

“WETLANDS ARE WONDERFUL”

2025 Orange Soil and Water Conservation Annual PUBLIC SPEAKING Contest



OPEN TO 7th & 8TH GRADES!

***This contest is open to all Orange County public, private, and
homeschool students.***

CASH PRIZES!!

**A 1st, 2nd and 3rd place award will be
given to each grade category:**

- 1st Place: \$60 (Winner's poster will
advance to the Regional Competition)**
- 2nd Place: \$50**
- 3rd Place: \$40**

TEACHER Appreciation!

***TEACHERS: If your student wins
FIRST Place, you will receive \$25!***



***For fun facts about NC Wetlands wildlife, plants, soils, and
an interactive map, visit:***

www.ncwetlands.org

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2025

Orange Soil & Water Conservation /Orange County Northern Campus

Bonnie B. Davis Agriculture & Environment Center

1020 US 70 West, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Phone: 919.245.2750

Email: Lisa.Pope@orangecountync.gov

Website: [Environmental Education | Orange County, NC](http://Environmental.Education|Orange.County.NC)



2025 Theme is "WETLANDS ARE WONDERFUL!" "

ALL entries should reflect the theme's content and be a representation of what the student feels best exemplifies this topic. Students are encouraged to be original in their design. The judges will be looking for the entries that best teaches the message to an audience, while at the same time be original and creative.

THEME MESSAGE

Students should show what they have learned about the importance of wetlands. Examples:

- What is a wetland?
- Why are wetlands important to life?
- What benefits do they provide to healthy watersheds, plants, wildlife habitats and, humans?
- Why is it important to take care of them?



OFFICIAL RULES!

Speeches must be:

- ◇ Your speech must be a reflection of the theme, "Wetlands are Wonderful"!
- ◇ 4 to 6 minutes long. Over or under the time limit, points will be subtracted
- ◇ No visual aids are allowed.
- ◇ Note cards can be used. Students are encouraged to memorize the topic as best they can and rely on note cards when needed.
- ◇ Complete scoring criteria and rubrics are available upon request before the event.
- ◇ To ensure impartiality in judging, personal information such as name and school should not be stated during the speech. Points will be deducted during scoring for a violation of this rule.

STUDENTS,

Would you like to get paid to talk?

If so, you will need to prepare a brief 4-6 minute speech on the importance of NC Wetlands!

If you win first place for Orange County, you will have the opportunity to compete again at the regional and/or state competition and win even more money!

At some point in your life or future career, you will likely be asked to speak publicly. Why not start now!

We will travel to your school and meet with interested participants. You will present your speech to a small group of judges. You can do this!! It will be a fun and memorable experience!

For additional info, please contact Lisa Pope at 919.245.2750 or lpope@orangecountync.gov

REQUIRED ENTRY FORM

Student's Name: _____

Parent's Name & Email: _____

Educator's Name: _____

Educator's Email: _____

Educator's Phone #: _____

School Name Where Student Attends: _____

PLEASE NOTE: The Orange Soil & Water Conservation District Environmental Educator will contact the teacher to schedule a time for the contest. The local contest will be held at the school DURING school hours!