

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

February 2017

OHIO SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST

Ohio grade schools will soon 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.

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 #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 held at the Ohio State Fair in July.

All regional winners will [receive two tickets](#) to attend the awards ceremony at the Ohio State Fair on **Saturday, July 29, 2017**. The students will receive a host of prizes, certificates and awards. State-level winners will receive additional prizes. And the overall winner will receive even more prizes along with a personalized trophy. Once school is back in session, the overall winner's school will be presented a "traveling trophy" to display during the school year.

All winning posters from last school year can be viewed on the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness website: www.weathersafety.ohio.gov.

How to Enter

Complete contest rules and entry forms are available on the OCSWA site. Go to **Just for Kids** and click on **Contest Rules**. Schools are encouraged to participate in the poster contest during **Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week, March 19-25, 2017**. Schools should mail their first place posters per grade level to their appropriate NWS office. Poster entries must be postmarked by April 17, 2017.

All regional winners will be invited to attend the awards ceremony at the Ohio State Fair on **Saturday, July 29, 2017**. The state-level winners and the overall state winner will be announced near the end of the ceremony.

Instructions and Rules for the Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest

As part of the 2017 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).

***New for 2017:** 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

Schools are encouraged to conduct the contest during *Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week, March 19-25, 2017*. Teachers should select their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice posters **per grade** that participated. *Only first-place posters should be mailed to their appropriate National Weather Service Office by April 17 (see attached list – last page).*

Blank certificates of participation will be available online at www.weathersafety.ohio.gov. Go to **Just for Kids**. Click on **2017 Certificate**.

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 after the poster contest's *Awards Ceremony at the Ohio State Fair, Saturday, July 29th, 3-4 p.m.*

Additional information regarding the 2017 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.

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

STUDENT NAME _____

AGE _____ 2017 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 17, 2017**

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:** **PITTSBURG 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