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**Stockbridge Middle School Student Represents
Henry County in Water Essay Contest**

Mikayla Hope Ivey, a sixth grade student at Stockbridge Middle School, is the Henry 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.

Mikayla will receive the County Award at Stockbridge Middle School on Wednesday, November 12, 2008. Reid Bowman, Sr., Henry County Commissioner, will present Mikayla with the County Award. Commissioner Bowman said, "Henry County is proud of the many resources and activities available for Henry County residents on water conservation and water quality. Henry County leads the way in education through activities such as community workshops, Adopt-A-Stream and Rivers Alive events." In Mikayla's essay, she mentions a few ways Henry County residents can conserve water. "There are many ways that everyone can conserve water. When brushing your teeth, turn off the water until you are ready to rinse, just leaving the water on in an average bathroom for the three minutes to brush your teeth, you have wasted on average ten gallons of fresh drinking water."

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 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

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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 receives a check for \$100 and the County Winners receives a \$25 check along with a certificate presented by a county representative.

To view the names of the winners, visit the Clean Water Campaign's Web site (www.cleanwatercampaign.com) and click on the essay contest link.

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.

Stockbridge Middle School is located at 533 Old Conyers Road, Stockbridge, GA 30281. For more information about the school or student, please call 770-474-5710.

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