



2011  
Richland County Farm-City Week:  
K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class Bulletin Board  
*Sustainable Agriculture*

**Eligibility:** K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes in public and private schools in Richland County and K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade homeschooled students living in Richland County are eligible to participate.

**Overview:** “Sustainable Agriculture” is farming in a way that protects the soil, water, air, plants, wildlife, and people. Sustainable farming practices include:

- Reducing soil erosion
- Composting and mulching
- Using optimal fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides
- Using efficient irrigation techniques
- Rotating crops
- Planting cover crops
- Increasing crop diversity
- Selling and buying food locally
- Managing livestock manure
- Increasing free range livestock production
- Rotational grazing
- Reducing farm energy use
- Using renewable energy sources to power the farm and farm equipment
- Integrating wildlife habitat into the farm plan

**Assignment:** Your assignment is to investigate sustainable farming in South Carolina by participating in one or more of the following activities (or a related activity) to learn how and why farmers care for their farmland.

- Visit a local farm
- Visit a local farmers market
- Interview a farmer
- Invite a farmer to visit your school
- Visit the produce section of your local grocery store
- Interview the produce manager at your local grocery store
- Start a class composting project or other class project demonstrating a practice of sustainable agriculture
- Contact local government agencies to find out how they promote sustainable agriculture; invite representatives to visit your school! Contact us for ideas.

Students may undertake these activities as a class or individually. Then, create a bulletin board about your investigation demonstrating what you learned about sustainable agriculture. For example, why is it important? What does it look like? Your bulletin board may treat sustainable agriculture as a whole or focus on one or a few sustainable practices (e.g., composting).

**Rules:** Bulletin boards should be approximately 4' x 8' and may include any media. Because these boards may be displayed in a local gallery, when possible, please mount all materials on a backing (e.g., Kraft paper) that can be removed, transported, and re-mounted.

**Judging:** Bulletin boards will be judged on the following criteria:

- Relevance to theme (Sustainable Agriculture)
- Evidence of completion of the assignment (e.g., interviewing a farmer or visiting a farm)
- Student participation
- Creativity

**Prizes:** Each class that creates a bulletin board will receive a \$25 participation award to help cover the cost of supplies used to create the display. (Limit: first 25 classes to submit Notice of Intent.) The class with the first-place bulletin board in each grade will receive a \$50 class prize; second place will receive a \$30 class prize; and third place will receive a \$20 class prize. The teacher of the class that creates the first-place bulletin board in each grade will also receive a \$50 teacher prize.

**Timeline:**

September 23<sup>rd</sup>: submit Notice of Intent to the Richland County Farm-City Committee

October 28<sup>th</sup>: Bulletin boards should be completed

Week of October 31<sup>st</sup>: Judging (a team of judges will visit each school by appointment)

November 18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>: National Farm-City Week; winner notifications and media opportunities for winners and participants

**Questions:** Direct any questions to:

Chanda L. Cooper  
Richland Soil & Water Conservation District  
2020 Hampton Street, Room 3063 A  
Columbia, SC 29204  
(w) 803-576-2084  
(f) 803-576-2088  
[cooperc@rcgov.us](mailto:cooperc@rcgov.us)

Detach the portion below and post it on your bulletin board by October 28<sup>th</sup>.



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School name:

Teacher name:

Grade:

Bulletin board title:



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**Notice of Intent (Due Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>)**

Complete this form and return via fax, e-mail, mail, or hand-delivery to:

Chanda L. Cooper  
Richland Soil & Water Conservation District  
2020 Hampton Street, Room 3063 A  
Columbia, SC 29204  
(w) 803-576-2084  
(f) 803-576-2088  
[cooperc@rcgov.us](mailto:cooperc@rcgov.us)

School name:

Principal:

School address:

School telephone #:

Participating Teachers (first and last names for certificates)	Grade
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	

(Attach additional sheets as needed.)