



2016 Rain Barrel Decorating Contest

Official Rules and Deadlines

The Darke SWCD is asking county schools to participate in our 5th Annual Rain Barrel Decorating Contest. This year's theme for decorations will be "Ohio's Native Species". Your rain barrel needs to encompass the theme for 2016 within the paint scheme. Participating schools should decorate their barrel by choosing a native species, plant or animal, of Ohio. Information on native species can be found by visiting these websites: <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov> and search for Species Guide Index; <http://plants.usda.gov>; or www.wildflower.org. Darke SWCD is asking you to get creative by choosing any native species of Ohio and creating a scene on your rain barrel. Barrels should at least have a painted front; feel free to utilize the entire barrel space. **DO NOT PUT THE SCHOOL NAME IN YOUR DESIGN!** We would ask that you identify the native species, school name and student names on top of the barrel. **MULTIPLE ENTRIES PER SCHOOL ARE ALLOWED THIS YEAR!**

By participating in the rain barrel decorating contest, you agree to the following:

- The Darke SWCD may display the decorated rain barrel at the Darke County Fair and other meetings as they see necessary.
- You will cover the cost of all supplies in decorating your rain barrel (55-gal rain barrel and connector kit will be donated to schools by Darke SWCD).

The winners of the rain barrel decorating contest will be determined by a panel of county residents determined by the Darke SWCD. This panel will rank the barrels on design, creativity, theme use and ability to follow guidelines. The panel will choose a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner, these **winners will be awarded a cash prize of \$100, \$75 and \$50** respectively. The prize money will be given to the winning teams after the May 2016 board meeting.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

SCHOOL ENTRY DEADLINE	FEBRUARY 26
DECORATED BARRELS DUE	APRIL 29
WINNERS ANNOUNCED	MAY 6
DARKE SWCD ANNUAL MEETING	NOVEMBER 21

*****Rain Barrels, including kit, will be donated back to the schools for use as either an educational tool or fundraiser after the Darke SWCD Annual Meeting in November.***

Please direct any questions to Jared Coppess at the Darke SWCD office at either 937.548.1752 or jared.coppess@darkeswcd.com.

DARKE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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