

## NEW JERSEY 2009 RECYCLING POETRY CONTEST RULES

### Eligibility

Students in **grades 4, 5 and 6** – Public, private and charter New Jersey schools

### Poetry Requirements

-The submission should be typed on an 8 ½ “ x 11” sheet of paper, and should be 100 words or less. Extra points will be given if the entry is accompanied by appropriate and exemplary graphics or artwork appearing on the same page as the poem.

-Product brand names should not appear as part of the entries.

-The content of the poem should describe why recycling is important individually and/or for society as a whole.

-The poem should encourage individuals to expand their recycling activities, and to purchase more recycled products.

-Only poetry will be accepted; no prose will be allowed.

### Deadline

Entries must be postmarked by **Monday, May 18, 2009.**

Sorry - late or incomplete entries cannot be accepted.

### Judging

**Local Level:** Each participating school is to conduct a poetry contest in the appropriate grade levels and select three entries from each eligible grade. The winning entries from each grade should be submitted to Vicki Kerekes, Contest Coordinator, NJDEP, Bureau of Recycling and Planning, PO Box 414, Trenton, NJ 08625.

Each winning entry from each grade must be accompanied by the attached release form secured to the entry. Any entry unaccompanied by the completed release form signed by both the student and parent/guardian will be ineligible for state competition. Students' names should appear only on the **back** of the entry.

The Teacher/Volunteer Contest Coordinator Form must also accompany each school's entries.

**State Level:** A State Poetry Contest Selection Committee will select four entries from each grade level as the state winners. State winners and the school contest coordinators will receive notification via e-mail by Friday, September 25, 2009.

### **Winners**

The winning entries will receive a small prize and will be featured in the 2010 recycling calendar. This will be a full-color calendar with each state winner's name, grade, school and city printed under his or her poem. This calendar will be distributed at no cost to New Jersey schools, local and state government agencies, public libraries and other interested organizations.