

Hoover Beautification Board

Arbor Day Essay Contest

In order to encourage students to apply their writing skills to practical purpose and to arouse awareness of Arbor Day and the importance of trees to our community well-being, the Hoover Beautification Board will sponsor the 2016 Arbor Day Essay Contest.

WHO CAN ENTER?

Any **fourth grade** student in the Hoover City Schools System is invited to submit one short essay.

WHAT TO WRITE:

The central theme of the essay is, "**The Importance of Trees to the City of Hoover**".

HOW TO ENTER?

- Essays should be 300 words or less, and the original work of the student.
- Essays must be printed or typed.
- Essays must have the student's name, teacher's name and school name printed or typed clearly on the top of the page.
- Entries must be submitted no later than **Friday, February 12, 2016**.
- Submit entries to: Your Elementary School Principal
- Principals, please submit your **three best essays** via email to: Jennifer Gregory at <mailto:jgregory@aldridgegardens.com>
- Final judging will be performed by the Hoover Beautification Board.

JUDGING

Members of the Hoover Beautification Board will judge the entries by the following criteria:

- Originality of Thought (30%)
- Clarity of Reasoning (30%)
- Accuracy of Information (20%)
- Grammatical Usage, Spelling & Punctuation (20%)

AWARDS

As part of Hoover's official Arbor Day Ceremony, the Arbor Day Essay Contest awards ceremony will be held Saturday, March 5 at 10:30AM at Aldridge Gardens in Hoover, AL. The author of the first place essay will receive a 1-year family membership to Aldridge Gardens, a book about trees and, a cash prize and gift certificates from Hoover businesses. Recipients of Honorable Mention will receive a book about trees, a cash prize and gift certificates from Hoover businesses. Each award recipient will be invited to read his or her essay during the Arbor Day Ceremony.