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2019

Backyard Bugs Contest



The Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District is pleased to announce the 6th ever Backyard Bugs Contest! Participants observe, draw, and write about bugs they find. Entries will be displayed and prizes will be awarded at the District's Open House on **May 18, 2019**.

Rules

- Be careful at all times! Go bug hunting with a responsible adult. You don't need to touch, capture or kill any bugs. Stay away from wasps, ticks, spiders and other dangerous creatures that may sting or bite. Always use common sense to stay safe!
- Entries must be received by 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 18, 2019. In order to be eligible to win 1st, 2nd or 3rd place prizes, you must attend the Open House **and** check in at the contest booth **before** 12:30 p.m. When you check in, you will be given a sticker to put on your drawing so the judges know that your entry is eligible to be judged. The awards ceremony begins at 1:30 p.m.

3 Ways to Submit Your Entry

1. If your class had a vector presentation, a District staff member will be returning to your class a few days later, and can pick up your entry.
2. Drop off or mail your entry to District Headquarters. We are open M-F 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (closed for lunch daily from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.).
Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District
Attention: Education Dept.
595 Helman Lane, Cotati, CA. 94931
3. Turn in your entry at our Open House on May 18 **before** 12:30 p.m.

Note: In order for your entry to be judged, you must check in at the contest booth before 12:30 p.m. on the day of the Open House!



Save The Date!

May 18, 2019

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Check in at contest booth by 12:30 p.m.

Awards ceremony begins at 1:30 p.m.

595 Helman Lane in Cotati

Questions? email erice@msmosquito.com



Prizes!

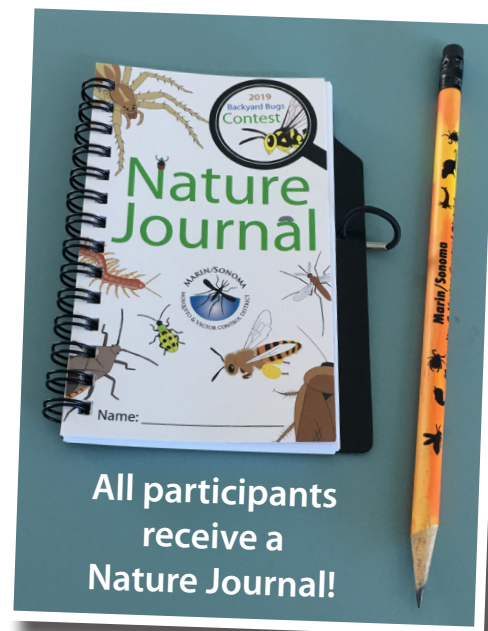
Individual Participation Prize:

All participants are eligible to receive a Backyard Bugs Contest Nature Journal. These will be handed out to all participants after the awards ceremony at the Open House. For students unable to attend the event, the journals will be delivered to schools during the weeks after the event when requested by the teacher (while supplies last). Other arrangements to deliver journals can be arranged as necessary.

First, Second and Third Place Prizes

This year we will have four separate age groups:

- TK/Kindergarten
- 1st grade
- 2nd-3rd grades
- 4th-8th grades



For each age group, a first, second and third place prize will be awarded. Judges will be instructed to look for the greatest amount of student effort (coloring, labeling, extra research, etc.). The prizes that we have selected are all science-related/educational (insect books, science kits, etc.). **In order to be eligible to win these prizes, you must enter the contest and check in at the contest booth at the Open House before 12:30pm on May 18.** When you check in at the contest booth you will be given a sticker to place on your entry form which shows the judges that you have checked in.

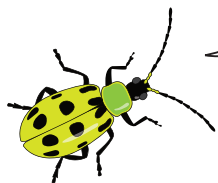
Manager's Award

Our District Manager will select an entry that shows that the participant did a superior job researching their bug.

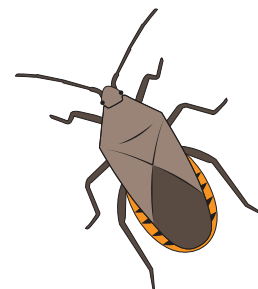
The "BRO" Award

This is perhaps the most prestigious and mysterious award ever. No one (except BRO) knows the criteria for this award or even what the prize is. All we know is that BRO will select an entry that catches his eye. Good luck!

Check www.msмосquito.com in early May for a complete list of prizes!



Remember, the purpose of this contest is to learn about insects, observe nature, and have fun!



Entry Form (turn this page in)

- Entries must be received by 12:30 p.m. on May 18, 2019.
- All participants are eligible to receive a small prize, even if they cannot attend the Open House.
- In order for your entry to be judged and be eligible to win 1st, 2nd, or 3rd prize, you must attend the Open House, and check in at the contest booth before 12:30 p.m. on May 18, 2019.
- Parents: please carefully read, fill out, and sign the form below.
- Your personal information will not be shared, and will only be used to remind you to attend the Open House or to contact you about a prize.

Participant's name: (first and last) _____

Circle age group: TK/Kindergarten 1st 2nd-3rd grade 4th-8th grade

I hereby authorize my child to participate in the Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District (MSMVCD) Backyard Bugs Contest. My signature is acknowledgement that I have read, understand and agree to the rules and conditions of the contest and understand that the safety of my child is my responsibility and MSMVCD is not responsible for any property damage or any harm or injury that may occur to any person while participating in the contest or using/playing with any prize that is awarded.

Printed name of **parent or guardian**: _____

Signature of **parent or guardian**: _____

Phone number(s): _____

Email: _____

School child attends: _____

Teacher's name (important): _____

Directions:

- Find a bug. Watch it closely for several minutes and draw a detailed, labeled picture of it on the back of this page. Make sure to include details that show where you found it (on a stick, under a rock, etc.).
- Identify it and find out as much as you can about the creature (use books).
- Find out what it eats, its habitat, and whether or not it is helpful to people.
- Write your observations and what you found out about the bug on the lines below your drawing on the back of this page.
- Your work will be saved forever in the 2019 Backyard Bugs Book!

Draw, label and color your bug in the space above.

Write the name of the bug here: _____

Observations and information about this bug: _____

_____ Entry number (office use): _____