

— Acceptable Essay Topics & Definitions for The Bird Dog Foundation Scholarship Essay Contest —

- **Agroforestry**—Land management involving the growing of trees in association with food crops or pasture.
- **Aviculture**—The raising and care of birds and especially of wild birds in captivity.
- **The Ames Plantation**—The Ames Plantation: Home of the National Championship, Research Partner with UT Ag Research & other Southeastern Universities, Provider of Quality Educational and Outdoor Recreation Opportunities.
- **Animal Ethics**—*Animal*: A living thing that is not a human being or plant. *Ethics*: An area of study that deals with ideas about what is good and bad behavior; A branch of philosophy dealing with what is morally right or wrong
- **Biodiversity: The Earth's Treasure House**—Biological diversity in an environment as indicated by numbers of different species of plants and animals
- **Conservation of Natural Resources**—*Conservation*: 1) The protection of animals, plants, and natural resources. 2) The careful use of natural resources (such as trees, oil, etc.) to prevent them from being lost or wasted. *Natural Resources*: The natural wealth of a country, consisting of land, forests, mineral deposits, water, etc.
- **Ecology, the Environment and Environmental Education**—*The Environment*: The natural world. *Ecology*: The branch of biology dealing with the relations and interactions between organisms and their environment, including other organisms. *Environmental Education*: Refers to organized efforts to teach how natural environments function, and particularly, how human beings can manage behavior and ecosystems to live sustainably.
- **Ecotourism**—The practice of touring natural habitats in a manner meant to minimize ecological impact.
- **Endangered Species**—A taxonomic group threatened with extinction.
- **Fire's Role in the Ecosystem**—Forest or Plains Fires and how they affect the natural environment and the interplay and codependence of that environment with plants and animals.
- **Forest Stewardship**
- **Forest Wildlife**
- **Gamebird Predators**
- **Habitat Preservation**
- **Hunter's Ethics and Safety**
- **The Hunting Dog**
- **Natural Resources: Use and Management**
- **Oology**—1) A person specializing in the study of birds' eggs. 2) A collector of birds' eggs.
- **Outdoor Heritage**
- **Preservation vs. Conservation of Wildlife**
- **Preserving Diversity in Nature**
- **Public Forest Use**
- **The Relationship of Man and Dog**
- **River Ethics**
- **The Role of Hunters and Fisherman in Conservation**
- **Silviculture: The Art of Managing and Tending a Forest**
- **Water Resources and Stewardship**
- **Wilderness Access**
- **Wildlife and Natural Resources Management**
- **Wildlife and the Law**
- **Wildlife Habitat and Propagation**