

## **2023 Earth Day Essay Challenge Fact Sheet** **Vermont Attorney General's Office**

**What?** Attorney General Charity Clark wants to hear from young Vermonters about the environment. The Attorney General's Office is holding an Earth Day Essay Challenge and asking Vermont's fifth- and sixth-grade students to submit essays on the environment.

**Who?** The Earth Day Essay Challenge is open to any fifth- and sixth-grade students in Vermont.

**When?** The Earth Day Essay Challenge will run from February 13, 2023 through April 7, 2023.

**Essay Topics?** Fifth and sixth graders are encouraged to be creative and write about their thoughts on Earth Day and the environment. Suggestions include: What do you love about Vermont's environment? How do you enjoy Vermont's environment? What do you care most about and what does Earth Day mean to you? What are your concerns about the future of Vermont's environment? What do you think we should do to help protect the environment?

Participants do not need to cover any or all of these topics – these are just ideas!

**What Else?** All essay submissions will be posted on the Attorney General Office's public website unless a participant asks us not to post their essay. Posted essays will include a participant's first name, their grade, and the school they attend.

All participants will be entered in a drawing to have Attorney General Clark visit the selected student's classroom after the essay challenge is over.

The Attorney General's Environmental Protection Unit, and Attorney General Clark herself, will read all essays and provide individual feedback to each person who submits an essay. This feedback will be provided after the essay challenge is over.

For Teachers: Fifth- and sixth-grade teachers who have students participating in the essay challenge and who would like to have an environmental lawyer speak with their class virtually about the environmental work of the Attorney General's Office during the event period (February 13 through April 7) should email their request to Natasha Sala at [natasha.sala@vermont.gov](mailto:natasha.sala@vermont.gov).

**How to Submit?** Essays should be no more than 1,000 words. Please include your name, school (or indicate home school), grade, and teacher with your submission. Essays can be submitted via email to [natasha.sala@vermont.gov](mailto:natasha.sala@vermont.gov) or by mail to:

Vermont Attorney General's Office  
Attn: Environmental Protection Unit  
109 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602

If sending an essay via email, please attach the essay to the email as a Word or PDF document.