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Alton Crews Middle School Student Represents Gwinnett County in Essay Contest

Natalie Flood, a student at Alton Crews Middle School, is the Gwinnett County winner and District Runner-up in the sixth annual water conservation and water quality essay contest, sponsored by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (Water District). The Water District is a planning entity dedicated to developing comprehensive watershed, wastewater and water supply and water conservation plans to be implemented by local governments in the 16-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.

Natalie Flood will be presented with her award at Alton Crews Middle School on Monday, January 14, 2007. Charles E. Bannister, Chairman of Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners will present Natalie Flood with the County Award. Chairman Bannister said, "As the Chairman of Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners, it is my responsibility to ensure that the people of Gwinnett County have clean and safe drinking water. Protecting and conserving our water supply is a community effort, all the residents, policy makers and business owners of Gwinnett County must work together." Flood's essay outlines a few ways how Gwinnett County can contribute to preserving and protecting their water supply. In her essay she says, "There are many simple things Georgians can do to eliminate water pollution. Properly dispose of trash, wash your car in the grass and use fertilizers and chemicals on the lawn sparingly. Georgians can help to conserve water by turning off all faucets and sinks when not in use and repairing all leaks in toilets, and swimming pools".

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 water 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 rivers, lakes and streams. The main goal of this program is to encourage students to create inventive solutions to water conservation and water quality in metro North Georgia.

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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 among the county winners. County winners receive a \$25 check along with a Clean Water Campaign / Water Use It Wisely certificate presented by an elected official from that county.

To view the names of the winners, and read the Water District's winning essay please visit, the Clean Water Campaign website at www.cleanwatercampaign.com.

About the Campaigns

*The **Clean Water Campaign** (www.cleanwatercampaign.com) is a cooperative, multi-agency education initiative 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) is a program that educates consumers about simple water conservation measures. It is a multi-state program that is being sponsored in the metro Atlanta area by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District.*

***Alton Crews Middle School** is located at 1000 Old Snellville Highway, Lawrenceville, GA 30044. For more information about the school or student, please call 770-982-6940.*

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