State Conservation Awareness Poster & Speaking Contests Held

The 55th annual State Conservation Awareness Poster and Speaking Contests were held at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids on Saturday, November 3, 2012. 15 speakers and 48 posters represented counties statewide. The poster artists made their posters using the 2012 National Association of Conservation Districts Stewardship Theme “Soil to Spoon,” which focused on the many connections between the foods people eat and the land it comes from. The speakers selected their own conservation topics, for example: invasive species; pesticides; landfills, urban conservation practices; recreational tourism; and wildlife management. Poster artists and speakers at the state level competed previously, taking first place at county, and then regional levels. The first place winning speaker from each division has been invited to present their award-winning speech at the 2013 WLWCA Annual Conference during the awards banquet on Tuesday, March 12. First place winning posters will be submitted to the NACD Poster Contest, taking place during their annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas February 27-30, 2013. Thank you to all of the counties and areas who support this program and to the many companies that donated to the 2011 WLWCA Youth Education Silent Auction, which funds this program in full.

SPEAKING CONTEST WINNERS:
Elementary Division Grades 5-6: First place: Anna Mercord, Pierce County; Second place: Grace Ribbe, Oneida County; Third place: Emma VandenLandenBerg.

Junior Division Grades 7-8: First place: Adileen Sii, Wood County; Second place: David Bognar, Barron County; Third place: Hanna Nitzke, Waupaca County.

Senior Division Grades 9-12: First place: Lucas Stiemann, Burnett County; Second place: Cortney Runnels, Marquette County; Third place: Lily Howder, Eau Claire County.

POSTER CONTEST WINNERS:
Primary Division K-1: First place: Neel Dums, Sawyer County; Second place: Katelyn Kalkofen, Marinette County; Third place: Brady Maines, Vilas County.

Elementary Division 2-3: First place: Sophia Gerhartz, Washington County; Second place: Isabel Rowell, Marinette County; Third place: Evan Bargenquast, Green Lake County.

Middle Division 4-6: First place: Jonathan Breuer, Grant County; Second place: Josh Brown, Ashland County; Third place: Maggie Drinan, Washington County.

Junior Division 7-9: First Place: Erin Willard, Washington County; Second place: Julia Pfalzgraf, Fond du Lac County; Third place: Rebecca Held, Taylor County.
Senior Division 10-12: First place: Laliphat Tantiphipop, Barron County; Second place: Jessica Trampf, Green Lake County; Third place: Cassandra Wagner, Washington County.

Special Needs Junior Division K-6: First place: David Foust, Grant County; Second place: Jake Steubs, Portage County; Third place: Joshua Davis, Polk County.

Special Needs Senior Division 7-12: First place: Anonymous, Portage County; Second place: Sarah Wegner, Richland County; Third place: Shantell Chatman, Brown County.