



2023 CARCD CONSERVATION EDUCATION SPEAK-OFF

TOPIC:

California climate is changing, and groundwater recharge will be important to ensure water for future generations. Are there other natural resource benefits to groundwater recharge projects and how can RCDs help? What local or regional examples can you point to and how have these examples helped your community?

RULES:

Contestant Qualifications:

- Must be a high school student, grades 9-12, at the time of state conference in December.
- Any prior state winner is not eligible as a contestant.
- Must have an interest in agriculture, resource conservation or the environment.
- Contestants must speak at the regional level to compete at the state level.

Application Requirements:

- Each contestant must fill out and submit an application form to their local Resource Conservation District office.
- The application must include: name, address, phone number, school, grade, age, club affiliations, and a brief statement about interest or involvement in agriculture, conservation or environmental practices. Please see attached application.

Speech Requirements:

- Speaking order will be determined by drawing numbers.
- The speech will be three to five minutes in length, including the salutation and title.
- The speaker shall not introduce themselves or state what school they represent. However, mentioning their county or area is allowed.
- Notes will be allowed at the district and regional levels, but not at the state level.
- No props, costumes, or visual aids will be allowed at any level.
- The speech must include a link to Resource Conservation Districts.

Judging:

- There will be three judges and a timekeeper at the district, regional, and state speak-offs.
- 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 and timekeepers shall not be related, in any way, to contestants.
- At the regional level, directors from districts with contestants CANNOT be judges or timekeepers.
- At the state level, directors from districts with contestants CANNOT be judges or timekeepers.
- At the regional level, any questions will be decided by the Regional President. At the state level, questions will be decided by the Speak-Off Committee or the Conservation Education Committee.

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