

DMME STEM Video Contest

The Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy is hosting its first STEM Video Contest. We are looking for STEM videos focusing on topics surrounding the work of our agency from 5th-12th students.

We are looking for original work surrounding this theme: **Balance of Nature and Human Activity**

Topics can include but are not limited to:

The Importance of Mineral and Energy Resources to our Modern Society

- Benefits of different sources such as solar, coal, wind, and natural gas to generate electricity
- How are minerals and coal used to build windmills
- How are minerals, natural gas, and coal used in the chemical industry
- How could abandoned surface and underground sites be used to produce or store energy
- What would a day without energy be like?

Balancing the Impacts of the Full Cycle of Energy and Mineral Resources

- Sustainable Development – Commercial/Residential – Urban/Rural
- Environmentally Sound Practices For Resource Development
- Reclamation, Restoration, and Mitigation
- Incorporating Alternatives into the Resources Plan
- How is previously mine land used?
- How is the environment protected during mining?
- How is technology used in mining and reclamation?

Building Communities of the Future

- What types of energy and building materials are best suited for your area
- How could alternative energy be maximized in your home or school
- With alternative energy and increased efficiency could your home or school be taken “off the grid”
- What could your school or family at home do immediately to save money with energy efficiency

RULES and GUIDELINES:

- Submissions must be emailed to Tarah Kesterson by October 15th at 5:00 p.m.
Tarah.Kesterson@dmme.virginia.gov
- The video must be original and no more than two minutes in length (not including the 10 second title screen). Plagiarism of any kind will result in disqualification.
- No copyrighted materials (music, images, etc.) may be used for this contest unless you own the copyright or have a license to use the material for this contest. Written permission must be obtained and provided upon request for all copyrighted materials.
- No professional assistance is allowed. Adults may assist with production but are limited to verbal guidance only. Adults are allowed to be cameramen but not content contributors.
- All entries should begin with a 10 second full-screen “title screen” that includes the following information: Name or names, school name, school city or county, title of video, total running time (not including the 10 second title screen).
- All videos should include information that can be found on the DMME website.
www.dmme.virginia.gov. DMME employees may also be contacted for additional information on your related topic.
- The video must be digital or submitted as a YouTube link. Winners will be asked to submit an .mp4 copy to Tarah to be used on the DMME YouTube page.
- All submissions must include a permission form signed by a parent or guardian of students participating. Entries without a complete form will not be considered.
- Students must live in Virginia and attend a Virginia public school to compete. They must be in 5th- 12th grade.
- Students may work in groups of four or less.
- Four total winners will be chosen.
 - Top Winner - 9th-12th
 - People’s Choice - 9th-12th
 - Top Winner - 5th-8th
 - People’s Choice - 5th-8th

Winners’ schools will receive \$1,000 for their STEM programs and a plaque. Winning students will receive a t-shirt. The Top Winners will be chosen by a committee of Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy employees and education professionals. The committee will also choose three videos to be considered as People’s Choice contestants. Those winners will be chosen by voting via the DMME Facebook page. The videos with the most “likes” will receive the prize.

Have any questions? Email Tarah.Kesterson@dmme.virginia.gov or give her a call 276-523-8146.