



## **ABOUT THE CONFERENCE**

The Waccamaw Week (formerly Waccamaw Conference) is an annual educational conference for the public focused on the importance of our natural water resources and efforts to protect them. The 2024 conference is co-hosted by the Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER® Program of Winyah Rivers Alliance, North Inlet - Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, and Waccamaw Watershed Academy. This community conference will take place over the week of World Water Day from March 22 - 30, 2024.

## **CONFERENCE THEME**

Our theme this year is Grow with the Flow! Native plants play an important role in maintaining a healthy Waccamaw River watershed ecosystem. More than just pretty flowers, plants provide a wide-range of benefits. Native plants protect water quality, create a healthy ecosystem, and support local wildlife. Our local diverse plant life makes the Waccamaw River watershed unique and beautiful. Grow with the Flow aims to celebrate the plants we see everyday.

The week will feature a week of events highlighting the importance of native plants in the Waccamaw River watershed. Join us during the Waccamaw Week learning more about the importance of our native plants!

## **STUDENT POSTER CONTEST DETAILS**

Students (K-12<sup>th</sup> and post-secondary) are invited to enter a science poster or artwork that focuses on our theme, Grow with the Flow! This is a broad topic that is open to individual interpretation! Students may choose to enter something applicable that has already been developed or create an entirely new science poster or artwork. Examples include: science class or club project, environmental stewardship or volunteer initiative, artwork (e.g., painting, photography, poem) and more. Creativity is always welcome!

Science poster and artwork submissions will be separated and organized into the following grade levels: Elementary (K-5<sup>th</sup>); Middle (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>); High (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>); and Post-secondary (e.g., university, institute). One 1<sup>st</sup> place award will be given to the winner of each age group in both the science and art categories.

**IMPORTANT: Posters/artwork must be submitted by March 15th to be eligible for awards. Posters/artwork submitted after March 15th will not be accepted.**

Examples of some exciting prizes from past conferences include: Huntington Beach State Park visitor passes, river kayaking passes, tote bags, t-shirts, reusable water bottles, gift cards to local eateries, educational resources, and more! Winners and awards will be revealed during the conference.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Topics must relate to and be appropriate for the conference theme.
2. Entries must be submitted to one of the hosts listed below. Please contact us to coordinate a drop off or pick up!

## HOW TO ENTER

**Step 1:** Submit your completed science poster or artwork

To be considered for an award:

- Completed entries must be submitted March 15th by 5:00 pm.
- Please complete all required sections of the entry form and attach it to the poster or artwork. Information required includes:
  - Student name
  - Contact email
  - Teacher name (if submitted through school)
  - Age group
  - Submission category (science or art)
  - Title of submission
  - Brief description of submission

**Step 2:** Help spread the word about the conference and join us for our events throughout the entire month! Be sure to check out all the amazing posters and artwork on display at the Horry County Museum during Waccamaw Week from March 22 - March 31, 2024 and vote for your favorites online!

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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