



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Evans Middle School Student Represents Coweta County in Water Essay Contest**

Jessica Millard, an eighth grade student at Evans Middle School, is the Coweta County winner in the seventh annual water conservation and water quality essay contest, sponsored by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (Metro Water District). The Metro Water District is a planning entity dedicated to developing comprehensive watershed, wastewater and water supply and conservation plans to be implemented by local governments in the 15-county metro Atlanta region. The Clean Water Campaign and Water Use It Wisely are public education campaigns designed to educate and promote behavior changes in water conservation and water quality.

Jessica will be presented with the County Award at Evans Middle School on Thursday, November 13, 2008. Coweta County Board of Commissioner Chairman Tim Higgins will present Jessica Millard with the County Award. Chairman Higgins said, "Coweta County understands the importance of protecting our water resources. One of the first steps in protecting our water resources is education. Coweta County is continuously educating our citizens through programs such as Keep Coweta Beautiful, community workshops and events and partnerships with Adopt-A-Stream and Rivers Alive."

In Jessica's essay she gives examples of simple things we can do in our everyday life to make a difference, she says, "You can install water conserving showerheads and faucet aerators in the bathrooms and kitchen. Turn off the faucets when not in use, such as brushing your teeth or hand washing dishes. You can take less time to bathe in the shower and water lawns during early hours. You can start using soaker hoses or drip irrigation systems to water your gardens and flower beds."

The two campaigns, Clean Water Campaign and Water Use It Wisely, teamed up to encourage children and parents to address the growing need to improve water quality and conservation efforts in Georgia. Students researched and shared their thoughts on why conserving water and preventing water pollution are important for the future of their river, lakes and streams. The main goal of this program is

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to encourage students to create inventive solutions to water conservation and water quality in metro North Georgia.

The contest was open to sixth, seventh and eighth graders in Bartow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Paulding, Rockdale and Walton Counties. Each participating school submitted its winning essay for the county competition, and one overall winner was selected from among the county winners. The District Winner receive a check for \$100 and County winners receive a \$25 check along with a certificate presented by a county representative.

To view the names of the winners and the winning essays, visit the Clean Water Campaign's Web site ([www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com)) and click on the essay contest link.

**About the Campaigns**

*The **Clean Water Campaign** ([www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com)) is a cooperative, multi-agency education spearheaded by local governments in metro Atlanta, supported by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District and managed by the Atlanta Regional Commission. Its mission is to build awareness of water quality problems and solutions in the 16-county District.*

***Water- Use It Wisely** ([www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com)) is a program that educates consumers about simple water conservation measure. It is a multi-state program that is being sponsored in the metro Atlanta area by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District.*

***Evans Middle School** is located at 41 Evans Drive, Newnan, GA 30263. For more information about the school or student, please call 770-254-2780.*

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