



## **HIGH SCHOOL – Grade 9 thru 12**

Choose one of the following topics:

- 1) Become an expert in a *renewable* energy source:
  - Briefly describe how this energy source works.
  - How could it reduce or alleviate our dependence on fossil fuels?
  - Investigate a strategy in the use of this energy source and the potential reduction of carbon emissions in the future.
  - Describe any tradeoffs or drawbacks from using this energy source.
  
- 2) Investigate a household product or system that could reduce your household's use of a natural resource (water, coal, oil, etc). NOTE: Heat and electricity are not natural resources, but they are produced by the use of natural resources.
  - What is the device or system you have chosen?
  - How does this device or system work to reduce your household's use of resources?  
NOTE: All houses have needs such as heat and electricity. Those needs might not be reduced, but the use of natural resources to meet those needs might be reduced.
  - Would it be feasible to install or implement this into your household? If not, please explain why not. If it feasible, try to calculate the period of time it would take for the savings from this action to eventually pay for itself, otherwise known as the *payback period*.
  - Are there any disadvantages? Describe any possibly better solutions for meeting the need but using fewer non-renewable resources.

Project your ideas and opinions in a 1,000 word essay. Include pictures or diagrams where appropriate to enhance your essay.

**ALL** entries should be mailed or delivered to the following address:

**The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission  
438 Dubuque Street  
Manchester, NH 03102**

**ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 4:00 P.M. ON MARCH 31, 2010.**

- Drawings must include on the back the student's first and last name, school, grade, and age, printed legibly
- Drawings should be no larger than 11 x 17 inches
- Drawings should be able to be scanned for web posting
- There are no media limitations for the drawings
- All written and created work should be original
- Middle school students should write a short essay (300 words). High School students should write a 1,000 word essay

### WINNERS

One student from each school and category (elementary, middle and high school) will be chosen based on creativity, the depth to which they thought about and tackled future issues, and style. These students will receive a custom-designed award certificate. From these students, one student from each category will be chosen as the "Grand Prize" winner. These students will receive a prize package from SNHPC, and have their entry posted on our website at [www.snhpc.org](http://www.snhpc.org). The prizes will be awarded to the winners on April 22, 2008 at the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission's monthly meeting.