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# State of Utah

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## State Arbor Day Poster Contest Registration Open

\$500 Goes to Schools With the Winning Entries

Salt Lake City, Utah -- Registration is now open for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Arbor Day Poster Contest. Teachers in K-6 and special education are encouraged to get students to participate. The theme for this year's poster contest is "Trees are Terrific ... Where You Live and Play!". All participating schools receive a tree to plant and the winning school in each of three regions receives a \$500 award. Other prizes will be awarded to the artists in the statewide and regional category. The deadline for registration is February 15 and poster entries will be accepted until March 23.

The aim of the contest is to promote the planting of trees in community settings throughout the state. Urban forests have been linked to overall community health, safety and quality of life. This year, the Utah Society for Environmental Education (USEE) has identified specific activities that tie the poster contest to the State's Core Curriculum.

Meridith Perkins, Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator says, "The poster contest gives kids a chance to think about forests in and around where they live and to express what they think about trees".

The Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands has hosted the poster contest since 1987. Last year 134 schools participated, resulting in 551 entries.

For instructions and other details, visit <http://www.ffsl.utah.gov/urban/arborday/postercontest.php>. For updates and current news, follow UtahUrbanForest on Twitter!

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