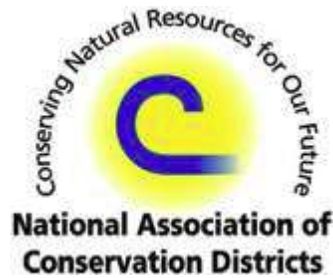




*Trumbull Soil & Water
Conservation District*

520 W. Main Street, Suite 3, Cortland, Ohio 44410

In conjunction with



presents

2019 Essay Contest



Soil is a dirty topic, but everyone needs to learn more about it! Soil is the foundation for many of the items we use in our daily life, such as food, clothing, clean water, homes and more. Healthy soil equals healthy food, which equals a healthy you.

Don't treat your soil like dirt!

Only about 10% of Earth's land surface has suitable soil for producing our food supply, housing, cities, schools, hospitals, air to breathe and more! Our healthy life above ground depends upon healthy soil below our feet! It is vital that we practice good soil conservation.

Resources for essays can be found [HERE](#).

The contest is open to Trumbull County public, private and parochial school students, as well as youth groups and home schooled students. There are the two divisions:

Junior Division.....Grades 6-8
Senior Division.....Grades 9-12

Awards for each Grade Category

Gift certificates will be awarded in the two divisions at the discretion of the District:

First Place—\$75.00
Second Place—\$50.00
Third Place—\$25.00

Why Participate?

Writing an essay and researching the theme can give you a voice in your community on important conservation issues! By evaluating, analyzing, and thinking critically on a theme you stimulate your intellectual development which may lead to better grades, environmental efforts in your community, or career opportunities. They inspire, increase awareness, and encourage us to work together to protect our natural resources for present and future generations.

Rules

1. Must address the theme —“Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper.”
2. Must be original work of the entrant.
3. Essay must be typed on letter size paper.
4. Format: 1" margins, double spaces, and Times New Roman or Arial font size #12.
5. Length of 600 to 700 words.
6. NEW* - a bibliography page must be attached and in-body citation must conform to APA format.
7. No identification of any kind is to be on the essay page itself.
8. Attach entry form, found under the education tab on the [home page](#), to front of the essay. Please include ALL information.
9. Release form must be signed by appropriate adult.
10. Only one entry per student may be submitted.

Evaluation Criteria

Essays will be judged at the April Board of Supervisors Meeting with the following criteria:

1. Composition—30 percent
 - a. Mechanics - Spelling, grammar, sentence structure (10)
 - b. Organization - reveals facts and details discovered during research that support thesis. (10)
 - c. Bibliography - reliable sources and correct format (10)
2. Subject Matter—70 percent
 - a. Accuracy of information - observations and conclusions are clearly stated, supported by evidence, and critical to thesis. (50)
 - b. Style - readability, creativity, voice, and cohesion. (10)
 - c. Relevance to contest theme - thesis statement reflects theme. (10)

Essays must be submitted for competition to Trumbull County SWCD by

Friday, April 5, 2019 by 4:30pm

Submissions may be made to Trumbull SWCD, 520 W Main St Ste 3, Cortland OH 44410 or Fax: (330) 637-0071, attention of Barbara Enoch.

2018 Essay Winners

- Jr. Division
 - No entries
- Sr. Division
 - 1st – Kaylie Klotzbach, 12th grade, LaBrae HS
 - 2nd – Amanda Vyse, 12th grade, LaBrae HS
 - 3rd – Elizabeth Potts, 9th grade, Howland HS



2017 Essay Winners

- Jr. Division
 - 1st place—**Elizabeth Potts**, Howland Jr. H. S.
- Sr. Division
 - 1st place—**Kaitlyn Padovan**, Howland H. S.
 - 2nd place—**Nicole Pratt**, LaBrae H. S.
 - 3rd place—**Andrew Barnhart**, LaBrae H. S.

