



# Recognition Ceremonies

- It is recommended that local and/or state recognition ceremonies be coordinated in conjunction with local events during Earth Week in April or during National Public Lands Day in September. Woodsy Owl and Smokey Bear should be present at these award ceremonies if at all possible.
- You can find and download Certificates of Participation at **[www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids](http://www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids)** and **[www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)**.
- The 1st place National Winners for each grade level category and the National Grand Prize winner will be announced at the 2017 National Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Meeting.
- Certificates and prize money (\$50) for the four national winners will be mailed following the 2017 National Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Meeting. The National Grand Prize Winner will get their check and certificate during the recognition ceremony in Washington, DC.
- The recognition ceremony for the National Grand Prize winner takes place every year during late Spring or Summer in Washington, DC.
- Forest Service conservation education and fire prevention regional coordinators can help you identify local Forest Service units that may assist you with having Smokey and Woodsy appear at your event. A list of coordinators is available at **[www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids](http://www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids)**.

## POSTER TIPS

1. A good poster has a bold and simple design.
2. Its message is easily understood, and is delivered both in the picture and in text.
3. Educators can provide paper to children in order to initiate the program.
4. Members of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. can purchase Smokey Bear and Woodsy owl promotional and educational products at the national Symbols Cache website at **[www.symbols.gov](http://www.symbols.gov)**
5. Posters will be judged for originality, design, slogan, artwork, and overall effectiveness of the message.