

**Governor John R. Kasich**



American Red Cross  
Emergency Management Association of Ohio  
National Weather Service  
Ohio Citizen Corps  
Ohio Department of Aging  
Ohio Department of Commerce-State Fire Marshal  
Ohio Department of Education  
Ohio Department of Health

Ohio Department of Insurance  
Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Ohio Department of Public Safety-Ohio EMA  
Ohio Department of Transportation  
Ohio Insurance Institute  
Ohio Silver Jackets  
WCMH – NBC4

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November 2017

**OHIO SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST**

By early 2018, Ohio grade schools will receive notice about the annual Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest which is promoted by the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness. We encourage art and science teachers for first through sixth graders, including special education/individualized instruction to have their students participate in this worthwhile and educational activity. The rules are available earlier to allot schools more time for student participation.

**Background**

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness has been teaching Ohioans about severe weather safety and preparedness since 1978. The purpose of the poster contest is to have students demonstrate, through their artwork, how people can protect themselves and others from the dangers and hazards that accompany severe weather in Ohio.

Participating schools send their first-place posters (**per grade**) to their regional National Weather Service Offices (see attached for NWS Office listings). The NWS offices will judge all poster entries and choose their No. 1 pick, per region, per grade-level. In early May, the Severe Weather Awareness Committee will judge the regional-winning posters to determine the state and overall state winners. Schools will be notified of their regional winners by the end of May.

All regional winners will be invited to attend the awards ceremony near the Ohio State Fair & Expo Center, on **Saturday, August 4, 2018**. And all regional winners will receive at least two tickets to enjoy the rest of the day at the Ohio State Fair. Additional information will be provided at a later date.

At the awards ceremony, students will receive a host of prizes, certificates and awards. State-level winners (grades 1-6) will be awarded additional prizes, and the overall state winner will receive even more prizes, along with a personalized trophy. Once classes are back in session in the fall, the overall winner's school will be presented a "traveling trophy" to display for the remainder of the school year. The state grade-level winners and the overall state winner will be announced near the end of the ceremony.

All winning posters from the previous school year can be viewed on the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness website: [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov), under "Just for Kids."

**How to Enter**

Complete contest rules and entry forms are on the following pages. Schools are encouraged to participate in the poster contest anytime between now and early April.

**Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week is March 18-24, 2018.**

Schools should mail their 1<sup>st</sup> place posters (per grades 1-6 and special education classes) to their appropriate NWS office. **Poster entries must be postmarked by April 16, 2018.**

## Instructions and Rules for the Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest

As part of the 2018 Severe Weather Awareness campaign, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness, in cooperation with the National Weather Service, is sponsoring its annual Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest. This contest is open to all Ohio students in first through sixth grade and individualized instruction (special education) classes. Participation is encouraged by all public, private and home schools. This poster contest serves as a valuable tool to help students learn about severe weather safety and preparedness.

Any Ohio student in first-sixth grade is eligible to enter. If a student is home-schooled, or if the school is not participating in the contest, the student can still enter the contest by submitting his or her poster with a copy of these rules to his or her local school's office.

**Poster entries must illustrate the theme of Ohio severe weather safety and include a written safety message.** Posters will be judged on originality, effort and technical correctness. Severe weather awareness posters must cover one of these categories: tornadoes, flooding, thunder & lightning storms, winter storms or extreme heat (heat waves).

Computer/digitally generated artwork and text can be used in students' posters. Students can also draw posters using crayons, markers, pencils, paints, stencils, etc. **Cannot use:** photographs, copyright-protected material, nor clippings from magazines, newspapers or books.

**Digital artwork must be printed and submitted as hard copies.** Posters can be either landscape or portrait. Poster size cannot exceed 11" x 17" paper.

The back of the poster must clearly include the following information (see attached form):

- Student's FIRST and LAST NAMES, AGE and GRADE
- Home Address and County
- Home Phone Number
- School's Name, Address, County, Phone Number / Teacher's Name, E-mail Address
- Regional National Weather Service Office

School students can participate in the poster contest any time between now and early April. An ideal time would be during Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week, March 18-24, 2018. Teachers should select their 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place choice posters **per grade** that participated. Blank certificates of participation are available online at [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov). Go to **Just for Kids**. Click on **2018 Certificate**.

***\*Only first-place posters (per grade) should be mailed to their appropriate National Weather Service Office by April 16<sup>th</sup> (see attached list – last page).***

All entered posters become property of the National Weather Service and the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness. Regional and state-level winning posters will be returned to the students at the end of the poster contest's awards ceremony.

Additional information regarding the 2018 Ohio Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest and severe weather safety and preparedness is available on the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness website: [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov).

**OHIO SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY POSTER CONTEST ENTRY FORM**  
(Print and attach one form on the back of each poster)

**STUDENT NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**AGE** \_\_\_\_\_ **2018 GRADE LEVEL** \_\_\_\_\_ **COUNTY** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME PHONE NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF SCHOOL** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL CITY/STATE/ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL COUNTY** \_\_\_\_\_

**TEACHER'S NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**TEACHER'S E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN GRADE** \_\_\_\_\_

**NWS CONTACT OFFICE (City/State)** \_\_\_\_\_

**REGION (FOR NWS USE ONLY)** \_\_\_\_\_

Use the following information to determine where to mail your winning posters.

**Remember: Posters must be postmarked by Monday, April 16, 2018**

## **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CONTACT OFFICES**

- For:** **Toledo/Marion Counties:** Crawford, Hancock, Lucas, Marion, Morrow, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Wood, Wyandot  
**North-Central Counties:** Ashland, Cuyahoga, Erie, Holmes, Huron, Knox, Lorain, Medina, Richland, Wayne  
**Northeast Counties:** Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull
- Send to:** **CLEVELAND National Weather Service Forecast Office**  
Federal Facilities Building  
5301 West Hangar Road  
**Cleveland, Ohio 44135**  
Attn: WCM
- For:** **West-Central Counties:** Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby  
**Central Counties:** Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Hocking, Licking, Madison, Pickaway, Ross, Union  
**Southwest Counties:** Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, Pike, Scioto, Warren
- Send to:** **WILMINGTON National Weather Service Office**  
1901 South State Route 134  
**Wilmington, Ohio 45177**  
Attn: WCM
- For:** **East-Central Counties:** Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Muskingum, Noble, Tuscarawas
- Send to:** **PITTSBURGH National Weather Service**  
192 Shafer Road  
**Coraopolis, Pennsylvania 15108**  
Attn: WCM
- For:** **Southeast Ohio Counties:** Athens, Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Vinton, Washington
- Send to:** **CHARLESTON, WV National Weather Service**  
400 Parkway Road  
**Charleston, West Virginia 25309**  
Attn: WCM
- For:** **Northwest Ohio Counties:** Allen, Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams
- Send to:** **NORHERN INDIANA National Weather Service**  
7506 E-850 North  
**Syracuse, Indiana 46567**  
Attn: WCM