

# Conservation Education District of the Year

## 2023 Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts Awards

### Purpose and Eligibility

The purpose of the District of the Year contest is to recognize the outstanding conservation education efforts of our Maryland's conservation districts.

### Requirements

To enter the contest, you must:

- Fill out the entry form and have it signed by the district board chairperson.
- Submit a typewritten narrative which addresses the ten items under "Content of Narrative."
- Include a copy of your annual report.
- Be concise and write as you would speak.
- Email as one pdf document to [mascdbookkeeper@gmail.com](mailto:mascdbookkeeper@gmail.com) & [missy.cannonhelgason@resourcesmartllc.com](mailto:missy.cannonhelgason@resourcesmartllc.com)

### Content of Narrative

Narratives must be typewritten and double-spaced on one side only of 8½" x 11" paper. Type must not be smaller than 12 point (elite). Narratives must address the ten items listed on this page. The response for each item must not exceed two pages and should be treated as a separate section. On every page, identify by number, in the upper right-hand corner, the item to which the response applies. Supporting materials should be located after each response.

1. What do you consider the district's most important educational activity during the year? What were the benefits and effects?
2. Describe your conservation education assistance to schools, colleges and universities. Describe materials, technical help and other assistance provided; list projects completed or underway; list scholarships provided to students.
3. List any workshops, training sessions, conservation tours, scholarships or other activities provided for teachers, and note district involvement in each.
4. State the district's involvement with youth groups and organizations. Name them and outline the most significant educational programs or projects. Explain your adult soil and water conservation education program. Identify materials, instructors, technical help, tours or other services the district provided.
5. Explain your adult soil and water conservation education program. Identify materials, instructors, technical help, tours or other services the district provided.
6. Name any local conservation organizations receiving district educational assistance. Describe the type of help, programs or projects provided by the district.

7. Describe district involvement with local, state or federal agencies in conservation education programs.

8. Describe the district's public information program. Include outstanding programs done with newspapers, radio and television and the effect on district programs and on the community.

9. Provide information about your communications materials and include a copy of your annual report. Describe the method of distribution, reach, frequency and how it is used for educational purposes.

10. Describe other educational activities or programs which may not have been covered by the above items. Identify the district's involvement in the planning or implementation, the number of people affected and other details which indicate its value and scope.

### Judging Criteria

Judging is based on data provided in response to items under "Content of Narrative" and on supporting materials. Decisions of the judges are final.

Important considerations in selecting program winners include:

- Comprehensiveness, scope and quality of conservation education program.
- Attention to a broad spectrum of conservation needs and issues.
- Assistance generated by the district from organizations, agencies and individuals for accomplishing educational objectives.
- Extent of district input into the educational programs of other organizations, including providing motivation, advice, technical assistance and organizational leadership.
- Types and effectiveness of activities informing teachers, youth and other community members about conservation issues.
- Extent of youth and educator involvement with the district's educational program.
- Involvement in and quality of adult education programs.

### Deadline

District nominations must be submitted by **April 18th, 2024**.

### Recognition

Conservation districts will be recognized for their conservation education programs on state and local levels by the state association. There is currently no national program.

### Need More Information?

Jen Nelson, [jen.nelson@resourcesmartllc.com](mailto:jen.nelson@resourcesmartllc.com), 302-353-9733  
202 Governors Ave., Greenwood, DE 19950

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# ENTRY FORM

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND USE THIS PAGE AS THE COVER SHEET FOR YOUR ENTRY.**

To enter information into the gray boxes, left click on your mouse and either change to unchecked for check boxes or type in the default text box where information is required.

District \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Number of schools in your district          Number of students in your district

Our district is primarily: Rural  Suburban  Urban

May MASCD use all or part of your program in its educational and informational activities? Yes  No

District Chair signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date signed \_\_\_\_\_

*District Education Committee Members*

List the names and occupations of the district education committee members and indicate whether or not they are district officials.

	Member Name	Occupation	District Official
1			
.			
2			
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3			
.			
4			
.			
5			
.			
6			
.			
7			
.			

**Deadline – April 18th, 2024**  
**Entries to be sent to MASCD [mascdbookkeeper@gmail.com](mailto:mascdbookkeeper@gmail.com) & [missy.cannonhelgason@resourcesmartllc.com](mailto:missy.cannonhelgason@resourcesmartllc.com)**

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