

YORK SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2019/20 SCHOOL PROGRAMS

For more information, contact Laura Nettles at
Laura.nettles@sc.nacdnet.net or 803-670-3018



Classroom Presentations

Each guest speaker presentation listed below will be tailored to specific science standards and grade level specified by the requesting teacher—to request, **please use the form** accompanying this newsletter. Programs cost \$40 per classroom to offset cost of supplies and travel.

TOPIC	GRADE	STANDARDS	ACTIVITY
From Seed to Plant	K, 1	Basic needs of plants, seeds, germination.	Plant seeds or beans in cups, read related book
Plant parts	1	Identify plant parts & functions	Sort vegetables by part we eat
Rocks & Soil	3	Rock cycle, earth composition, soil texture, erosion,	Identify rocks, demonstrate watershed model (see below)
Wings & Beaks, All About Birds	2,4	Bird adaptations, diversity, what makes a bird a bird	Make a bird feeder.
Water Cycle	4, 6	Water cycle, water quality	Assemble water cycle wheel
Habitats/ Ecosystems	3, 5, 7	Habitats, basic needs of animals, limiting factors	“Oh Deer” habitat simulation game
Food Chains & Webs	3, 5	Producers, consumers, decomposers, predators, prey	Food chain simulation game or dissect owl pellets
Watersheds	5	Soil characteristics, watersheds, water quality & quantity, pollution, runoff	Demonstrate watershed model, or conduct “Dragonfly Pond” group activity
Underneath Your Feet	Any	Biology of the soil: Fungi, bacteria, nematodes, protozoa, earthworms	Examine a compost bin with real earthworms



ENVIROSCAPE Watershed Model, pictured at left, is a model used to demonstrate watersheds, soil and water conservation, erosion, pollution and habitats. The Enviroscape can be demonstrated alone or in conjunction with one of the above lessons

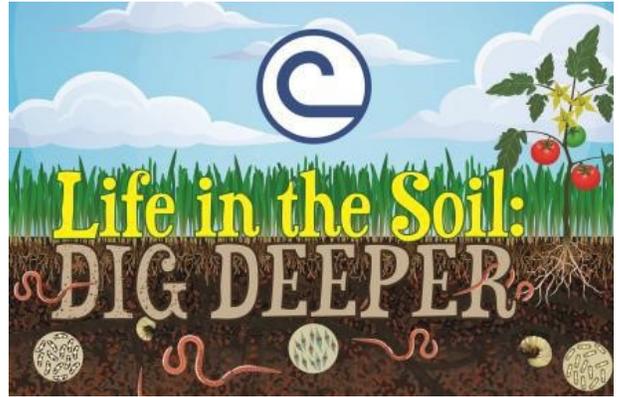
Student Contests & Special Events

Conservation Poster Contest

The 2018 National Poster Contest theme is “**Life in the Soil: Dig Deeper.**”

K-8 students in York County are eligible to submit posters to the York Soil and Water Conservation District for local judging by **October 11, 2019.**

First place posters in each of four age categories receive a \$25 gift card. Each teacher whose student is a first place winner also receives a gift card! Winning local posters will be submitted to state and national judging for more prizes! YSWCD educators are available to come to participating teachers’ classrooms to make a free presentation on soils and give tips on how to produce a winning poster. Rules



and resources are available from the Conservation District or on its web site (www.yorkconservationdistrict.org).

Conservation Photography Contest

This contest is open to any student grades K-12 attending school in York County.

Categories are Water & Land and Habitats & Wildlife. First place in each category and each age division receives a \$25 gift card. Deadline for submission is April 3, 2020. Complete rules and entry forms are available on the Conservation District website (www.yorkconservationdistrict.org).

Science Fairs

Does your school have a science fair? Educators from the York Soil and Water Conservation District would love to help! The YSWCD is willing to judge an Environmental/Natural Resource category of projects and offer prizes to the winning participants! We would even come to your classroom to present ideas on science fair projects which have an Environmental/Natural Resource theme.

Arbor Day Celebrations

Arbor Day is the first Friday in December—a wonderful time to plant a tree! The Conservation District annually chooses up to three schools to receive a tree to plant on school grounds for Arbor Day and provides assistance in planning a student-led ceremony to go with it. To apply, a school should submit a short essay (written by a teacher or student) stating what Arbor Day means to their school, why they should be selected and how the students will