

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

Identify a Fairchild Challenge coordinator at your school and submit one registration form (see attached forms) **immediately**. All staff should be notified that your school is registered.

There are six Challenge options available this year for middle and junior high school students. Schools may choose to enter any or all of these Challenge options. Following the specific policies and requirements, teachers submit the best entries with a completed entry form. Panels of experts at the USBG then evaluate the work.

WHAT IS YOUR GOAL?

All participating schools that earn over 500 points will be presented with the 2008 USBG Fairchild Challenge Award and \$200 to support their environmental programs at our awards ceremony to be held the evening of **June 5th, 2008**. The three top-scoring students will be honored and the three top performing schools will be awarded \$500 to \$1,000 to support their environmental programs. The Conservatory has been reserved for this special USBG evening event. **Mark your calendars today for June 5, 2008 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

TIPS FOR TEACHERS

Encourage as many students as possible to participate in the various Challenge options. Encourage fellow teachers to take on the Challenge.

Each school screens its students' submissions to select the entries for evaluation by panel experts. Peer evaluation is important. We encourage you to involve students as well as other teachers in the screening process.

Don't wait until the last day to submit your entries. We like early birds and gladly accept Challenge entries any time before the deadlines.

USBG staff members are available to present the Challenge program details to your classes, faculty meetings, ecology clubs, monthly chair meetings etc. Please contact Lee Coykendall, Fairchild Challenge Coordinator at the U.S. Botanic Garden (lcoykend@ao.gov or 202-441-0231), for further information.