

# NEW JERSEY'S 2017 RECYCLING POETRY CONTEST

*What are the good things that come from recycling paper, plastic, and other materials? Who can you inspire to recycle more? How can your creativity help increase recycling efforts in others?*

Young writers in grades 4 through 6 are challenged to submit original poems (100 words or less) that inspire and motivate citizens of all ages to recycle their waste at home, school, work and in the community.

April 2017 marks the 30th anniversary of New Jersey's Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, which set a recycling mandate and made New Jersey a national recycling leader. New Jersey was the first state in the country to implement such a law and is still one of the top recyclers in the country. To celebrate this milestone, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is sponsoring **New Jersey's 2017 Recycling Poetry Contest**.

- Contest is open to **New Jersey elementary students in grades 4 through 6**.
- Schools must select and submit no more than **1 poem** for each eligible grade level.
- **Four winning poems per grade level will be selected by DEP as winners.**
- A review committee will score each recycling poem based on theme, originality, ability to convey a concept, creative thinking, and writing.
- Winners will receive a certificate. Winning poems and authors will be featured in DEP print, online, and other media, as part of the State's recycling outreach efforts.
- **Entries must be received at DEP by 5:00 pm on Friday, June 2, 2017.** Submissions must include the completed entry form.

Visit [www.nj.gov/dep/seeds/rpc2017.htm](http://www.nj.gov/dep/seeds/rpc2017.htm) for submission requirements, entry form, contact information and other details.

State of New Jersey  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Office of Air Quality, Energy and Sustainability  
[nj.gov/dep/seeds/rpc2017.htm](http://nj.gov/dep/seeds/rpc2017.htm)

