

Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness
334 Townsend Road, Lansing, MI, 48933
(517) 371-2880

DATE: October 13, 2008
TO: Elementary School Principals
FROM: The Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness
RE: **2009 Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest**

The number and intensity of devastating storms in recent years have increased awareness about the need for severe weather preparedness. To encourage youngsters to think about the importance of being prepared in the event of severe weather, the Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness is sponsoring its annual **Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest**. We have enclosed a flyer which can be reproduced and distributed to the appropriate classroom and art instructors in your building.

The contest is open to **students in fourth or fifth grades**. United States Savings Bonds will be awarded for first, second and third place, as well as an honorable mention.

Each year, winners of the poster contest are recognized and presented their awards at a ceremony held at the State Capitol in Lansing during Severe Weather Awareness Week. Last year's winning posters may be viewed on the committee's website located at www.mcswa.org.

The Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness was formed in 1991 to promote safety awareness regarding tornadoes, floods and winter storms. The Committee includes representatives from the National Weather Service, Michigan Department of State Police, Insurance Institute of Michigan, Michigan Emergency Management Association, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, WDIV-TV, State Farm Insurance, Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association, American Red Cross, Michigan Fire Service, and the Michigan Sheriffs' Association.

Severe Weather Awareness Week is March 29 - April 3, 2009

2008 Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest

Sponsored by the Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness



First Prize \$200 U.S. Savings Bond
Second Prize \$100 U.S. Savings Bond
Third Prize \$75 U.S. Savings Bond
Honorable Mention \$50 U.S. Savings Bond

Eligibility - The contest is open to any Michigan student in **fourth or fifth grade**.

Deadline: Postmarked by February 1, 2009

Topic - Artwork must illustrate what individuals and families should do to prepare for Michigan severe weather, such as snowstorms, severe cold, tornadoes, thunderstorms, lightning or floods.

The Committee is looking for posters with a **simple, clear message**. Lettering should be easy to read, and artwork should be bright and visible and complement the message.

Winning posters from previous years can be viewed at: www.mcswa.org

Official Rules

Who may enter:	Any Michigan student in fourth or fifth grades during the 2008-2009 school year.
Mailing:	Posters must be packed, wrapped flat and mailed to: National Weather Service Office 9200 White Lake Road White Lake, MI 48386
Deadline:	Posters must be postmarked on or before February 1, 2009, and must arrive in the National Weather Service Office no later than February 6, 2009. Winners will be notified by mail no later than March 1, 2009.
Poster Specification:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Posters must be submitted on tag, poster or illustration board.2. The overall dimensions shall be approximately 15" x 20."3. All artwork must be original and may be any media desired with the exception of pencil, chalk, charcoal or glitter.4. Stenciled, traced, computer-generated or commercially manufactured stick-on lettering or graphics are prohibited.5. All posters will become the property of the Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness.6. Posters will be judged on both the clarity of the preparedness message and the quality of the art. Posters with misspelled words will be eliminated.
Identification:	The following information shall be PRINTED on the back of the poster: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Artist's name, age and grade.2. Artist's home address, telephone number and names of parents.3. Name, address and telephone number of school.4. Name of art instructor or classroom teacher, if any.

For more information, contact: **Mark Walton, National Weather Service, 616-949-0643, Ext. 493** or **Richard Pollman, National Weather Service, 248-625-3309, Ext. 726**



BE A WINNER!

Contest for Fourth & Fifth Grade Students

16TH ANNUAL SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST

FIRST PRIZE \$200 U.S. SAVINGS BOND

SECOND PRIZE \$100 U.S. SAVINGS BOND

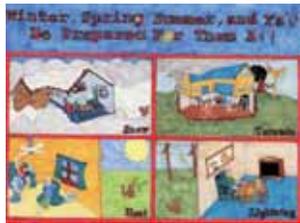
THIRD PRIZE \$75 U.S. SAVINGS BOND

HONORABLE MENTION \$50 U.S. SAVINGS BOND

First place severe weather awareness poster contest winners from 1994 to 2008

See contest details inside for 2009

1st Place Winning Poster Could Be Yours



2007



2006



2005



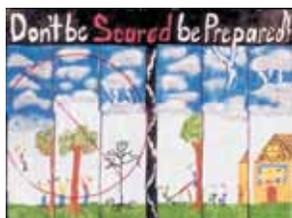
2004



2003



2008



2002



2001



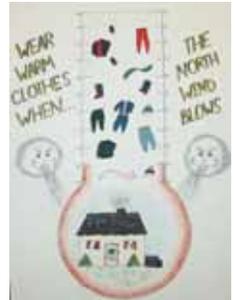
2000



1999



1994



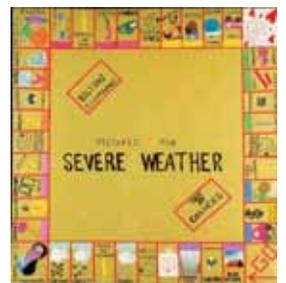
1995



1996



1997



1998

16TH ANNUAL SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST

4th and 5th Grade Students

Attention



Michigan Committee for
Severe Weather Awareness
Information from the



The Michigan Committee for
Severe Weather Awareness

SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST INFORMATION