



# The 2019 Smokey Bear Poster Contest! Celebrating 75 Years of Wildfire Prevention!



**Children from first through fifth grade are invited to participate in the 2019 National Garden Clubs, Inc. Poster Contest!**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. are giving students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of wildfire prevention through original drawings of Smokey Bear.

## **SMOKEY BEAR SAYS: ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES!**

Smokey Bear is recognized nationally and internationally as the symbol for wildfire prevention. The original Smokey Bear appeared in 1944. Smokey's message, "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!" encourages personal responsibility for wildfire prevention. Smokey Bear teaches children and adults to be careful with campfires, barbecues, trash fires, and matches.

## **PRIZES**

- The National Grand Prize Winner of the Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest will be honored with a Recognition Ceremony in Washington, DC. Round-trip airfare and accommodations for four will be provided.
- The National Garden Clubs, Inc. will award \$50 check to each of the First Place national winners in all five grades.
- It is recommended that local and/or state recognition ceremonies be coordinated in conjunction with local events during Earth Week in April or during National Public Lands Day in September. Smokey Bear should be present at these award ceremonies if at all possible.





# Recognition Ceremonies



- You can find and download Certificates of Participation at [www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids](http://www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids) and [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org).
- The 1st place National Winners for each grade level category and the National Grand Prize winner will be announced at the 2019 National Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Meeting.
- Certificates and prize money (\$50) for the four national winners will be mailed following the 2019 National Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Meeting. The National Grand Prize Winner will get their check and certificate during the recognition ceremony in Washington, DC.
- The recognition ceremony for the National Grand Prize winner takes place every year during late Spring or Summer in Washington, DC.
- Forest Service conservation education and fire prevention regional coordinators can help you identify local Forest Service units that may assist you with having Smokey appear at your event. A list of coordinators is available at [www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids](http://www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids).

## POSTER TIPS

1. A good poster has a bold and simple design.
2. Its message is easily understood, and is delivered both in the picture and in text.
3. Educators can provide paper to children in order to initiate the program.
4. Members of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. can purchase Smokey Bear promotional and educational products at the national Symbols Cache website at [www.symbols.gov](http://www.symbols.gov)
5. Posters will be judged for originality, design, slogan, artwork, and overall effectiveness of the message.

