



2012 CARCD CONSERVATION EDUCATION SPEAK-OFF

RULES and TOPIC:

"How can RCD's protect natural resources through community action?"

Contestants - must be a high school student, grades 9-12, in June, prior to the state conference in November. Any prior state winner is not eligible as a contestant.

Contestants - must have an interest in agriculture, resource conservation or the environment.

Each contestant must fill out and submit an application form to the local Resource Conservation District office, which is a member of the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts. The application must include: name, address, phone number, social security number, school, grade, age, club affiliations, and a brief statement about interest or involvement in agriculture, conservation or environmental practices.

All regional winners will receive plaques at the state speak-off. The state speak-off winners will receive:

1st Place - \$300

2nd Place - \$200

3rd Place - \$100

The speech shall be at least three minutes, and not more than five minutes, including the salutation and title. Notes will be allowed at district and regional levels, but not at the state level. However, there will be no props, costumes or visual aids at any level.

There shall be three judges and a timekeeper for each speak-off: district, region, and state. It is the Regional Director's responsibility to include the speak-off on a meeting agenda and to secure regional judges and a timekeeper. Judges or timekeepers shall not be related, in any way, to contestants. At the regional level, directors from districts with contestants cannot be judges or timekeepers.

Any questions arising during the state level speak-off shall be decided by the Speak-off Committee of the Conservation Education Committee. At regional meetings, questions shall be decided by the Regional President. Contestants must speak at a regional meeting in order to compete at the state conference.