Rules for EcoComedy Video Competition
Spring 2016
Sponsored by
AU’s Center for Environmental Filmmaking
and The Nature Conservancy

Guidelines
The contest is open to anyone who prepares a short, funny video for YouTube, which communicates a clear message about environmental conservation. “Connect the drops” between clean water and life.

The 2016 theme is “Clean Water”

Submissions must:

• Be humorous!
• Communicate a clear (and funny!) message around the broad theme of “clean water” and overall environmental conservation.
• Reach a broad audience.
• Be an original production.
• Be less than three minutes (including title and credits).
• Include a link to your YouTube posted video (on YOUR OWN YouTube account) and be posted into the comments section of the sample video which appears on EcoComedy Video Competition 2016 YouTube Channel at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrCpIIqB-C-oshuQkI2xXoA
• Be submitted by 11:59pm Eastern Standard Time on Tuesday, March 1st.

A panel of five judges representing The Nature Conservancy and the Center for Environmental Filmmaking will determine the finalists and grand prize winner. The decision of the judges is final. Awards are based on overall merit of the entries. Judges reserve the right not to grant an award. The organizations listed above reserve the right to post submissions on their websites.

Submissions are due by Tuesday, March 1, 2016

We look forward to watching your videos and awarding the winner $2,000! Good luck!

Finalists will be announced on Friday, March 4. The winning entry will be announced and shown at American University on Tuesday, March 22 at the DC Environmental Film Festival at 7:00 p.m., in the Forman Theater located in the McKinley Building. The creator of the winning entry will receive a $2,000 award from The Nature Conservancy. In the event of a tie, the monetary prize will be split between the winners equally.

Finalists will also be entered into a Viewer’s Choice competition to be managed on social media and voted on by the general public. The winner of the Viewer’s Choice
Award will be announced at the March 22 program; the winner will not receive a cash prize.

Rules

1. Videos must be the original work of the applicants. Applicants must hold the rights to any music, graphics, or stock footage used in their productions

   Music
   Contestants may use any music that they own the rights to or that is not copyright protected to begin with. For example, contestants may use their own original music, music composed by friends, music that is found through creativecommons.org, or royalty free music that has been purchased from a source such as digitaljuice.com. Contestants may NOT use music that is copyright protected (for example, a song by the Rolling Stones) without obtaining the rights to it

2. Any factual claims or references to research must be credited

3. If a submission involves two or more applicants, the award will be divided equally among them

4. Videos must be no longer than three (3) minutes, including titles and credits

5. Videos must not have received extensive funding from nonprofits, government agencies, or private companies

6. Videos must not advertise a product, service, logo, or name of nonprofits, government agencies, or private companies

7. Video submissions must include the names of key production members (Producer, Director, Writer, etc.) and email for the content’s producer and/or director

   Note: While credits in the video are acceptable, names of crew and email information for production lead should be included in the description area for each video submission as well as in the comment along with the video link

8. Upon request to submitter, winning videos will be provided in a high resolution format for The Nature Conservancy to add to their YouTube Channel for use with related issues.

9. Applicants grant American University and The Nature Conservancy the right to use, publish, or post submitted videos in both print and digital formats including (but not limited to) nature.org sites and their social media channels. Applicants will retain the copyright to their video entries.

SUBMISSIONS

Videos should be submitted in the form of a link to your video which has been uploaded to your own YouTube account.
1. Sign in to your YouTube account. If you don’t have one, follow the instructions below to get one (NOTE: you can also sign in using your Gmail account)
   a. Go to www.youtube.com
   b. Click on the blue “Sign In” button in the top right of the page
   c. A page will come up prompting you to log in with your Google account or to create a new account
   d. Follow the instructions to create your new account
   e. Upload your video through your personal page/channel

2. Go to the EcoComedy 2016 Channel

3. Once in the channel, click on the “Eco-Comedy Video Competition 2016” sample video (which is last year’s winning video by Patrick Webster), see the illustration below.

4. Once on the “Eco-Comedy Video Competition 2016” sample video page, click inside the box labeled “All Comments” submit your video by pasting the link to your YouTube hosted video into a new comment, along with the names of key production members (Producer, Director, Writer, etc.) and an email address for the content’s producer and/or director. See the illustration below.

   Note: If your video is not submitted with an email contact and the required crew information, your submission will not be considered complete and will not be judged.

   Videos must be under 3 minutes in length including all titles and credits.
5. Please feel free to provide additional information under our own video’s comment window.

**REMEMBER Submissions are due by 11:59pm on Tuesday, March 1, 2016**

Thanks, and good luck!