest. The winners of each division in each County may compete in the Area Association contests. Students must compete in a County and/or Area contest to qualify for the state contest. All contest entry forms must be signed by a parent or guardian.

Area Contest

Local County winner will advance to their area contest. Please view our website for your area contest dates, <https://wisconsinlandwater.org/our-work/youth-education/poster-speaking-contest>. The results of the Area contest (including the parental/guardian signature, legible names, addresses and counties of residence of the winners) shall be sent by the Area contest coordinator to all County contest coordinators immediately following the contest for State contest set-up and publicity purposes.

The Area association committees and coordinators are responsible for arranging the participation of its three winning speakers (1st place in each division) in the state contest.

Contest Scheduling

County and Area Association contests should be completed by **Friday, February 5, 2027**.

State Contest

State contest entry forms for each area contest winner must be received at the WI Land+Water office no later than **Friday, February 5, 2027**.

The state contest will be held in the morning of Wednesday, March 3, 2027, at The Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI.*

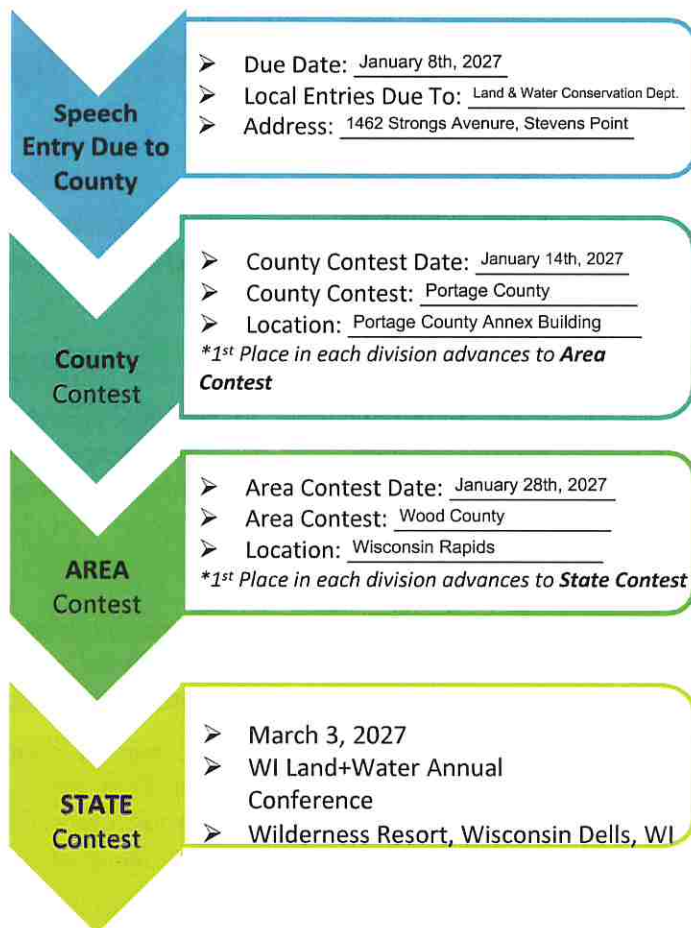
Registration will be from 9:00am-9:30am.

First place winners in each division are invited to present their winning speeches at the 2027 WI Land+Water Annual Conference Luncheon that same day at **11:00am**.

State contest RSVP must be completed by **Monday, February 8, 2027** and emailed to kim@wisconsinlandwater.org.

**If you are planning to come in the night before and wish to book a hotel room, please contact the Wilderness Resort directly at 1-800-867-WILD and mention room block (Leader #A9696923) WI Land+Water Annual Conference.*

All state contest entry forms must be completely filled out and **signed by a parent or guardian** and emailed to kim@wisconsinlandwater.org no later than Monday, February 8, 2027 in order for the student to be eligible to compete.



2026 State Speech Winners



Ainsley Pitlik
Oneida County
Elementary Division



Sutton Pitlik
Oneida County
Junior Division



Leah Gorsuch
Sauk County
Senior Division