



# Essay Contest

2009-2010

## It's Contest Time!!!

The Durham Soil & Water Conservation District is sponsoring a Conservation Essay contest this year!

The theme is "**The Living Soil**". This encompasses a wide range of idea topics that the students can incorporate in their competition entries, such as ecology, conservation, natural resources, and many more...

Who's eligible? Any Durham County student (public, private, or homeschool) in **6th grade!**

The contest runs from now until **Feb 12, 2010.**

### ***Important Notice Teachers!!!***

***If one of your students win First Place in our Essay Contest, you will be awarded \$30 in CASH to use at your favorite school-supply Outlet!***

## Prizes

Not only does this contest provides a great way for the students to explore an issue on their own, but there are prizes for the students!

There will be a 1st and 2nd place award given for Durham Co:

1st place - \$50 cash

2nd place - \$25 cash

**If your students are interested in competing in this, please call us at 919-560-0558, or email Jennifer at [jbrooks@co.durham.nc.us](mailto:jbrooks@co.durham.nc.us) to sign up!**

## Official Rules

Essays must:

- Bear the current title of the essay contest.
- Be limited to **300 – 500 words**.
- Be presented on standard 8 ½” X 11” paper.
- **NO NAMES ON THE FRONT, NO EXCEPTIONS!** Essays must be identified on the back using the attached registration form (**can be found on page 3**)

For clarification, the difference between an essay and a report, as applied to this contest, is as follows:

- Essay - A short composition dealing with a single subject from a personal point of view; facts may be interwoven into the essay, which stimulates thinking
- Report - A formal presentation of facts in a report style.

## Judging Criteria

The NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts have adopted a standard score sheet to be used for all contest levels. Essays will be judged on content and writing skills as described on the score sheet.

**•Essays must be the work of the individual student!**

**•Essays may be either handwritten or typed on the computer.**

### Infractions:

Points will be deducted for the following infractions:

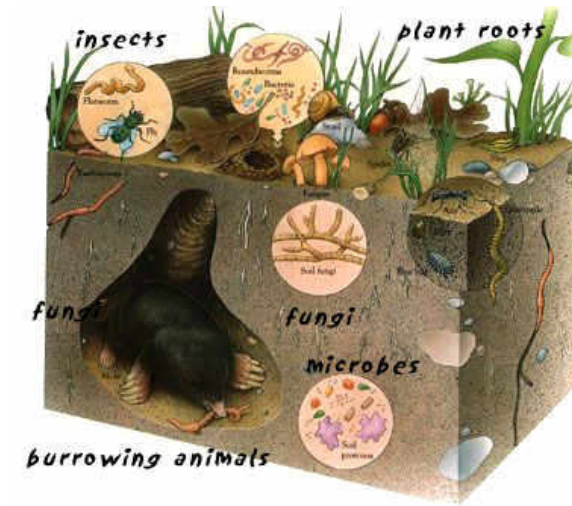
- Incorrect Length -5 points
- Current title not on essay -5 points
- Wrong paper size -2 points

# The Living Soil

Durham Soil and Water  
Conservation District

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Fax: 919-560-0563  
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Official Entry Form. Use one per entry.

Tear off below line and attach to **back** of essay.



Student's

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

County: **DURHAM** District: **Durham Soil & Water**