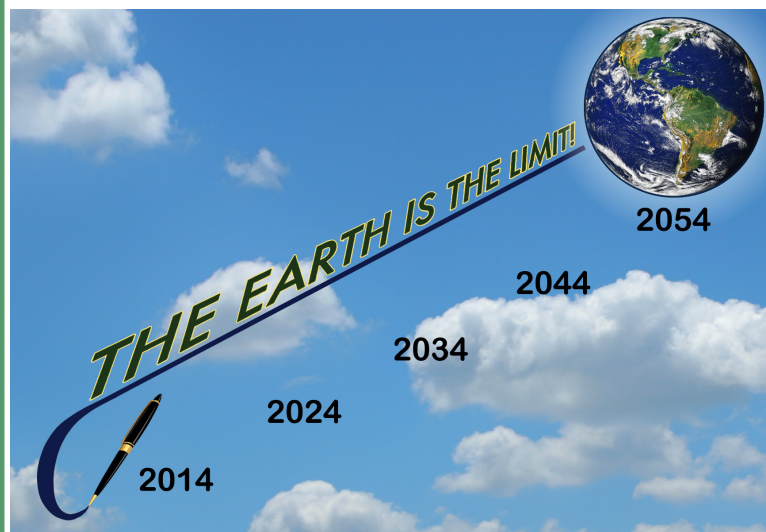


The Cleveland County Conservation District in partnership with OU Lean Institute and OU Writing Center announces:

"The Earth IS the Limit: Eco-Essays for the Future"

Essay Contest



What will be the condition of Oklahoma's environment in 40 years? What will be preserved and conserved? What will be lost? What new issues and challenges will Oklahoma face? What new eco-technologies will we use? What old technologies will they replace? Will Oklahomans have a changed attitude about the environment? What role will Oklahoma play in solving environmental problems? Will we lead the way, or not?

The writer is free to write about earth's future in general or focus on one topic (e.g., water). It is a broad theme open to interpretation and imagination.

All entries will be stored on an external drive and placed in a time capsule to be buried on Earth Day 2014, to be unearthed and opened on Earth Day 2054. The winning essays in each age category will be printed on archival quality paper and placed in the time capsule.

The University of Oklahoma Writing Center will publish a small booklet that will include the winning essays in each age category. Winning essays will also be printed in the Norman Transcript.

CONTEST INFORMATION

CONTEST IS RESTRICTED TO RESIDENTS OF CLEVELAND COUNTY.

AGE CATEGORIES ARE AS FOLLOWS: Children (6-10), Youth (11-16), Young Adult (17-21), Adult (22-59), Senior (60+)

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- Essays should be no more than 1,000 words and can include images.
- Essays should be submitted via email to the University of Oklahoma Writing Center (writingcenter@ou.edu) with the subject line "Sustainability Essay Contest Entry." The email should include the name of the essay's author, the title of the essay, the age category of the author, and the author's email address, mailing address, and phone number.
- Essays should be submitted as attachments in one of the following file formats: .doc, .docx, or .rtf
- **Submissions will be accepted through December 15, 2013.**

Essays will be judged by a group of volunteer judges assembled by the University of Oklahoma Writing Center. Judges will be from the university and the Norman community. Winning essays will address the contest theme effectively and exhibit distinction in style and content.

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY FEBRUARY 15, 2014