



STATE OF OHIO  
Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness

Teaching Ohioans Severe Weather Safety and Preparedness  
Mike DeWine, Governor ▪ [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov)

## OHIO SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST

November 2019

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 grades, including special education classes, to have their students participate in this worthwhile and educational activity. Students have from now until early April to work on their posters.

### **Background**

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness has been teaching Ohioans about severe weather safety and preparedness for more than 40 years. 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 should send their first-place posters (per grade or special education class) 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. **Posters must be submitted by April 15 to regional NWS Offices, via mail or email.**

All regional winners will be invited to attend the awards ceremony at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy, next to the Ohio State Fair, on **Saturday, August 8, 2020**. 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, all regional winners will receive a host of prizes and certificates from OCSWA and its partners. State-level winners (grades 1-6 and special education) will be awarded additional prizes; a letter of congratulations from Gov. DeWine; and a check from the Emergency Management Association of Ohio to be applied toward a \$50 Treasury Direct Savings Bond. The overall state winner will receive even more prizes along with a letter from the governor; a check from EMAO to be applied toward a \$100 Treasury Direct Savings Bond; and 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 22-28, 2020.**  
**All poster entries must be postmarked or e-mailed by April 15, 2020.**  
**NWS and Ohio EMA postal and email addresses are listed on Page 4.**

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

As part of the 2020 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 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> 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 emailing his/her poster to their regional NWS Office or submitting his/her poster with a copy of these rules to his or her local school's office.

Posters must show how people can protect themselves from one of Ohio's weather hazards 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. Students cannot use: photographs, copyright-protected material, nor clippings from magazines, newspapers or books.

Posters can be either landscape or portrait. Poster size cannot exceed 11" x 17" paper. Original posters can either be mailed or emailed to their regional NWS office.

*\*Only first-place posters (per grade or special education class) should be sent to their appropriate National Weather Service Office by **April 15<sup>th</sup>** (see attached list – last page).*

Each poster entry must clearly include the following information. See Entry Form, Page 3:

Student's FIRST and LAST NAME, AGE and GRADE

Home Address and County

Parent's/Guardian's Phone Number

School's Name, Address, County, Phone Number / Teacher's Name, E-mail Address

Regional National Weather Service Office

Posters being mailed can attach Entry Form to the back

School students can participate in the poster contest any time between now and early April. 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 2020 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 at the end of the poster contest's awards ceremony.

Additional information regarding the 2020 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's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week: March 22-28, 2020**  
**Statewide Tornado Drill: Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:50 am**

## OHIO SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY POSTER CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Print and attach one form on the back of each poster being mailed;  
Include this form with each e-mailed poster entry.

STUDENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: Ohio ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE / PARENT or GUARDIAN'S CELL #: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: OHIO ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL'S COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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

SCHOOL'S 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 or e-mailed by Wednesday, April 15, 2020.**

## NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CONTACT OFFICES

**For:** **Toledo/Marion-Area 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  
E-mail: [nwscl@noaa.gov](mailto:nwscl@noaa.gov)

**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  
E-mail: [iln.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:iln.webmaster@noaa.gov)

**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  
E-mail: [pit-comments@noaa.gov](mailto:pit-comments@noaa.gov)

**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  
E-mail: [rlx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:rlx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

**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  
E-mail: [w-iwx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:w-iwx.webmaster@noaa.gov)