

# Indiana Soils CDE

## I. Suggestions for County and Area Soil CDE Contest

- A. After contest date and location have been decided:
1. Notify State 4-H Office of date and location.
  2. Notify all Extension educators, Agriculture teachers and coaches in your area.
  3. Contact local SCS office for the district conservationist and area soil scientist to assist with location of pit sites and arrangements for digging holes. Efforts should be made to have the landowner identify where tile drains are located, if possible, to prevent digging into them.
  4. Two to three days prior to the contest, call the Indiana Underground Utility Protection Service to request location of any utility services in the area. This must be done prior to digging holes. The following information will be needed:
    - a. Physical address of the property
    - b. Property owner's name and address
    - c. GPS coordinates of property, if known
    - d. Date of contest
    - e. Date holes are to be dug
    - f. Name and address of person digging holes
    - g. Approximate number of participants expected
    - h. Contact name and phone number if site locator has questions when locating utilitiesThe contact phone number is 811 or 800-382-5544 and the web site is <http://indiana811.org/holey-moley>
  5. Check with any sponsor you may have in mind for possible awards if your area so desires.
  6. Review the Understanding and CDE Indiana Soils (ID-72) and the 4-H/FFA Ag CDE Handbook (4-H 98). If you have questions, be sure to get these answered before the day of your contest. All contest materials are located on the State 4-H web site. <https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/get-involved/state-programs/career-development-events/soil-judging-cde.html>
  7. Notify local news media and make arrangements for volunteer helpers, freeing himself or herself to do overall and last minute problem solving on the day of the contest.
- B. Materials needed for the contest:
1. Eight slope stakes (generally 2" x 2", 5 to 6 feet long).
  2. Eight to twelve yard sticks.
  3. Four one-gallon (or similar) water bottles (one for each hole).
  4. Four boxes or buckets for surface texture. At the county and area contests soil will be provided in a box or bucket at each hole for contestants to determine Surface Texture.
  5. Six to seven pieces of poster board (about 10" x 12") for use as hole cards, if you do not use cards available from Media Distribution Center (4H 736A), and 5 to 6 pieces of lath mounting stakes.
  6. Scan sheets from [judgingcard.com](http://judgingcard.com) and Scantron machine. Make sure the Scantron driver software is installed on the computer used at the contest. If not, contact AgIT and allow at least one week for a technician to install.
  7. Registration forms, manuals, site cards, and score cards (both agricultural and home site). If you do not have these in your local or area office, check with the State 4-H Office or The Education Store.
  8. State 4-H Office will provide a medallion to be presented to the first place senior 4-H, senior FFA, and junior division teams and their coach at the area contest and a plaque to the overall first place senior team. Areas are responsible for any other awards or ribbons presented.
  9. Score cards:
    - 4-H 394-W - Soil CDE Score Card
    - 4-H 255-W - Home site Score Card
- C. Personnel generally required to run contest:

# Indiana Soils CDE

1. Two to three registration/tabulators.
  2. Four group leaders to guide groups of contestants between holes during the contest.
  3. Four hole supervisors to stand by holes, keep them in order and take up completed scorecards.
  4. Time keeper.
  5. Help for these tasks can come from fellow educators, Agriculture teachers, SCS personnel or SWCD supervisors.
  6. Contact to arrange for CDE or other assistance:  
Gary Steinhardt, Agronomy Department      Tony Carrell, Extension Specialist  
Lilly Hall, Purdue University                      615 W. State St.  
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907                      West Lafayette, Indiana  
47907 Phone: (765) 494-8063                      Phone: (765) 494-8435
- D. Official CDE of Sites
1. Official CDE of contest sites is usually done the day before the contest.
  2. Arrangements for this are generally made several weeks in advance of the contest through a letter or phone call with Gary Steinhardt.

## II. Requirements

- A. Soil pits are judged at four sites, according to scorecard(s) provided by Purdue Extension. Two of the pits will be judged for home site evaluation and two for agricultural use evaluation.
- B. Printed scorecards will be given to each contestant on which they will give their evaluation of each site and optically scannable forms may be used at area and state contest. The contest coordinator may choose to have contestants complete their scannable form at the completion of each hole if weather conditions permit. Coaches are to instruct their contestants how to complete the scannable form. Scannable forms will **NOT** be re-marked and re-graded if the original marks are not being read by the electronic scoring machine.
- C. Each contestant will have approximately 15 minutes to complete their score card for a given site or area. The contest coordinator should give 5 additional minutes at each site if there are more than 20 contestants per group or if land or weather conditions are poor or if scannable forms are marked at the site.
- D. All teams must be pre-registered and checked in at the prescribed time (both area and state).
- E. A total of 8-10 practice holes among 2-3 sites will be available at the State Contest the day before the State Contest and officials will be present for discussion.
- F. Only printed 4-H Slope finders for use with a clipboard may be used as a reference/mechanical device during the State Soils contest.

