

Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association

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2007 Conservation Speech Contest

State Contest – Saturday, November 10th 2007 in Stevens Point

Contest Division

1. Elementary Division.....Students enrolled in grades 5-6.
2. Junior Division.....Students enrolled in grades 7-8.
3. Senior Division.....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 Wisconsin (local conservation programs or projects provide excellent topics for positive, solution oriented speeches).

Authenticity and accuracy of information is important and the speaker should demonstrate familiarity with the subject matter. Conservation and environmental literature is available through county land conservation offices, UW Extension, the Department of Natural Resources and other offices should provide information for potential topics.

Sanction

All contest materials distributed by counties should include the following statement of sanction: “This activity is approved on the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators Advisory List.”

Visual Aids

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

Previous 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.

Judges

Judges may ask questions of the speakers. Such questioning shall be done to explore the speaker’s knowledge of the subject matter. Therefore, speakers are encouraged to thoroughly research their subject. Sample judging sheets are attached. These are the sheets used at the state competition. Different judging formats may be used at the county and area association level.

Time Limits

Elementary Division speeches shall be 3-5 minutes in length. Junior and Senior Division speeches shall be 5-8 minutes in length. Judges may, however, exercise discretion on speeches, which do not fall within these limits.

Contest Materials

Contest rules, entry blanks and judging sheets will be provided to the designated county contest coordinator.

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. Group presentations are not allowed.

The members of the County Land Conservation Committee shall sponsor the contest, in each county.

Information concerning the county speaking contest should be made available at the County Land Conservation Department offices. Personnel from the UWEX, DNR and NRCS may also be sources of contest information.

Individual entry blanks should be submitted to the county contest coordinator, who will advise contestants of the time and place of the county contest. The contest coordinator shall arrange for the location, judges, local publicity, awards, etc. The contest coordinator shall be responsible for arranging for county contest winners to participate in the area contest.

Area Contest

The winners of each division in each county may compete in the area association contests. A committee established by the area association shall supervise each area contest. The committee and area coordinator shall arrange for location, judges, local publicity, certificates, awards, etc.

The results of the area contest (including the legible names, addresses and county of residence of the winners) shall be sent by the area contest coordinator to all county contest coordinators immediately following the contest for publicity purposes. State contest entry blanks and registration form must be completed and immediately forwarded to the WLWCA office. For publicity purposes at the state level, be sure to include the full mailing address of your local newspaper.

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

State Contest

The WLWCA Youth and Education Committee and the WLWCA Project Coordinator shall be responsible for conducting the state contest, including arranging location, publicity, awards, etc. The state contest will be held on Saturday, November 10, 2007 in Stevens Point.

There shall be three judges, having different backgrounds, for each division. Potential sources for judges include representatives of UWEX, USDA, WDNR, WDATCP, WDPI, teachers, LCC members, LCD employees, state media, legislators, or UW Campus Staff.

The judges shall report first, second and third place winners for each division to the state contest coordinator. The WLWCA Youth and Education Committee Chair shall release this information. The state contest coordinator shall arrange for notification of all LCCs regarding the contest results.

State Awards

Each participant in the state contest shall receive a certificate. First, second and third place winners in each division shall be awarded a trophy.

Contest Scheduling

County and area association contests should be completed by **October 31, 2007**. State contest entry blanks for each area contest winner must be received at the WLWCA office no later than **November 1, 2007**.

Area contest winners will appear at the state contest on Saturday, **November 10, 2007** in Stevens Point.