2017 POSTER POETRY & PROSE CONTEST

How Can You Reduce Your Waste to Save our Space?

Participants:	Illinois Fifth and Sixth Graders
Poster Materials:	Heavy art paper or poster board no smaller than 8 1/2" x 11" and **no larger than 12" x 18"**
Poetry/Prose Materials:	Plain or wide-ruled paper, 8 1/2" x 11" handwritten or typed
Deadline:	Postmarked by **February 1, 2017**
Sponsored By:	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Your poster, poem or prose could be selected for a statewide exhibit at the Illinois EPA in Springfield, April 24 - May 22. Use your imagination! You could win a ribbon, a certificate, and an environmental reference book for your school library. Specific guidelines are available from your teacher.

www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/eduction/contest/index

Exhibit Rules for the 2017 Poster, Poetry and Prose Contest:

How Can You Reduce Your Waste to Save Our Space?

Theme Focus: Instead of contributing to the waste in our landfills, learn about the importance of reducing, reusing, recycling and composting

Participants: Illinois fifth and sixth grade students

Poster guidelines:

- Heavy art paper or poster board no smaller than 8-1/2" x 11" and **no larger than 12" x 18**"
- Markers, crayons, pens, pencils or paints (two-dimensional media only)
- Must be own work (no copyrighted characters)

Poetry/Prose guidelines*:*

- One page maximum length (8-1/2" x 11" sheet)
- Neatly handwritten or typed

NOTE: Each student must submit a brief (one or two line sentence) explanation of his/her intention in creating the work. A release form must also accompany the entry. Only one entry per person

Student's work will be judged on:

- Originality of concept;
- Originality of execution -- no magazine articles, commercial slogans or copyrighted characters or figures;
- Clear, accurate message;
- Emphasis on the theme focus;
- Neatness/attractiveness, legibility/readability, correct spelling, punctuation and grammar; and
- Effort that was put into the work.

Selection:

- Display all student posters and written works at the school;
- Choose four posters and four written works to represent your school;
- Attach completed identification forms to entries;
- Each entry must include a release form filled out and signed at the time of submission; and
- Entries must be postmarked no later than **February 1, 2017**. Send entries to:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Kristi Morris, Education Coordinator
1021 North Grand Avenue East, MC #17
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

All entries become the property of the Illinois EPA and will not be returned.

Awards:

Each participating student whose work is chosen for judging will receive a certificate.

Each finalist will receive a certificate, a ribbon and an invitation to the awards reception in Springfield.

Twelve students (six in each category) whose works are selected as top award winners may receive an environmental reference book for his/her school's library. Awards may be mailed to teachers for appropriate presentation if students are unable to attend the awards reception in Springfield. *Awards are subject to change.

How Can You Reduce Your Waste to Save Our Space?

January 2017	Educators introduce landfills and their impact to land resources, the limitations, and why it's important to reduce, reuse, recycle and compost.
January 16-20	Students create posters or written works relating to the theme focus.
January 23-31	Teachers display posters and poems/prose at their schools. Students and faculty vote to select four posters and four written entries to submit to the Illinois EPA for further judging.
February 1	Teacher/school sends four posters and/or poems/prose to the Illinois EPA; a total of eight entries per school. **Entries must be postmarked by February 1, 2017.**
February 22	Illinois EPA staff selects top posters and written works for exhibition.
February 23	A panel of outside judges (from local organizations, etc.) selects the top twelve entries.
April 22	Reception and awards ceremony held in Springfield.
April 24- May 22	Top posters, poems and prose on exhibit at the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Springfield.

