

**AUSTIN COUNTY
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT #347**

Presents

**The
2020 - 2021
Essay Contest**

District Directors

Charles Goeke, Chairman - Zone II

Diana Hold, Vice-Chairman - Zone I

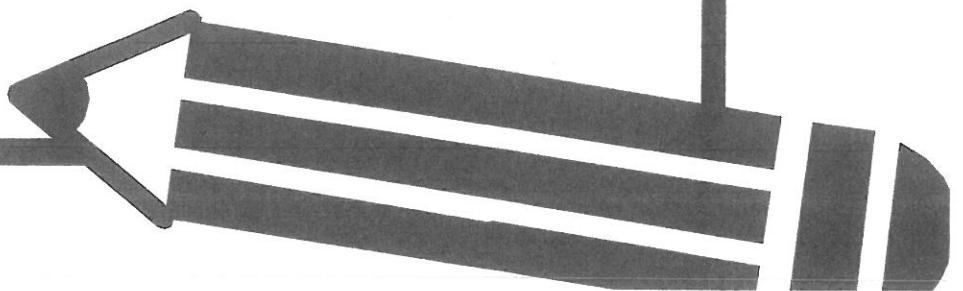
Ira Lapham, Secretary/Treasurer - Zone IV

Kenneth Blezinger, Board Member - Zone V

Henry Dirba, Jr., Board Member - Zone III

District Clerk/Bookkeeper - Connie Johnson

520 South Front Street * Bellville, Texas * (979) 865 - 3139



GENERAL CONTEST GUIDELINES

- ❖ Entries are due into the Conservation District Office by Thursday, December 10, 2020 by 4:30PM. The District office is located in the USDA Service Center located at 520 South Front Street, Bellville, Texas. If you have any questions, please contact the office at (979) 865-3139 Ext. 3. *Note: The District Technician will collect all entries from each participating school on Thursday, December 10, 2020. Please have all entries completed, collected, and turned into the school office by day's end on Wednesday, December 9, 2020. Thank you.*
- ❖ Participants must be enrolled in public or private school or be home schooled in Austin County.
- ❖ The top three winners in each category will receive a cash award at the 2021 Banquet of Champions. Banquet location and date will be announced at a later date.
- ❖ Each entry may be completed at home or in the classroom as per each teacher's preference.
- ❖ Please refer to the guidelines for each contest division for specific rules and recommendations.

ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES

- ❖ Essay contest is open to participants 18 years of age and under and does not jeopardize Texas University Interscholastic League eligibility.
- ❖ Essay Title: "Healthy Forests=Healthy Communities"
- ❖ Trees are more than just part of our natural landscape. They provide shelter and food for wildlife. They absorb carbon-dioxide and produce breathable air. And one of the best things about trees is that they add to the beauty of the world.
- ❖ The title **MUST** appear at the top of the essay. A sub-title may be used.
- ❖ **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE TYPED**
- ❖ The essay may be up to 300 words in length for ages 13 and under and up to 500 words in length for ages 14 to 18.
- ❖ Only single-sided entries will be accepted.
- ❖ Judging of essays will be on originality, neatness, spelling, and content of work. Correct spelling and grammar are important criteria in judging of essays.
- ❖ A copy of the following cover sheet is to be stapled to essays. Do not use paper clips or vinyl covers.
 1. Make sure each sentence you write helps the reader understand your essay.
 2. Make your writing interesting to the reader.
 3. Make sure your ideas are clear and easy for the reader to follow.
 4. Write about your ideas in detail so that the reader really understands what you are saying.
 5. Check your work for correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences.

Austin County Soil and Water Conservation District #347

520 South Front Street

Bellville, Texas 77418

Phone: (979) 865-3139 Ext. 3

Email: austincounty@swcd.texas.gov

ESSAY COVER SHEET

TO BE STAPLED TO EACH ESSAY

Student's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Grade Level: _____

Age: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

School: _____