

We All Live in a Watershed

2025-26 Durham Soil and Water Slide Show Contest

Eligibility

Grade divisions for this contest are 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th-12th grade.

This contest is open to all public schools, private schools, homeschool students, and student clubs in Durham County.

Due Date

All contest entries are due to the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District office by **January 30, 2026, at 5 PM.**

Email your entries to Imarochak@dconc.gov.

Slide Show Contest Details

Show off your creativity by participating in the 2025-26 Durham Soil and Water Conservation District's Conservation Creativity Contests!

This year's theme is: We All Live in a Watershed

While not everyone lives next to a lake, pond, or stream, we all live in a watershed. A watershed is an area of land that drains all the snow and rainfall to a common outlet, such as a lake.

Create a slide show that explores watersheds. Use your creativity to explore the one you live in, tell others about watersheds, and more!

Students are encouraged to be original in their slide show. The judges are looking for the entries that best convey the message to a viewer while being original and creative.

Tips

Make your slide show design readable and attractive with these tips:

- Avoid making your slides too busy with too many pictures or words.
- Make sure that the text is legible. Larger text that contrasts with the background works best. We suggest using:
 - Easiest to read: 36-44
 - Easy to read: 28-34
 - Fairly easy to read: 24-26
- Don't use copyrighted images.
- Stick with one theme.

Prizes

1st place: \$50, a certificate, and a yard sign.

2nd place: \$25, a certificate, and a yard sign.

Teachers: If your student wins 1st place, you will receive \$30!

Contact

Lisa Marochak
Imarochak@dconc.gov
919-560-0558.



Soil & Water

Official Rules - Slide Show: 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th - 12th Grades

- Max amount of slides allowed = 15 slides of content. Fewer slides are allowed.
- No identifying information (names, school info, etc.) should be located in the body of the slide show to ensure impartiality in judging.
- The slide immediately following the slide show (slide number 16 if 15 slides are used) should be blank. The slide immediately following the blank slide show (slide number 17 if 15 slides are used) should contain identifying information (detailed below). For example, the correct order for the slide show should be:
 - Slide show (up to 15 slides)
 - Blank slide (#16)
 - Entry Form Slide (#17)
- Slide shows must be created using Microsoft PowerPoint software. Files shall be saved so that they are compatible with PowerPoint 2003 (ppt file). Do not save it as a pptx file.
- The use of audio is allowed
- The use of slide animation is allowed
- The use of video is prohibited. Shows using video will be disqualified.
- Slide shows shall not exceed a maximum of 5 minutes in length.
- Slide shows must not contain copywritten art.
- Slide shows must be submitted electronically to Lmarochak@dconc.gov by the January 30, 2026 deadline.
- All slide shows will be judged electronically.

Entry Form (post on the last slide of your entry)

2025-2026 SLIDE SHOW CONTEST ENTRY FORM *(required)*

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student's Mailing Address: _____

Parent's Name and Email: _____

Educator's Name: _____

Educator's Phone #: _____

Educator's Email: _____

School Student Attends: _____

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