Benton Soil and Water Conservation District

2020 ESSAY CONTEST

Where would we BEE without Pollinator?

1. **Who May Enter** Any fifth or sixth grader in the current school year, living or going to school within Benton County, may enter by submitting one entry.

2. **Essay Length** 400-500 words

3. **Essay Material** Use 8 ½” x 11” white paper

4. **Theme** The purpose of this contest is to give students an understanding of the importance of pollinators and pollinator conservation in our communities. Essays should be related to a class assigned activity or individual experience suggested from the activities included in the folder. The Essay must express the theme “Local Heroes – Your Hardworking Pollinators”

5. **Essay Format** Double-space computer printing or hand-written

6. **Back of Essay** List the following identification information on back of the essay:
   - Student’s name
   - Parent’s name telephone number, address
   - Teacher, school, grade level and city
   - Benton Soil and Water Conservation District

7. **Timeline** Essays entries must be delivered to the Benton Soil and Water Conservation District office by **4:30 pm Friday February 28, 2020.**

8. **Judging** Composition – 30%
   - Spelling, grammar, sentence structure
   - Organization
   - Legibility

   Subject Matter – 70%
   - Accuracy of information
   - Style (readability, creativity)
   - Relevance to contest theme
   - Presentation of local water concerns related to conservation

9. **Awards** Benton Soil and Water Conservation District awards:
   - Essay: 1st Place - $100.00; 2nd Place - $75.00;
     3rd Place - $50.00; 4th Place - $25.00

   **Classroom Essay Winners each receive $5.00**

   In addition to the student receiving the 1st place prize in the Essay Contest, the student will also win $100.00 to be rewarded to their teacher as a classroom award!

10. **Policy** All essays become the property of the Benton Soil and Water Conservation District and may be used at their discretion.