



## 2024 Nebraska Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest

### INFORMATION AND RULES FOR SARPY COUNTY SCHOOLS

If your school isn't in Sarpy County, contact your local emergency manager for more information about the contest. A list of local emergency managers can be found at <https://nema.nebraska.gov/>.

The springtime severe weather season is quickly approaching and that means it's time for the annual Nebraska Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest. The contest, sponsored by the Nebraska Association of Emergency Management, the National Weather Service, the Nebraska National Guard, and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, is part of the annual Severe Weather Awareness Week effort produced by emergency management directors and coordinators across Nebraska.

The poster contest is open to all third-grade students in Nebraska public and private schools as well as home-schooled third-grade students. Teachers are encouraged to have students participate while teaching them about hazards of severe weather in Nebraska. While not specifically designed to promote tornado awareness, tornadoes are the most common theme chosen for posters. Lightning and flooding, which are also products of severe thunderstorms, are also good topic choices.

The first-place winner in the state contest wins a \$125 gift card. The second-place winner receives a \$100 gift card, and the third-place winner receives a \$75 gift card. The Nebraska Association of Emergency Management provides the first, second, and third place gift card awards. The fourth-place poster winner receives a \$50 gift card sponsored by the National Weather Service.

#### Contest rules are as follows:

1. Poster artists must be a third-grade pupil in any Nebraska private, public, or home school.
2. Entries must be related to the theme of severe weather safety and will be judged on originality, effort, and accuracy. The posters should have a clear preparedness/weather safety message included. The slogan is as important as the artwork. **All entries must be on an 11" x 17" sheet of white paper providing a 1-inch border to allow for matting the winning posters.** Any medium may be used (crayon, paint, markers, etc.). Only one entry is allowed per pupil and no joint entries (posters by more than one person) will be accepted.
3. Each entry **MUST INCLUDE the following information on the back side of the poster** (please write legibly):

<b>Student name:</b> _____	<b>Age:</b> _____
<b>Home address:</b> _____	<b>Home Phone:</b> _____
<b>School:</b> _____	<b>School address:</b> _____
<b>Nebraska County where school is located:</b> <u>Sarpy</u>	<b>Parent Email:</b> _____

4. **Entries must be received on or before Friday, February 9, 2024.** Entries can be mailed to the Sarpy County Emergency Management Agency (1210 Golden Gate Dr, Suite 1310, Papillion, NE 68046-2848) or dropped off at the Sarpy County Clerk's Office located in the Sarpy County Administration Building (1210 Golden Gate Dr, Papillion, NE 68046). Remember to allow enough time for mailed items to arrive by the deadline. Schools with more than three entries should hold a vote to select their top three posters. **Each school should only send a maximum of three posters.**
5. The top three posters in the county will be selected by the Sarpy County Emergency Management Agency and forwarded to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. There, they will join the top three posters from every participating county in the state.
6. First, second, third, and fourth place winners will be chosen by the contest sponsors. All winners will be notified by phone or mail. The four winners and their parents will be invited to the State Capitol in March for the presentation of their awards from the Nebraska Association of Emergency Management and the National Weather Service and to be recognized by Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts.

Any questions regarding the Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest can be directed to Tandra Paulson with the Sarpy County Emergency Management Agency at [tpaulson@sarpy.gov](mailto:tpaulson@sarpy.gov) or (402) 593-5794.