



## Sustainability Essay Contest

The Cupertino Sustainability Commission is excited to announce the Sustainability Essay Contest! By many measures, today's young students will grow up in an era of constraints and challenges caused by sustainability issues. Examples of sustainability issues include climate change, necessity of climate-change adaptation, and new devices to reduce or eliminate further environmental degradation (such as electric cars, more recycling, protection of key habitats, eating less meat, and encouraging individuals to modify their habits). Cupertino Union School District students in grades 6, 7, and 8 are invited to express their concerns and ideas regarding sustainability problems in Cupertino. The Sustainability Commission will select one winner per grade to receive a monetary award of up to \$100.

**Deadline:** March 7, 2019

### **Eligibility:**

Applicants must be Cupertino Union School District students in grades 6, 7, or 8. Applicants need not reside in the City of Cupertino. However, the essay should address sustainability impacts in Cupertino.

The application can be found on the City website [www.cupertino.org/EssayContest](http://www.cupertino.org/EssayContest)

### **Examples of Essay topics:**

- How we can change our habits to lead to a more sustainable environment
- How we can shop more sustainably, we use reusable bags, and reduce packaging
- Why we should walk, carpool, or bike to school, and how can I do it more often
- How my family can compost more
- How my family can improve how we sort waste
- What new products support sustainability (electric cars, buses, boats, and airplanes; reusable containers, etc.) and how can I incorporate them into my life
- Other sustainability topics

### **Award Criteria:**

1. Depth of understanding of the subject
2. Plan of action to make life more sustainable



3. Clarity of presentation: topic sentences, good format – introduction, supporting arguments, and concise conclusion
4. Clarity and grammar of the text
5. Proper length of essay

**Essay Format:**

Essays must be 500 words or less. Please email a pdf file of your essay and a completed application to [sustainability@cupertino.org](mailto:sustainability@cupertino.org).

**Questions:**

[sustainability@cupertino.org](mailto:sustainability@cupertino.org).



## Sustainability Essay Contest Program Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher and Class Involved: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide your essay in a pdf file format.

Please note the following details of the Sustainability Essay Contest:

- The essay deadline is March 7, 2019.
- Please email completed applications to [sustainability@cupertino.org](mailto:sustainability@cupertino.org).
- Awardees will be honored at Cupertino Earth Day- April 13, 2019