



To: 9 -12 Grade Teachers
From: Glenn County RCD Directors, Associate-Directors, and Staff
Date: March 11, 2010
RE: 2010 CARCD Conservation Education Speak-Off Contest

“How RCD’s can assist schools with natural resource education.”

Looking for new opportunities to provide your students with experience in public speaking? If your answer is “yes”, then we have a great project for your students.

The Glenn County Resource Conservation District (RCD) will be participating in the *2010 California Association of Resource Conservation District (CARCD) Annual Speak-Off Contest*, and we want you and your students to participate!

This year’s topic is *“How RCD’s can assist schools with natural resource education”*. Therefore, if your students are interested in agriculture, resource conservation or the environment, and in the 9th - 12th grade levels in June 2010, then this is the contest to participate in! Let them show off their talents by speaking at the local, regional, or maybe even State level by competing among their peers.

Local competition will be held early Fall, 2010 (date TBA). Continuing competitors will speak at the Sacramento Valley Region RCD meeting in November and finally, if chosen at the regional level, they will have the opportunity to represent their school, RCD, and County at the CARCD annual meeting held in Ventura in November 2010. Sounds like a great experience for our Glenn County students!

The key to preparing an award winning speaker and speech is to begin planning now. But, we promise it will be well worth all the hard work. It will provide a fun way to learn about our natural resources, students will gain experience in public speaking, and best of all students will receive recognition and a chance to win cash awards.

Enclosed is further information about the contest and an application. Please make as many copies as you need. We encourage you and your student’s participation in this exciting challenge and hope that Glenn County will win the State competition this year!!

Please contact Kandi Manhart, District Manager for further information or questions. She can be reached at (530) 934-4601 x120, or by email kandi.manhart@ca.nacdnet.net.



2010 CARCD CONSERVATION EDUCATION SPEAK-OFF

RULES and TOPIC:

“How RCD’s can assist schools with natural resource education.”

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 (if the contestant is under the age of 18, a phone number of the contestant’s legal guardian **MUST** be provided), 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 the fall 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.

CARCD Speak-off information: http://carcd.org/tab_education_speakoff.php

Glenn County RCD Speak-Off information: <http://www.glenncountyrcd.org>

**CARCD CONSERVATION EDUCATION COMMITTEE
HIGH SCHOOL SPEAK-OFF COMPETITION
2010 APPLICATION FORM**

2010 Topic: "How RCD's can assist schools with natural resource education."

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ If Applicant is under the age of 18, the phone number of a legal guardian MUST be included: (____) _____

High School: _____

Grade: _____ Club Affiliations: _____

Briefly state your interest in conservation, environmental, or agricultural practices:

If the applicant is under the age of 18, a legal guardian must sign application:

Legal Guardian (print): _____ (signature): _____

Return to your local Resource Conservation District Office by **June 1, 2010**:

Kandi Manhart
District Manager
Glenn County Resource Conservation District
132 North Enright Avenue, Suite B
Willows, California 95988

Ph (530) 934-4601 x4
Fax (530) 934-8667
Email kandi.manhart@ca.nacdnet.net

Conservation Education Speak-off Contest

Judge's Worksheet

2010 Topic:

“How RCD's can assist schools with natural resource education.”

Time Limit: 3-5 min.

Judges will use the criteria below in judging each speaker:	Maximum Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
INTRODUCTION:										
Was there a strong opening sentence or device to capture attention and interest?	5									
Did speaker introduce topic and theme of speech sufficiently and clearly?	5									
CONTENT:										
Was speech well organized, easy to follow?	10									
Did speech show quality research and mastery of the information?	15									
Did speech include ways in which RCDs can be used to address the topic?	15									
DELIVERY SKILLS:										
Was speaking style fluent, not sounding memorized or read?	10									
Was there connectedness with good eye contact?	15									
Did speaker appear physically at ease, with appropriate gestures and delivery?	15									
CONCLUSION:										
Was the overall impression strong and effective, with appropriate non-verbal follow-up used to end the speech?	10									
JUDGE'S TOTAL SCORE	100									
Timekeeper will assess time-penalty points as follows: Subtract points for increments of over or under the 3-5 minute time allowed.										
1 -10 seconds	2 points									
11 - 20 seconds	3 points									
21 - 30 seconds	4 points									
SCORE TOTALS										

Judge No.: _____ **Judge's Signature (Required):** _____