TOPIC: Hardworking Pollinators-Why are they local heroes?

Speech Competition Date= Monday, November 10, 2014
at 6:00 pm

Contest will be held at the Manatee County Extension Office
1303-17th St. W.
Palmetto, FL  34221

Sponsored by: Manatee River Soil and Water Conservation District (MRSWCD)

This speech contest is designed to develop leadership through public speaking activities and stimulate interest in conserving our natural resources.

Eligibility:
Open to any student regularly enrolled in any high school, middle school, home school, or virtual school in grades 6 through 12 in Manatee County. All eligible students are encouraged to participate*. The local winner is eligible to compete at the area and state level, with prizes at each level.

*This event serves as a qualifying event for FFA and 4-H organizations to receive a MRSWCD Conservation Award.

Awards:
1st place.........$150
2nd Place........$100
3rd Place.........$75
Each teacher that has a participating student in the contest will be entered into a drawing (one entry per teacher) for a $50 gift certificate to an educational supply store. One teacher will be selected.

**Special Requirements:**

Deliver a double spaced word processed copy of speech, by 5 pm on Monday, November 3, 2014 in one of the following ways:

Email: gail.somodi@fl.nacdnet.net

Mail or hand deliver* to: MRSWCD
USDA/NRCS
6942 Professional Parkway East
Sarasota, FL  34240

*to arrange hand delivery call Gail Somodi at 907-0011 Ext. 101

The name of the contestant will not appear on the copies of their speech. They will be identified by a cover page containing their name, speech title, parent/guardian name, home address, school name and address, and Association of Florida Conservation Districts Area III.

**Time Limit:**

Each speech will be between 6-8 minutes in length. Time under or over these limits, respectively, will cost the contestant two points for each 15 seconds or parts thereof.

**Judging:**

The following items and point system will be used by the judges to score each contestant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content</td>
<td>Choice of subject (relevance to topic)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Treatment (material used and accuracy of statements)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Originality (subject matter and treatment)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Content Points</strong></td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Composition</td>
<td>Organization, cohesiveness, grammar, style</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Composition Points</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery</td>
<td>Voice (enunciation, modulation)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Personal Appearance (neatness, posture)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Communicative expertise (ability to convey meaning)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stage presence (gestures, visual contact)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Delivery Points</strong></td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Possible Points</strong></td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contestants may use notes while speaking. Visual and audio aids may not be used.

1. Prior to the contest, the judges will be provided word-processed copies of contestants’ speeches, which contestants will supply, as previously stated. Judges will read and score the manuscripts on the score sheets that will be provided to them prior to the contest.

2. At the time of the contest, judges will seat themselves apart from one another in different sections of the room, in which the contest is held. They will score each contestant upon delivery of his-her speech using the score sheet, which will be provided.

3. Contestants will be assigned numbers for the order in which their speeches will be given based on when the speech contest committee receives their manuscript. The program chairperson shall introduce each contestant by number.

4. The contestant will not wear attire that will identify him/her with any organization.

5. When all contestants have finished speaking the judges will return to a joint session with the chairman of the contest. Scorecards will be completed and the winners will be determined. The chairman of the contest or the chairman of the MRSWCD will announce the winners.

Special Consideration:
To give equal consideration to each speaking contestant, as well as the viewing listeners in attendance, it will be necessary to limit movement of the audience. Applause will be held until after the ending of the final contestant’s speech. Photographs will be taken only during the time allotted after the presentation of winners’ prizes.

Selection of Judges:
1. Three judges will be selected for each contest. One of the three, where possible, will be a local English or speech teacher and at least one will have an agricultural background. Each judge is to score each contestant.

2. A timekeeper will be designated. He/she will record the time used by each contestant in making their speech and note under-time or over-time, if any, for which deductions should be made.

Reminder:
Deadline to enter:
Copy of speech must be received by Monday, November 3, 2014 at 5 pm.
MRSWCD
USDA/NRCS
6942 Professional Parkway East
Sarasota, FL  34240

gail.somodi@fl.nacdnet.net

Questions:
Contact Gail Somodi 941-907-0011 Ext. 101
Soil Conservation Supervisor
Speech Contest Coordinator