## III. Awards

- A. Ribbons for state contests are provided from the Indiana FFA.
- B. Gold medals for first place 4-H and FFA Senior teams and coaches in each area. Also, gold medals for first place for overall Junior Teams in each area.
- C. At the state level, team members and coaches in Senior 4-H and FFA classifications receive awards as follows:
  1. Senior Team Awards

1 <sup>st</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Team	Plaque for each team
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Team	Plaque for each team

# Indiana Soils CDE

3 <sup>rd</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Team	Plaque for each team
4 <sup>th</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Team	Plaque for each team
5 <sup>th</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Team	Plaque for each team

Sponsored by State FFA Association:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place FFA team	Banner
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## 2. Senior Individual Awards

Top ten individuals will receive ribbons with placing designated.

Top five individuals will also receive:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Individual	Plaque
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Individual	Plaque
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Individual	Plaque
4 <sup>th</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Individual	Plaque
5 <sup>th</sup> Place FFA, 4-H and Master's Individual	Plaque

## 3. Junior Team Awards:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place Team Overall	Trophy
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Team Overall	Trophy
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Team Overall	Plaque
4 <sup>th</sup> Place Team Overall	Plaque
5 <sup>th</sup> Place Team Overall	Plaque

### 1. Junior Individual Awards:

Top ten individuals will receive ribbons with placing designated.

2. Coach of the Overall high placing team in the contest will receive a chrome plated spade, sponsored by IAPSC.

## IV. Additional Information

- A. Material on home site evaluation is also a part of the soil CDE contest and is fully explained in Understanding and CDE Indiana Soils (ID-72).
- B. Supplementary teaching materials, scorecards and instructions will be issued each year as the materials are improved. This may alter scoring and timing of the contest to some degree. Any changes to other rules will be distributed to all concerned.
- C. If there are any ties, they will be broken by one of the following methods, in order.
  1. The highest total team score, including the alternate on the teams.
  2. If a tie remains, total scores for the teams, not including the alternate, for site 1 will be used.
  3. If a tie remains, total scores for the teams, not including the alternate, for site 2 will be used. Site 3, etc. will be used if needed.
  4. In case of a tie for the individual awards, the score on site 1 will be used. Sites 2, 3, etc. will be used if a tie remains.
- D. Every attempt will be made to establish the state contest date as to not interfere with National FFA Convention for Agriculture teachers and NAE4-HYDP Conference for Extension Educators.

## V. Area Teams Advancing to State Contest

- A. Top 2 Junior teams, regardless of 4-H or FFA.
- B. Top 5 Junior individuals not on an advancing team.
- C. Top 6 Senior teams, regardless of 4-H or FFA.
  1. If any of these teams is Master, the Master team will advance to state and the next

# Indiana Soils CDE

- highest placing senior team will advance to state.
2. If 4-H or FFA is not represented in the state qualifying senior teams, the highest placing team representing that organization will advance to state.
  3. An additional team may be added to the number advancing for each team from that area that qualified for the national event the prior year.
  4. No entity (FFA Chapter or 4-H group) shall advance more than 2 senior FFA teams and 2 senior 4-H teams from the area to the state contest.
- D. Top 5 Senior individuals not on an advancing team.  
E. Masters teams as described in C1.

## **VI. National Contest Rules**

### **A. 4-H and FFA Division Land CDE**

1. A maximum of five 4-H and five FFA teams may enter from each state. Each state may also enter two additional Homesite Evaluation teams provided they meet the criteria of national rule #6. Decision on 6/10/2009 is that these two additional teams will come from the Indiana's Master Division, giving the teams the option in placement order.  
Rule # 6: Any 4-H or FFA contestant who has participated in ANY previous National Land CDE or Homesite Evaluation will not be eligible to participate in this year's Land CDE contest. Contestants may compete in the Homesite Evaluation contest provided they were not a previous member of a champion or reserve champion team in Land CDE or Homesite Evaluation, or was not a champion or reserve champion individual in Land CDE or Homesite Evaluation.
2. Four contestants comprise a team. Scores of the high three team members make the teamscore. A team of only three members is permissible.
3. Team members will compete for both team and individual prizes.
4. Each state will be responsible for the methods used in selecting the five teams to represent the state. National rules will not allow any contestants participating in the National contest to return to the National contest as a contestant.
5. The above contest rules applying to land CDE shall also be applicable to the CDE of Home sites.

### **B. General Rules - National Contest**

1. Clipboards, bubble vials, levels, notes, bulletins, etc., must not be used in the contest.
2. The same team or individuals may compete in land CDE, home site CDE, and pasture and range CDE.
3. Contest results submitted to National officials by the tabulation committee shall be final.
4. To qualify for a champion trophy, medal or cash award, the team or individual winning such award must be present at the awards dinner to accept it. If such champion is not present at the awards dinner, the championship trophy and/or medal(s) shall be awarded to the next high-ranking team or individual that is present, the championship cash award shall be forfeited to the donor.
5. No person under the age of 21 or members of a 4-H club or FFA is eligible to compete in the adult division.
6. See the National Land CDE website for further information <http://www.landCDE.com/>  
Usually information is not updated on the website until current year calendar occurs.

## **VII. Supplemental/Optional Reference Items**

- A 48 page manual entitled "Soils Manual for Land CDE" is available through Vocational Education Productions. Call 1-800-235-4146 for details.