



The Skagit Conservation District Presents:



2026 Soil and Water Stewardship Poster Contest

In honor of Soil and Water Stewardship Week, the Skagit Conservation District's Annual Poster Contest provides kindergarten through twelfth grade students with an opportunity to share their thoughts about soil, water, and related natural resources. Stewardship Week helps to remind us all of the

Soil and Water Stewardship Week April 26—May 3, 2026

2026 POSTER THEME

Soil. Where It All Begins.

Soil is not just the ground we walk on. It is the starting point for healthy food, clean water, thriving habitats, and resilient communities. From backyard gardens to forests and city parks, everything begins with what is beneath our feet.

Soil does a lot more than grow plants. It holds water, cycles nutrients, and provides homes for billions of living organisms that help keep nature in balance. It keeps roots in place, helps prevent flooding, and supports wildlife and people alike. The trees in our neighborhoods, the food on our tables, and the natural places we love all depend on healthy soils.

When we take care of soil, we are taking care of everything it supports. That is why soil is where it all begins.

CONTEST RULES

1. The title "Soil. Where It All Begins" must be on the poster. (Don't use any other title or theme.)
2. Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect (paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, paper or other materials).
3. Poster size must be between 8.5"x 11" and 16"x 20".
4. All posters must have a completed entry form taped to the back of the poster. (NO staples please.)
5. All posters must be created by an individual student rather than a team of students.

POSTER EVALUATIONS

Posters entered into the Skagit Conservation District Poster Contest are reviewed by a panel of judges. Each judge has one of the following backgrounds: conservation, natural resources, art and/or education. The posters are evaluated on the following criteria:

Conservation message—50%
Visual effectiveness—30%
Originality—10%
Universal appeal—10%

POSTER ENTRY DEADLINE—Friday, March 27, 2026
For more information call Cindy @ 360-899-8729

AWARDS!

All students who submit a poster for the contest will receive a certificate of participation.



- ★ Awards will be presented to the winners of the following grade categories: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12.
- ★ In addition, an Overall Winner and Runner-up will be selected.
- ★ The Overall Winner will receive a **\$50.00** Tri Dee Arts gift card, an award plaque, and framing of his/her poster.

"This event/activity is NOT being sponsored by any Skagit County School and the Schools assume no responsibility for the conduct or safety of the event/activity. In consideration for the privilege to distribute these materials, Skagit County Schools shall be held harmless from any cause of action, claim or petition filed in any court or administrative tribunal arising out of the distribution of these materials, including costs, attorney's fees and judgments or awards."



SKAGIT CONSERVATION DISTRICT POSTER CONTEST DEADLINE: March 27, 2026



WHAT MAKES A GOOD POSTER?

- ☞ The title of “Soil. Where It All Begins” must be the only message on the poster.
- ☞ Colors and white space to add emphasis and attract attention.
- ☞ Large letters that can be read easily and words that are spaced apart so that the meaning is understood quickly.
- ☞ Principles of good design.



Margins should be slightly larger at the top than the bottom and equal on the two sides.

Boldness
makes a difference.

R e m e m b e r
S p a c i n g
rememberspacingreme
mberspacingremember
spacingrememberspacing

Plan
a h ead

Plain lettering is more
readable than *fancy lettering*

**Use
guidelines**

Pencil them in lightly at the beginning and erase when done.

Posters can be mailed to or dropped off at the Skagit Conservation District office located at:

2021 East College Way, Suite 203
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Please call to make an appoint to drop off posters.
no later than **Friday, March 27, 2026.**

If you need the posters to be picked up at your school, or if you have questions, please call Cindy Pierce at **(360) 899-8729** or e-mail cindy@skagitcd.org.

Posters must be received at the SCD office by 4:30 p.m., Friday, April 27, 2026. Posters must have an entry form attached when submitted. Please copy entry forms below.

2026 Entry Form Annual Conservation Poster Contest Sponsored by Skagit Conservation District		
STUDENT'S NAME FIRST:	MIDDLE:	LAST:
SCHOOL/PROGRAM/HOMESCHOOL:		GRADE:
SCHOOL/PROGRAM/HOMESCHOOL ADDRESS:		SCHOOL/PROGRAM/HOME PHONE:
TEACHER/PROGRAM/HOMESCHOOL CONTACT:		
Tape this form to the back of your poster and submit to the Skagit CD office - (360) 899-8729 by 4:30 p.m., March 27, 2026. <u>No staples please!</u>		

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