

Memo To: Teachers, Counselors and Youth Leaders

From: *Arkansas County Conservation District*

Date: 1/3/2012

Subject: Conservation Scholarship

Enclosed is information on the 2011-2012 Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts "Dave Ferguson" Scholarship Contest. This contest will give a young person in our county the opportunity to win up to **\$250.00** towards college expenses when they choose a conservation-related course of study at an accredited Arkansas college or university. The winner will also be eligible to compete for scholarship funds at the area and state level contests.

AACD Scholarship Awards:

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$1,000

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$750

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$500

The enclosed information sheet and entry forms should be distributed immediately to any eligible student so they can return their entries by the deadline. The closing date for entries at the district level is January 20, 2012.

For more entry forms, or more information, please contact the *Arkansas County Conservation District* at **870-946-4357 et. 101/870-673-6641 ext 101**

This is a program sponsored by your local conservation district and the Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts in an effort to assist young people interested in careers in the conservation of our natural resources. We hope you will encourage participation by those in your classes or groups.

Sincerely,

*Johnny Holzhauer*

Chairman

*Arkansas County Conservation District*

# Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts Conservation Scholarship

Entry Form for the 2011-2012 School Year

Return this form, your essay and three letters of recommendation by January 20, 2012 to the  
(District Name).

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County, I have a grade point average of at least 2.0, and I have enclosed three letters of recommendation from responsible adults in my community.

Also, please find enclosed my essay on the topic, "**Conserving our Natural Resources: Who benefits and how do they benefit?**" (Minimum length 500 words). I am prepared to make an oral presentation to the judges on this same conservation-related topic. I am willing to meet with the judges for a personal interview.

I understand that if I win this scholarship, I am eligible for the Area Contest where I may have the opportunity to win additional scholarship funds. Furthermore, I agree to represent (District Name) in that contest. I understand that if I win the Area Contest I agree to represent the Area at the State Contest.

I intend to follow a course of study at a college or university in the state of Arkansas in a conservation related field.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student)

2011-2012  
Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts  
Dave Ferguson Scholarship

Frequently asked questions and answers.....

Q – What is a conservation related field?

A – Agriculture, horticulture, forestry, range management, soil sciences, environmental management, environmental law, botany, and biology are all considered conservation related fields. And there are others.

Q – Who is eligible?

A – District residents who are currently high school seniors, and who have a grade point average of at least 2.0 are eligible.

Q – What is the prize structure?

A – Each district that has a scholarship program is encouraged to offer a \$250.00 scholarship. Areas are encouraged to offer a \$500.00 scholarship. The state scholarships are \$1,000.00, \$750 and \$500.

Q – What are the deadlines?

A – Districts should close their entry period on **January 20, 2012**. Applications should be received in the district offices by that date. Districts will then judge and send in the name of each winner to Area Presidents no later than **March 5, 2012**. Area contests will be decided, and winners' names sent to AACD in Little Rock by **April 16, 2012**. The state contest will be held and the winner will be notified by **June 2012**.

Q – What can a district do to encourage student participation?

A – Use the enclosed materials to submit a news release to local newspapers and also on local radio and cable TV. Contact High School Counselors, 4-H Leaders, FBLA Sponsors, FFA Sponsors, Scout Leaders, and your County Extension Agents. Mail a scholarship packet with a cover letter, flyer and entry form to all those you contact. Place packets in the library, extension office and anywhere students might have the opportunity to pick them up. Don't forget to follow up!

Q – Where can I get more information?

A – Visit our website at <http://www.aracd.org> or contact Debbie Moreland (501) 682-2915 or (501) 425-2891.