



MAY THE  
**FOREST**  
BE WITH YOU ALWAYS  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS STEWARDSHIP WEEK 2024

# Forestry Conservation Lesson Plan Guide for Conservation Districts

# 2024 THEME: MAY THE FOREST BE WITH YOU ALWAYS

Under the theme "May the Forest Be with You, Always," this guide emphasizes the interconnectedness between forests, conservation, and our collective responsibility to safeguard these vital ecosystems. As conservation districts, we play a crucial role in educating the public about the importance of forest conservation.

The Education Guide provides comprehensive lessons and resources, enabling conservation districts to deliver impactful education on forest conservation. It covers a wide range of topics, including the importance of forests, forest ecosystems and biodiversity, sustainable forestry practices, and the challenges faced by our forests.

With this guide, we aim to inspire the next generation to appreciate and actively participate in the conservation of our forests. By equipping educators with the necessary tools, we can empower students to become informed advocates for sustainable land management and the preservation of our natural resources.

-NACD President Kim LaFleur



# WELCOME TO THE FORESTRY CONSERVATION LESSON PLAN GUIDE!

This comprehensive guide is designed to support Conservation Districts in delivering engaging and impactful environmental education to students in K-8.

Let's explore the rich opportunities this guide offers to empower young stewards and foster a sense of responsibility towards our precious forests.



# A LOOK INSIDE THE GUIDE

- Chapter 1: Understanding Forestry Conservation for Educators
- Chapter 2: Lesson Plans for Primary Grades (K-2)
- Chapter 3: Lesson Plans for Intermediate Grades (3-5)
- Chapter 4: Lesson Plans for Advanced Grades (6-8)

Each set of lesson plans include multiple units with comprehensive learning goals that correlate with educational standards for those grade levels, along with multiple suggested activities and worksheets.



# LOCAL TO NATIONAL POSTER CONTEST

Hosting a poster contest is a great way to engage students with your conservation district, and potentially earn state and national recognition for the student, school, and district!

The NACD National Poster Contest for the "May the Forest Be With You Always" theme will accept submissions from March–December 2024. Entries will be selected by your local district and sent to the state level for judging. State winning entries will then be sent to the national level, where one overall winner will be selected and announced at the 2025 NACD Annual Meeting in February 2025, and shared online.

NACD judges posters based on the following grade criteria:

- Conservation Message (50%)
- Originality (10%)
- Visual Effectiveness (30%)
- Overall Appeal (10%)

Find out more about the photo contest on NACD's website at [www.nacdnet.org/general-resources/stewardship-and-education-materials/contests/](http://www.nacdnet.org/general-resources/stewardship-and-education-materials/contests/)



# DISTRICTS' IMPACT

By utilizing this guide and taking part in NACD's Stewardship Week your district can:

- Enhance conservation literacy for students;
- Inspire students' understanding of forests and their vital role in a sustainable environment;
- Support educators in implementing conservation education in the classroom; and
- Strengthen your conservation district's community engagement.

We invite Conservation Districts to use this guide as a valuable resource for delivering impactful forestry conservation education. By working together, we can cultivate a new generation of responsible stewards and make a lasting impact on the health of our forests and the environment. Thank you for your commitment to conservation and education.



*We'd love to hear from you! Email us with comments, suggestions, or questions at [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org).*