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CONTACT: Kelley O'Brien 404.463.3259 or
Grace Trimble 404.463.3192

Cass Middle Student Wins for County in Water Essay Contest

Caitlin Danahy, a student at Cass Middle School, is the Bartow County winner in the fourth annual water conservation and preservation essay contest, sponsored by the Clean Water Campaign and the Water Use It Wisely Campaign. Danahy, a 6th grader, received a \$25 cash prize, poster of her essay and certificate. Danahy was presented with an award by Bartow County Commissioner Clarence Brown at Cass Middle School on **Tuesday, November 15**.

The 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.

In Danahy's essay, She said, "In my community, I know everyday that we all use more water than we need to." She added, "What I would do to stop this is to talk to the Governor and try to get a message out to anybody and everybody." Danahy said, "There are plenty of ways that the water that they are continually using can be put to better use. They could recycle the water and send it to the people in Louisiana and Mississippi who were affected by Hurricane Katrina."

Commissioner Brown said, "Part of our job in county government is to teach residents and businesses about water pollution and conservation. That is why we are part of the Clean Water Campaign." He presented Danahy with her award and certificate and said, "You are the future of Bartow County. With your continued help, we will have clean rivers, lakes and streams. Keep up your great work."

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. More than 1,000 middle school students from throughout the district participated. Each participating school submitted its winning essay for the county competition, and one overall winner was selected from among the county winners. County winners receive 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 the winning essays, visit the Clean Water Campaign's Web site (www.cleanwatercampaign.com) and click on the essay contest link.

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About the Clean Water Campaign

The **Clean Water Campaign** is a cooperative, multi-agency public 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 Atlanta region.

Water- Use It Wisely (www.wateruseitwisely.com) is a program that educates consumers about specific and simple water conservation measures they can use everyday to help. It is a multi-state program that is being sponsored in the metro Atlanta area by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District in partnership with the Georgia Pollution Prevention Assistance Division.

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