

Environmental cleanup poster contest

Local students receive awards

Nearly one hundred local students from kindergarden to eighth grade created posters to express their interests in environmental cleanup as part of the Army's Fort Ord environmental cleanup poster contest. The contest was open to schools in the Monterey Peninsula Unified, Washington and Spreckels schools districts during the month of May 2001 and is part of the Army's continuing efforts to maintain communication with the surrounding communities during the cleanup of the former Fort Ord.

With guidance that they should create posters that express their interests or concerns about environmental cleanup, many students chose unexploded ordnance safety as a subject reflecting on what they may have learned during one of the annual ordnance and explosives safety presentations offered by the army to local schools. Other children addressed more global environmental issues such as recycling and conservation.

Every student entering a poster in the contest received a certificate of appreciation from the Army. All entries selected as finalists in the competition were displayed at the Monterey Peninsula College Student Center during the college's commencement week. Some contest participants selected as finalists in the competition were presented their certificates of appreciation by Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Hamilton, Presidio of Monterey Chief of Staff, during a ceremony at their school.

When students return to school in Fall 2001, the winners of the poster contest will be presented a special 2002 Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup Calendar. The calendar is composed of the winning posters featured with the months of the year. The Army will also provide each participating school with the special feature calendar.