All entries become the property of the Illinois EPA. If you have any questions, please call Kristi Morris, Education and Outreach Coordinator, at 217/558-7198 or e-mail at: kristi.morris@illinois.gov. For more information or to download the participation packet, please visit the website at: http://www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/education/contest/index

Informational resources can be found on the following websites:

- Landfills: http://www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/waste-management/landfills/index; www.epa.gov/landfills
- Medications: IEPA: http://www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/waste-management/waste-disposal/medication-disposal/index; P2D2 Program: https://p2d2program.wordpress.com/
- Electronics: IEPA: http://www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/waste-management/electronics-recycling/ ; U.S. EPA: https://www.epa.gov/recycle/electronics-donation-and-recycling
- Composting: University of Illinois Extension: http://web.extension.illinois.edu/compostingcentral/; IL Food Scrap Coalition: http://illinoiscomposts.org/; NRDC: https://www.nrdc.org/issues/food-waste
- Recycling: Keep America Beautiful: https://www.kab.org/recycle-bowl/resources/educational-resources; ReCommunity: http://www.recommunity.com/education/; Earth 911: http://earth911.com/; Illinois Recycling Association: http://www.illinoisrecycles.org/documents/
- IL Dept. of Commerce and Opportunity, Elem. and Middle School teacher guides on Municipal Solid Waste and the 4Rs: www.illinois.gov/dceo/whyillinois/TargetIndustries/Energy/Recycling/Pages/WasteReduction.aspx
- Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County: http://www.swancc.org/education
- U.S. EPA, Waste: https://www.epa.gov/learn-issues/learn-about-waste;
    - Education: www.epa.gov/students/lesson-plans-teacher-guides-and-online-resources-educators

Student Poster and Poetry/Prose Evaluation Form

Based on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 being poor to 5 being very good), give each work a rating in each category. Select the four posters and the four written works (essay and/or poem) with the highest score to represent your school. Send these eight entries to the Illinois EPA for further judging.

- Note: All work should reflect the theme:
  How Can You Reduce Your Waste to Save Our Space?

Entry ID#	Originality	Clear/Accurate Message	Emphasis on Theme	Neatness/ Attractiveness **(ART Works)**	Readability/ Grammar **(Written wks)**	Effort	Total (out of 25)

Poster Entry Identification

PLEASE PRINT OR WRITE CLEARLY. RETURN WITH SCHOOL POSTER ENTRY. 2017

Student: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Parent's E-mail: _____

School: _____ County: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Teacher: _____ E-mail: _____

Name of preferred area newspaper(s) (please include city unless it is part of newspaper's name):

_____

Student's statement about work (in his/her own words): _____

_____

_____

_____

Poem/Prose Entry Identification

PLEASE PRINT OR WRITE CLEARLY. RETURN WITH SCHOOL POEM/PROSE ENTRY. 2017

Student: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Parent's E-mail: _____

School: _____ County: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Teacher: _____ E-mail: _____

Name of preferred area newspaper(s) (please include city unless it is part of newspaper's name):

_____

Student's statement about work (in his/her own words): _____

_____

_____

_____

Appearance and Material Release Form
2016/2017

In consideration that my child (student), _____, has entered a poster, prose and/or poem in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's "How Can You Reduce Your Waste to Save Our Space?" exhibit and said works are the property of the Illinois EPA, I hereby give my consent to the Illinois EPA to publish my **child's name, school, hometown, photo, and creative works** in the Illinois EPA's Internet site and publications for educational, informational, marketing or other purposes deemed necessary.

I hereby waive any right that I may otherwise have to inspect or approve the finished product, or the manner of its use chosen by the Illinois EPA. I also release, discharge and agree to hold harmless the Illinois EPA to whom this consent and waiver is given from any liability by virtue of any blurring, distortion, alteration, or use in composite form, whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking of said pictures or in any processing, or in the publication and distribution. I understand that I shall receive no compensation whatsoever in connection with the foregoing, beyond my child's opportunity to participate. I hereby waive all rights of privacy in connection with the use of my child's name, school, hometown, photo, or creative works. I also waive any and all rights, whether explicit or implied, in the material and consent without reservation to the Illinois EPA using, distributing or otherwise making available the material to other parties as it sees fit.

Parent or legal guardian must complete and sign below:

Parent Name (please print) and contact number or email

_____

Address (please print)

_____

_____

Signature_____ **Date**_____