

Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative's **Youth Tour Program** High School **Juniors** (11th grade) offers you an opportunity to make new friends and lots of memories, along with learning about electricity and electric cooperatives. We'd love your participation!!

What are we talking about? YOUTH TOUR ESSAY CONTEST is for High School **Juniors** (11th grade only).

What is YOUTH TOUR? It's an all-expense paid, week long, fun & action-packed trip to Washington D.C. in the month of June for 11th Graders. While on the trip, you'll be able to build leadership skills, learn more about US Government and our nation's heritage. It's a once in a lifetime experience that you don't want to miss out on!

Requirements for this contest:

- 1.) You must currently be classified as a High School **Junior** (11th grade) at time of essay contest and attend a high school in Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative's service territory. It's not necessary that the student's parents be members of VVEC.
- 2.) Essay needs to be type-written, double-spaced, and needs to be between 600 and 800 words in length.
- 3.) You can use information from our website or any source you choose. You're not required to cite your sources. Be original and be factual.
- 4.) DO NOT put your name on the essay; instead, include a cover sheet with your name and school.
- 5.) Complete and submit the Youth Tour entry form/application along with your essay.
- 6.) Deadline to submit essay and Youth Tour entry form/application is **Friday, March 3, 2023, no later than 4:00 pm.**
- 7.) Essay Topic is: **"In your words, explain how Electric Cooperatives originated and how we benefit from them in our communities"**.
- 8.) Essay can be submitted by hand delivery to VVEC headquarters in Collinsville, by email or US Postal Mail. **(Important!** If mailing, use PO BOX, not the physical address)
- 9.) Be prepared to commit to attending an all-expense paid trip if you are selected as a trip finalist on the dates of JUNE 16-23, 2023. **Covid-19/Safety Protocols may be required**

We will select and send three (3) students as the top finalists, to Washington D.C. based on the three highest scoring essays. There will also be two (2) runners-up who will win a \$1000.00 and a \$750.00 college scholarship.

ESSAY DEADLINE - 4 p.m. Friday, March 3, 2023.

For More Details: visit our website at www.vvec.com - go to Community Programs, and view Washington Youth Tour.

Best of Luck!!

For more information contact:

Misti Frazier or Regina Morris

Youth Program Coordinators

Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative

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