

**YES! Spring Judging – REVISED DUE TO COVID-19**

Dear YES! Coaches and Students,

Amidst all of the changes this spring, we still want to continue with our annual YES! Spring Judging because it’s important to celebrate and recognize all of the good work your team is doing for the earth. However, we are making a few adjustments as detailed here.

Main changes & key dates:

* No live presentation
* May 7 - Final Report and Visual due to your Coordinator
* May 18 – Regional winners announced
* YES! State Championship at MN Twins game – TBD or may need to be cancelled
* If your team chooses to not participate in the judging this spring, please submit the Final Report. This provides important data for us in order to complete our grant reporting.

To participate, please submit:

* YES! Final Report (attached – same as we sent to you in February)
* 1 Visual – This includes a variety of options such as a Power Point presentation (template attached), your website, a Zoom recorded presentation with student(s) detailing your projects, challenges, teamwork, and environmental impact, or a video about the project you hoped to have done and why.

In addition to the Final Report and Visual, our judges (regional experts) will take into consideration the following:

* Project activities worked on but not completed before school closings
* Projects completed before school closings
* Intentions to complete project activities next year
* Student participation on completing the PPT (or other visual) and the Final Report
* A short student produced video on an ecological topic of interest
* Projects done at home
* Virtual competitions between students at home
* Participating in the YES! Daily Challenge (will run again during Earth Day week)
* An act of kindness to another person and/or the environment

YES! will award cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place and the Water Quality Stewardship Award. The 1st Place winner and the Water Stewardship winner from each region will move on to the State Championship. We may need to make modifications to the regional and state judging based on the number of teams participating.

Stay well ~ Shelli-Kae, YES! Program Director + Regional Coordinators