

AIR NEWS

March 26, 2014 || News from the DNR Bureau of Air Management

- [Air, Air Everywhere poetry contest open to grades 3, 4 and 5](#)
 - [April 1-7 is National Asbestos Awareness Week](#)
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Air, Air Everywhere poetry contest open to grades 3, 4 and 5

By Lindsay Haas, air educator, DNR Bureau of Air Management

Wisconsin's teachers can help DNR celebrate Clean Air Month this May by leading students through an activity (or more than one) from the [Air, Air Everywhere Teacher's Activity guide](#), which aims to teach students in the third, fourth and fifth grades about air quality and the importance of clean air.

As part of the [Where's the Air?](#) activity, students complete simple sensory experiments to discover the characteristics of air and then write a poem or riddle describing air. Teachers can submit original poems or riddles created by their students to Wisconsin DNR. The winning poem and two runners-up will be featured on DNR's Environmental Education for Kids web site, known as [EEK!](#) The winner will receive an award certificate and a class set of "It all adds up to cleaner air" solar calculators. The teacher of the winning student will receive a certificate for a free [Project WILD](#) or [Project WET](#) workshop.

Requirements

- The poetry contest is open only to Wisconsin students in the third, fourth, or fifth grades. Teachers can submit up to three entries per class.
- Any form of original poetry is acceptable. Entry must be 200 words or less and describe air and/or the importance of clean air.
- Writing must be the original work of the student.
- Each entry must include the name of the author, their teacher, the teacher's email and phone number and the school address.

Mail entries to: Lindsay Haas, Wisconsin DNR, 141 NW Barstow Street, Rm. 180, Waukesha, WI 53188, or email to: Lindsay.Haas@wisconsin.gov. Entries **must be received by Friday, May 16, 2014** to be eligible. Contest entries will not be returned and will become the property of the contest sponsor. Teachers of the winning students will be notified by May 30, 2014.

The complete [Air, Air Everywhere](#) guide includes 10 activities and is available for download at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/eeek/teacher/air.htm>. Hard copies may also be ordered by sending your name and mailing address to DNRAirEducation@wisconsin.gov.

April 1-7 is National Asbestos Awareness Week

For the tenth consecutive year, the week of April 1-7 has been designated National Asbestos Awareness Week. This year's designation came from a resolution sponsored by Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT), which passed the U.S. Senate on January 14. Co-sponsors included Senators Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Richard Durbin (D-IL), Johnny Isakson (R-GA), Patty Murray (D-WA), Harry Reid (D-NV), and Jon Tester (D-MT). The text of the resolution is [available here](#).



Asbestos fibers are a known human carcinogen, and asbestos exposure has been proven to cause asbestosis (a fibrotic scarring of the lungs) as well as lung cancer and mesothelioma (cancer of the chest cavity lining). Under authority from the federal Clean Air Act and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Wisconsin DNR implements its asbestos program to reduce the public's potential exposure to asbestos. For more information about asbestos, visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Demo/Asbestos.html>.

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