

For Immediate Release

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Contact:

Amy Brown

Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts

717-794-6104

abrown@pacd.org

Winners Announced in State Poster Contest on Soil

(Harrisburg, PA) —The Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts (PACD) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2026 “Soil. Where it all Begins” statewide poster contest.

To celebrate the incredible power of soil to support life in all its forms, students from kindergarten through 12th grade entered posters conveying their thoughts and ideas through original artwork.

“The creativity and thoughtfulness demonstrated by this year’s participants highlight the importance of soil as the foundation of life,” said Amy Brown, PACD Executive Director. “We are proud to recognize these students for using their artistic talents to inspire others to protect one of our most valuable natural resources.”

The winners and the county conservation district that submitted the posters are:

Category: Kindergarten through First Grade

- Maelyn Spiece, Columbia County Conservation District

Category: Second through Third Grades

- Kaelyn Duncan, Greene County Conservation District

(more)



Category: Fourth through Sixth Grades

- Cora Petrunak, Lehigh County Conservation District

Category: Seventh through Ninth Grades

- Emma Rickabaugh, Blair County Conservation District

Category: Tenth through Twelfth Grades

- Ella Shultz, Columbia County Conservation District

Each state-level winner will be submitted for judging in the upcoming national competition this winter. The national contest is sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts. Visit <https://www.nacdnet.org/contests> for more information.

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The Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. (PACD) is a nonprofit organization that serves as the collective voice for Pennsylvania's 66 county conservation districts. PACD supports, educates, and advocates for Pennsylvania's conservation districts. Learn more at www.pacd.org.

