

Sustainable Marblehead announces Earth Day poster contest

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Sustainable Marblehead, a local citizens organization dedicated to ensuring a healthy environment for future generations of Marbleheaders, has announced an Earth Day poster contest for students of all ages. Earth Day is Sunday, April 22.

Students are being asked what a Sustainable Marblehead means to them and to illustrate their vision on a poster board template provided by the organization. The United Nations has defined sustainability as “meeting our needs now without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” Examples of sustainable practices include using renewable energy, driving less, walking and biking more, recycling, composting, conserving water, and buying local. All submissions are due by May 1.

Three winners will be chosen by members of Sustainable Marblehead’s Education Action Group based on the student’s understanding of the concept of sustainability, innovative thinking, and clear and creative imagery. First, second and third place winners will be announced in June and honored by State Rep. Lori Ehrlich at the first townwide Sustainability Fair on Oct. 6 at the Marblehead Community Charter Public School, where winners will receive \$100, \$50 and \$25 in Marblehead bucks to be used at local businesses. Entries will be displayed at various town locations in September.

Educators are encouraged to use the contest as a springboard for Earth Day activities and to address concerns children and young adults may have about changing climate conditions, explore the science of global warming and what can be done to address it, and provide a base upon which to develop school, home and town sustainability initiatives.

To participate, contact Judith Black at jb@storiesalive.com or Petra Langer at petravlanger@gmail.com and let them know the number of contest applications needed. Volunteers will drop them off at the requested home, school or office. Those interested can also contact Black and Langer for an electronic version of the template. Once students have completed their posters, volunteers will pick them up. Students are asked to put their names on their submissions along with their grade, school or organization name, and contact information. Posters may also be mailed to Sustainable Marblehead at 33 Prospect St., Marblehead, MA 01945.

Students throughout Marblehead, youth groups at churches and synagogues, and scout troops are all encouraged to participate in the poster contest and the Sustainability Fair. The fair will feature electric vehicle demonstrations, hands-on exhibits and workshops focusing on sustainable living, educational speakers, live entertainment, and local food. More details will be announced soon.

For information, visit <http://sustainablemarblehead.org/sustainability-fair>.