



# Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Rules



1. All poster entrees must be sponsored by a local Garden Club.
2. Posters must feature Woodsy Owl.
3. Woodsy Owl posters must include Woodsy's conservation message: Lend a Hand, Care for the Land!
4. Posters should encourage children to take a personal role in conserving natural resources.
5. Each entry should be 11 x 17 inches in size.
6. Materials that can be used include: crayons, markers, poster paints, water colors, etc.
7. The choice of paper color and texture is up to the child.
8. No three-dimensional posters, computer scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted.
9. The following information should be written on the back of the poster in the lower-right corner:
  - a. The artist's name, address, home phone number, grade level, school, teacher's name, city, and state.
  - b. Should school policy preclude giving students' address and phone number, please include the school address and phone number.
  - c. Each poster must also show the name of the sponsoring local Garden Club as well as an address, phone number, and email for the local Garden Club. (Do not use a dark marker for this information as it may show through.)
10. Posters are to be completed by individual student artists. Competition may include students from first to fifth grade.
11. The Local Garden Club Chair must submit the poster entries to his or her state Chairman no later than January 21, 2021. The State Garden Club Chair must submit the five winning posters from his or her state to Regional Garden Club Chairman by February 26, 2021.
12. Since Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl are official icons protected by law, the colors of their clothing need to be accurate.
13. Students should be reminded to check spelling. Posters with spelling errors will be disqualified.
14. Any group of children can participate. Scout troops, after school programs, and the like are perfectly appropriate. The child's grade must be included on the poster so that the participant can compete in the correct grade category.



**“Lend a Hand – Care for the Land”**



15. Local Garden Club coordinators should offer certificates of appreciation to all participants. Certificates are available for download at [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org) or requesting them from the National Symbols Cache by emailing the quantity and your address information to [symbols@fs.fed.us](mailto:symbols@fs.fed.us). They are also encouraged to organize a recognition ceremony. If there is a national forest office nearby, the Forest Service can be contacted for help. They can facilitate the presence of Woodsy Owl at your recognition ceremony. National forest information is available at [www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov).
16. The Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl poster contest is an opportunity for local Garden Clubs to connect with their communities. The contest may be used to promote the club, attract children and their parents, and raise awareness of the importance of caring for the environment.
17. Winning posters should be copied as they will not be returned.
- 18. We will not accept entries from past national grand prize winners.**
19. Posters may include artwork pasted upon a second piece of paper. However, they must be flat. 3D posters are not allowed.
20. A poster may include just the head of Woodsy.
21. National Garden Clubs, Inc. local coordinators for the Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl poster contest should contact their State or Regional Poster Chairman to get promotional materials. Promotional materials are also available for purchasing at [www.symbols.gov](http://www.symbols.gov).
22. Posters that compete for the National Grand Prize become property of the Forest Service. They **ARE NOT RETURNED** to participants. Participants and State and Regional Poster Chairmen should make copies or scan and save the posters they submit. If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Pat Smith at [pasmith75@bellsouth.net](mailto:pasmith75@bellsouth.net) or Iris Velez at [iris.velez@usda.gov](mailto:iris.velez@usda.gov)

Thank you so much for your support and commitment to the partnership between the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Forest Service!

