

NRCS Announces Poster Contest for the 2012 American Indian Heritage Month

Stillwater, OKLA – The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recognizes and celebrates the many different cultures to which we have the opportunity to offer our services and programs, including American Indians.

The month of November is designated by NRCS as American Indian Heritage Month. This provides an opportunity to make people aware of the history of American Indians and their contributions to the world.

One way NRCS celebrates on a national level is to sponsor a contest for American Indian artists, with the winning artwork being produced into a poster and distributed nationwide. This year, the South Central Region, which includes Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas, was selected to compete in the contest. The winning entry will have his/her artwork and heritage recognized nationally.

Below is information for those who may be interested in submitting an entry. One piece of artwork will be selected and used for the 2012 NRCS American Indian Heritage Month poster.

Details are as follows:

- All Tribal residents within the South Central Region are invited to submit their artwork
- There is no age limit
- Submit one original artwork, size 18" X 24", acrylic or oil on canvas, ready for reproduction
- The title for the artwork will be: ***Conservation: Our Pasts, Present, and Futures***
- The theme for the artwork will be: ***"Tell me and I'll forget. Show me and I may not remember. Involve me and I'll understand"***
- A story describing the artwork must accompany the poster
- Notification to enter contest must be received by **May 25, 2012**. Contact Dr. Carol Crouch:
 - Phone: 405-612-9331 or Email carol.crouch@ok.usda.gov
- Artwork must be received by **June 1, 2012**. Submit to the attention of Tom Lucas:
 - USDA, NRCS State Office
Office of Public Affairs
100 USDA, Suite 213
Stillwater, OK 74074
Phone: 405-742-1244
- A selection committee will judge the artwork and select a winner no later than June 15, 2012
- NRCS will purchase the artwork from the winning artist for \$2,000, and have the right to reproduce and distribute copies of the artwork at its discretion
- NRCS and the selected artist will sign a contractual agreement to set forth the terms of procurement and rights of the two parties

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This is a great public awareness opportunity for the artist and the Tribe. Copies of the poster will be distributed and displayed to all NRCS offices in the 50 states plus the Caribbean and Pacific Basin areas. For additional information, contact Dr. Carol Crouch at 405-612-9331 or carol.crouch@ok.usda.gov.

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