

# Public Speaking Contest



**Public Speaking Topic:**  
"Why do we need trees?"  
**Oral Presentation:**  
**Friday, April 15, 2016**  
**Location:**  
**TBA**



## **CONTEST RULES**

- 1) Open to ANY student in Marion County in grades 6 through 12.
- 2) Contestants can speak on any subject within the topic.
- 3) Contestant will **pre-register** by delivering four (4) typewritten copies of their speech, double spaced on 8 ½ by 11 inch white bond paper by **Friday, 5:00 P.M. on March 18, 2016** to the Marion Soil and Water Conservation District office at the address below.
- 4) Each speech should be identified with one (1) cover page that includes the student's name, address, telephone number, grade, school and teacher's name.
- 5) Late receipt of any manuscript will be assessed a 5 point deduction for each day it is late after the due date.
- 6) Contestants may use notes while speaking, visual aids may **not** be used.
- 7) Time limit is 6 - 8 minutes. Penalties will be given for less than 6 minutes or more than 8 minutes.
- 8) Three competent and impartial judges will be selected. Judges decisions will be final. Judges will evaluate both the written speech and oral presentation based on the following scoring criteria:

**50% - Content    40% - Delivery    10% - Composition**

## **AWARDS**

Awards will be given to the top three contestants. All other participants will receive a ribbon or certification of participation.

The overall winner will advance to Regionals, competing at our Area II Meeting.

## **DEADLINES**

Copies of speech must be mailed or hand delivered no later than:

**Friday, March 18, 2016, 5:00 PM**

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District  
USDA Ocala Service Center, NRCS  
2441 NE 3rd St., Suite 204-2  
Ocala, FL 34470

Mailed entries must be postmarked on or before the due date. Not responsible for submissions lost in the mail.

Questions? Contact Marion SWCD (352) 622-3971, opt. 3 or by e-mail: [ann.bishop@fl.nacdnet.net](mailto:ann.bishop@fl.nacdnet.net)

Participation earns points towards Youth Conservationist of the Year