

2009 Forest Appreciation Week

"My Favorite Tree" Writing Contest



Top three statewide students, parents and teachers will be honored at a special celebration in our State Capitol.

Words of statewide winners and nine semi-finalists will appear in the WDNR's 2010 Arbor Day-Earth Day Calendar.

Teachers of the three state writing contest winners receive FREE LEAF & Project Learning Tree (PLT) workshops. Details on Page 4.



100 participating teachers will win a free copy of *The Man Who Planted Trees* by Jean Giono.

Supplemental Activities inside! →



Brought to you by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Division of Forestry

January 19, 2009

Dear 4th Grade Teachers and Friends,

Once again, it is time to participate in the 20th Annual Forest Appreciation Week Writing Contest! By combining creativity with pencil and paper, one of your fourth grade students has a chance to win savings bond prizes, a landscape tree for their community or school grounds, see their words in print and be recognized at a special Arbor Day celebration in our State Capitol . . . if they enter the 2009 Writing Contest! Awards, prizes and ceremony are sponsored by the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association; the Wisconsin Arborist Association; the Wisconsin Nursery Association; the LEAF Program; the Project Learning Tree (PLT) Program; and the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division.

Teachers can win, too! The first 100 teachers that enter this year's contest will receive a copy of Jean Giono's book, "The Man Who Planted Trees." This extraordinary fable follows the life of a shepherd who devotes himself to planting trees, ultimately adding beauty and sustenance to the community where he lives. This story is sure to provoke your thoughts on natural resources and enhance your classroom activities. In addition, the teachers of the three state winners will receive scholarships for both a LEAF and PLT teacher workshop.

This year's theme, "My Favorite Tree," asks students to write about a tree that they think is special. Regardless of shape, size or color, trees have the ability to trigger our imaginations and create fond memories. Students are encouraged to write about a tree species that they find to be unique or a forest tree with which they have had a remarkable experience. For inspiration, check out the supplemental activities and educational resources provided in this contest packet.

Contest requirements can be found on page 3. Additional copies of the contest packet can be downloaded from the EEK! (Environmental Education for Kids) website. Search the "Teacher Pages" at www.dnr.wi.gov/eeek. Be sure to bookmark this site, because in April the writings of the three state winners and nine semi-finalists will be posted for world-wide viewing.

Join in the celebration of Arbor Day (April 24) and Earth Day (April 22) by encouraging your students to enter this year's contest. Good luck!



Sincerely,
Genny Fannucchi
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