



Calling All Young Artists!

The Berrien County Conservation District is excited to announce a new annual art competition celebrating Stewardship Week! This year's theme, "Home is where the Habitat is," invites students to explore the importance of conservation and stewardship in our community.

Eligibility: Private, public, and homeschooled children age 6-19, currently enrolled in primary and secondary education, residing in Berrien County.

Theme: Home is where the Habitat is

"Home is where the Habitat is" encourages students to think creatively about the natural world of plants and animals and their environment.

Art Medium & Size: The artwork must be on a flat piece of paper, any size or shape in between 8.5×11 to 11×17 . Any art medium is allowed as long as it will not rub off onto or stain clothing. All pieces using chalk, pastels, or activated charcoal must be sprayed to seal them, and all paintings must be completely dry before submission.

Prizes and Recognition: All 1st & 2nd place winners, in their age categories, will have their original artwork presented at our 2025 Annual Tree Sale on May 2-3, 2025, our Native Plant Sale on May 21, and at our booth at the Berrien County Youth Fair on August 8-17, 2025, as well as on social media. Berrien County Conservation District Staff will wear winning t-shirt designs during our Tree Sale distribution on May 2-3, 2025.

Winners will be chosen by a panel of three judges: two art experts and one representative from our Board of Directors. To prevent bias, all artwork will be judged anonymously

<u>Age 6-9</u>

- 1st Place: Butterfly House and a Free T-shirt*
- 2nd Place: Free T-shirt* and a gift card

Age 10-12 & 13-15

- 1st Place: Butterfly House, Butterfly Garden (a flat of butterfly attracting wildflowers), and a Free T-shirt*
- 2nd Place: Free T-shirt* and a gift card

Age 16-18

- 1st Place: Butterfly House, Butterfly Garden (a flat of butterfly attracting wildflowers), and a Free T-shirt with their winning artwork design on it*
- 2nd Place: Free T-shirt with their willing artwork design on it* and a Gift card.

^{*}T-shirt featuring the winning artwork from the 16-18 age group.

Submission Guidelines:

One piece of artwork is allowed per child for submission. Artwork must be submitted in person, on or before April 3, 2025, at the Berrien County Conservation District office: 3334 Edgewood Rd., Berrien Springs, MI 49103. Our office is open M-F, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM.

ALL ART SUBMISSIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ARTWORK INFORMATION SHEET AND PARENT/GUARDIAN RELEASE, AND ATTACHED TO THE BACK OF EACH PIECE OF ARTWORK. Anything submitted without the required sheet of artwork information and parent/guardian release will be disqualified.

Prize Pickup:

Prizes will be available for pickup at our Native Plant Sale on May 21, 2025, from 12–5 PM at the Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds, 9122 US-31, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. Winners can opt to have their photo taken with their winnings and original piece of artwork at that time. Any uncollected prizes can be picked up at the Berrien County Conservation District office at 3334 Edgewood Rd., Berrien Springs, MI 49103, between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, May 22 or 23, unless prior arrangements have been made.

T-shirts:

The top two winners for the 16-18 age category will have their winning design printed on a T-shirt and will be available to the public for purchase at our Tree Sale on May 2, 10 AM – 6 PM and May 3, 9 AM – 1 PM at the Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds, 9122 US-31, Berrien Springs, MI 49103, and our Native Plant Sale on May 21, 12–5 PM, along with our website for pickup at our office, 3334 Edgewood Rd., Berrien Springs, MI 49103, M–F, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM.

Schedule:

April 3: Deadline for Artwork Submissions at Berrien County Conservation District

April 7-14: Judging

April 24-25: Private announcement made to winners (via email or phone call)

April 28-May 1: Public announcement of winners via social media. Facebook

@BerrienCountyConservationDistrict & Instagram @berriencd

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE YOUR ARTISTIC TALENTS AND PROMOTE CONSERVATION AWARENESS!

For more information, visit our website at berriencd.org/2025-stewardship-week or contact us by phone at 269-471-9111 x 3, or email at berriencd@macd.org.



Berrien County Conservation District

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