Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Rules

1. All poster entrees must be sponsored by a local Garden Club.
2. Posters must feature Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl and must not feature both together.
3. Smokey Bear posters must include Smokey's wildfire prevention message: Only you Can Prevent Wildfires!
4. Woodsy Owl posters must include Woodsy's conservation message: Lend a Hand, Care for the Land!
5. Posters should encourage children to take a personal role in preventing wildfires or conserving natural resources.
6. Each entry should be 11 x 17 inches in size.
7. Materials that can be used include: crayons, markers, poster paints, water colors, etc.
8. The choice of paper color and texture is up to the child.
9. No three-dimensional posters, computer scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted.
10. The following information should be written on the back of the poster in the lower-right corner:

    a. The artist's name, address, home phone number, grade level, school, teacher's name, city, and state.

    b. Should school policy preclude giving students' address and phone number, please include the school address and phone number.

    c. Each poster must also show the name of the sponsoring local Garden Club as well as an address, phone number, and email for the local Garden Club. (Do not use a dark marker for this information as it may show through.)

11. Posters are to be completed by individual student artists. Competition may include students from first to fifth grade.
12. The Local Garden Club Chair must submit the poster entries to his or her state Chairman no later than January 21, 2022. The State Garden Club Chair must submit the five winning posters from his or her state to Regional Garden Club Chairman by February 25, 2022. *** see note below**
13. 13. Since Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl are official icons protected by law, the colors of their clothing need to be accurate. Check the colors on the Web site **www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids**.
14. Students should be reminded to check spelling. Posters with spelling efforts will be disqualified.

***Note about rule #12** - Local entries in New Jersey have a Youth Contest deadline of **Jan. 6, 2022**. All entries are submitted to Bob Markey via email - limited to 3 per grade level per Youth Club.

"Lend a Hand – Care for the Land"

15. Any group of children can participate. Scout troops, after school programs, and the like are perfectly appropriate. The child's grade must be included on the poster so that the participant can compete in the correct grade category.

16. 16. Local Garden Club coordinators should offer certificates of appreciation to all participants. Certificates are available for download at **www.gardenclub.org**. They are also encouraged to organize a recognition ceremony. If there is a national forest office nearby, the Forest Service can be contacted for help. They can facilitate the presence of Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl to your recognition ceremony. National forest contact information is available at **www.fs.usda.gov**.

17. The Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl poster contest is an opportunity for local Garden Clubs to connect with their communities. The contest may be used to promote the club, attract children and their parents, and raise awareness of the importance of caring for the environment.

18. Winning posters should be copied as they will not be returned.

19. Past winners are permitted and encouraged to participate again, but not national winners.

20. Posters may include artwork pasted upon a second piece of paper. However, they must be flat. 3D posters are not allowed.

21. A poster may include just the head of Woodsy or Smokey.

22. National Garden Clubs, Inc. local coordinators for the Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl poster contest should contact their State or Regional Poster Chairman to get promotional materials. Promotional materials are also available for purchasing at **www.symbols.gov**.

23. Posters that compete for the National Grand Prize become property of the Forest Service. They **ARE NOT** returned to participants. Participants and State and Regional Poster Chairmen should make copies or scan and save the posters they submit.

If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Judy Grotts at **judygrotts@cotc.net** or Iris Velez at **iris.velez@usda.gov**

Thank you so much for your support and commitment to the partnership between the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Forest Service!

"And remember: Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!"