

Announcing the 2015 Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest!

Children from first through fifth grade are invited to participate in the 2015 National Garden Clubs, Inc., Poster Contest!

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and the National Garden Clubs, Inc., are giving students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of wildfire prevention and basic environmental conservation principles through original drawings of Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl.

SMOKEY SAYS: ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES!

Smokey Bear is recognized nationally and internationally as the symbol for wildfire prevention. The original Smokey Bear appeared in 1944. Smokey's message, "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!" encourages personal responsibility for wildfire prevention. Smokey Bear teaches children and adults to be careful with campfires, barbecues, trash fires, and matches.

WOODSY SAYS: LEND A HAND, CARE FOR THE LAND!

Woodsy Owl is America's icon for the conservation of the environment. Since 1971, Woodsy has helped parents and teachers inspire children to observe, explore, and care for the environment.

He challenges children to "Lend a Hand, Care for the Land!" and to take an active role in caring for the land through recycling, reusing, and reducing waste; planting and caring for trees; using resources wisely; and not littering.

PRIZES:

- The National Grand Prize Winner of the Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest will be honored with a Recognition Ceremony in Washington, DC. Round-trip airfare and accommodations for four will be provided.
- The National Garden Clubs, Inc., will award \$50 to each of the First Place national winners in all five grades.

Poster Tips

1. A good poster has a bold and simple design.
2. Its message is easily understood, and is delivered both in picture and in text.
3. Educators can provide paper to children in order to initiate the program.
4. Posters will be judged for originality, design, slogan, artwork, and overall effectiveness of the message.



Smokey Bear says: "Only YOU Can Prevent Wildfires!"

Woodsy Owl says: "Lend a Hand, Care for the Land!"



Poster Rules

1. All poster entrees must be sponsored by a local Garden Club (**Atkinson Garden Club**).
2. Posters must feature Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl and **must not feature both together**.
3. **Smokey Bear posters must include Smokey's wildfire prevention message: *Only you Can Prevent Wildfires!* Woodsy Owl posters must include Woodsy's conservation message: *Lend a Hand, Care for the Land!***
4. Posters should encourage children to take a personal role in preventing wildfires or conserving natural resources.
5. Each entry should be **11 x 17 inches** in size.
6. Materials that can be used include: crayons, markers, poster paints, water colors, etc. The choice of paper is up to the child.
7. No three-dimensional posters, computer scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted.
8. The following information should be written on the back of the poster in the lower-right corner: The artist's name and grade; the name of the sponsoring local garden club (Atkinson Garden Club); and the name, address, phone number, and email of the contact at the local garden club (such as the Club President or the Youth Chair). If it is permissible, the following information should also be included: teacher's name and the address, phone number, and email address of the artist and/or his or her parent or guardian. **Dark markers should not be used because they may show through. This information may be either written directly on the back of the poster or use the included label and paste in place.**
9. Posters are to be completed by individual student artists. Competition may include students from first to fifth grade.
10. Since Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl are official icons protected by law, the colors of their clothing need to be accurate. Check the colors on the Web site www.fs.usda.gov/conservationeducation
11. Students should be reminded to check spelling. Posters with spelling errors will be disqualified.
12. Past winners are permitted and encouraged to participate again.
13. Posters may include artwork pasted upon a second piece of paper. However, they must be flat. 3D posters are not allowed.
14. A poster may include just the head of Woodsy or Smokey.
15. Posters that compete for the National Grand Prize become property of the Forest Service. They ARE NOT returned to the participants. Participants and State and Regional Poster Contest Chairmen should make copies or scan and save the posters they submit.
16. Due to Susan Miner, P.O. Box 576, Atkinson, NH 03811 **no later than Wednesday, November 26, 2014.**

If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Susan Miner or visit the Atkinson Garden Club website: www.atkinsongardenclub.com.

Thank you so much for your support and commitment to the partnership between the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Forest Service.

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