



# CARCD

## Speak-Off Contest 2020

The California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) is pleased to continue the tradition of the state-wide Speak-Off Completion for California High School Students at our 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference.

### **Speak Off Topic:**

**“How should Resource Conservation Districts serve and engage the entire community in conservation work?”**

The Speak-Off Competition will be held during lunch on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> during CARCD’s Annual Conference. The conference will be held at the Hilton Beachfront Hotel in Santa Barbara.

### **Contestant Qualifications:**

- Must be a high school student, grades 9-12, at the time of state conference in November.
- Any prior state winner is not eligible as a contestant.
- Must have an interest in agriculture, resource conservation or the environment.
- Contestants **MUST** speak at the regional level to compete at the state level.

### **Application Requirements:**

- Each contestant must fill out and submit an application form to their local Resource Conservation District office.
- The application must include: name, address, phone number, school, grade, age, club affiliations, and a brief statement about interest or involvement in agriculture, conservation or environmental practices. Please see attached application.

### **Speech Requirements:**

- Speaking order will be determined by drawing numbers.
- The speech will be three to five minutes in length, including the salutation and title.
- The speaker shall **NOT** introduce themselves or state what school they represent. However, mentioning their county or area is allowed.
- Notes will be allowed at the district and regional levels, but not at the state level.
- No props, costumes, or visual aids will be allowed at any level.
- The speech **MUST** include a link to Resource Conservation Districts.

### **Judging:**

- There will be three judges and a timekeeper at the district, regional, and state speak-offs.
- It is the Regional Director’s responsibility to include the speak-off on a meeting agenda and to secure regional judges and a timekeeper.
- Judges and timekeepers shall **NOT** be related, in any way, to contestants.
- At the regional level, directors from districts with contestants **CANNOT** be judges or timekeepers
- At the state level, directors from districts with contestants **CANNOT** be judges or timekeepers.
- At the regional level, any questions will be decided by the Regional President. At the state level, questions will be decided by the Speak-Off Committee or the Conservation Education Committee.

All regional winners will receive plaques at the state speak-off. The state speak-off winners will receive:

- 1st Place - \$300
- 2nd Place - \$200
- 3rd Place - \$100