

POSTER CONTEST RULES & REGULATIONS

DATES OF SIGNIFICANCE

Start/End Dates: Mon. Nov. 13, 2023 – Fri. Jan. 19, 2024 (postmarked/stamped by)

Poster Judging: Feb. 1, 2024

Winner's Notification: No later than Feb. 15, 2024

Awards Ceremony: Fri. Mar. 22, 2024 – 10 a.m. (Last day of Severe Weather Awareness Week)

Location: Ohio Emergency Management Agency 2855 W. Dublin Granville Rd. Columbus, OH 43235

Eligibility: The contest is open to all Ohio students grades K-6 who attend public, private, religious, charter school, or are attending a home school program at the time of contest submission.

Submission Guidelines:

- Posters must be submitted or postmarked by 11:59 pm (EST) on Friday, Jan. 19, 2024, in order to be considered and judged.
- Entries must be sent to the National Weather Service Weather Forecast (NWS) Office in the student's district (see page 4).
- Posters may be submitted by U.S. mail or electronically as a PDF document attachment.
- A completed contest entry form (2-pages) must accompany all entries to be eligible.
- Poster submissions must adhere to the topic of severe weather safety and preparedness and must cover one of these categories: tornadoes, flooding, thunder & lightning storms, winter storms, or extreme heat (heat waves).
- Posters must display a positive message about ways people can protect themselves from one of Ohio's weather hazards and include a written safety message.
- Posters will be judged on originality, effort, spelling, and positive message.
- All submissions must be the student's original artwork.
- Computer/digitally generated artwork and text can be used in students' posters, and students can also draw posters using crayons, markers, pencils, paints, stencils, etc.
- Size of entry: Poster size cannot exceed 11" x 17" paper. Posters can be either landscape or portrait.
- Submissions may not include: photographs, copyright-protected material, nor clippings from magazines, newspapers, or books.
- Upon submission, the poster becomes the property of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA).

Contest Period:

- Poster submissions will be accepted beginning November 13, 2023.
- Poster submissions must be postmarked or emailed by 11:59 pm (EST) on January 19, 2024.
- Contest winners will be selected on February 1, 2024.
- Winners will be contacted via email and/or U.S. mail to school and home with details on attending the awards ceremony within two weeks of the judging.
- The Winners Award Ceremony will be held at the Ohio Emergency Management Agency facility located at 2855 W. Dublin-Granville Rd., Columbus OH 43235 on Friday, March 22, 2024, the last day of Ohio's Severe Weather Awareness Week.

Judging and Timing:

- Winners will be selected on February 1, 2024, through a poster judging conducted by the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (OCSWA) from all eligible poster submissions received.
- A statewide winner will be selected from each grade K-6 (seven total).
- The 2024 OCSWA Poster Contest winner will be selected from the K-6 statewide winners.
- Winners will be contacted via email and/or U.S. mail to school and home with details on attending the awards ceremony.
- Winners will be notified within two weeks of the judging.

Awards:

The (6) statewide winners will be recognized at the Awards ceremony in March. They will receive a congratulatory letter from Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, certificates from the NWS and OCSWA, and assorted prizes. Their artwork will be professionally framed.

The 2024 OCSWA Poster Contest winner will receive the above-mentioned prizes, plus two tickets to COSI and their name engraved on the Traveling Trophy alongside the past winners. The trophy will be presented to their school after the ceremony to showcase until the end of the current school year.

Prizes are subject to change based on availability and at OCSWA's discretion.

National Weather Service Forecast Office Contacts For Submissions of Poster Contest Entries

Check below for the NWS Office for your county. Please include "OCSWA Poster Contest Entry" on the envelope or in the email subject line.

National Weather Service – Cleveland Office

925 Keynote Circle, Suite 314, Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131

Contact: Freddie Zeigler

Email: nwsCle@noaa.gov

Ashland, Ashtabula, Crawford, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Hancock, Holmes, Huron, Knox, Lake, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Marion, Medina, Morrow, Ottawa, Portage, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Wayne, Wood, Wyandot

National Weather Service – Wilmington Office

1901 South State Route 134, Wilmington, Ohio 45177

Contact: Brandon Peloquin

Email: iln.webmaster@noaa.gov

Adams, Auglaize, Brown, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Darke, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Hamilton, Hardin, Highland, Hocking, Licking, Logan, Madison, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Pickaway, Pike, Preble, Ross, Scioto, Shelby, Union, Warren

National Weather Service – Pittsburgh Office

192 Shafer Road, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania 15108

Contact: Fred McMullen

Email: pit-comments@noaa.gov

Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Muskingum, Noble, Tuscarawas.

National Weather Service Forecast Office Contacts

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

National Weather Service – Charleston Office

1754 Hendrickson Drive, South Charleston, WV 25303

Contact: Tony Edwards

Email: rlx.webmaster@noaa.gov

Athens, Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Vinton, Washington

National Weather Service – Northern Indiana Office

7506 E-850 North, Syracuse, Indiana 46567

Contact: Dustin Norman

Email: w-iwx.webmaster@noaa.gov

Allen, Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams

Complete submission form on page 5



Ohio Severe Weather Safety Poster Contest Entry Form

U.S. Mail Submissions: Print and attach both pages of the submission form on the back of each poster to be eligible.

Email Submissions: Include both pages of this form with each emailed poster entry to be eligible.

STUDENT'S NAME _____

AGE: _____ GRADE: _____ COUNTY: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: OH ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE / PARENT or GUARDIAN: _____

E-MAIL / PARENT or GUARDIAN _____

PARENT or GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____

NAME OF SCHOOL: _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

SCHOOL CITY: _____ STATE: OH ZIP: _____

Submission form page 1

OHIO SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY POSTER CONTEST ENTRY FORM, continued.

SCHOOL'S COUNTY: _____

TEACHER'S NAME: _____

TEACHER'S E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL'S PHONE NUMBER: _____

NWS CONTACT OFFICE (check one):

Cleveland Office OH: Ashland, Ashtabula, Crawford, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Hancock, Holmes, Huron, Knox, Lake, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Marion, Medina, Morrow, Ottawa, Portage, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Stark, Summit, Trumbull Wayne, Wood, Wyandot

Wilmington OH Office: Adams, Auglaize, Brown, Butler, Champaign, Clark, , Clermont, Clinton Darke, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Hamilton, Hardin, Highland Hocking, Licking, Logan, Madison, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Pickaway, Pike, Preble, Ross, Scioto, Shelby, Union, Warren

Pittsburgh PA Office: Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Muskingum, Noble, Tuscarawas.

Charleston WV Office: Athens, Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Vinton, Washington

Northern Indiana Office: Allen, Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams

Privacy Statement: Upon submission, the poster becomes the property of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA). By entering the contest, entrants grant the EMA/ Committee the right to use their name, poster, pictures, and likenesses without compensation and without any requirement of notification or permission, for the express purpose of publicity and education. Official rules supersede all other published editions.

Send questions to Sandy Mackey, Ohio Emergency Management Agency

ohioema@dps.ohio.gov

Submission form page 2

REGION (FOR NWS USE ONLY) _____