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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Rex Mill Middle School Student Represents Clayton County in Water Essay Contest**

Michaela Calvin, a sixth grade student at Rex Mill Middle School, is the Clayton 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 water 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.

Calvin will be presented with an award at Rex Mill Middle School on Thursday, November 6, 2008. Sonna Singleton, Member of Clayton Board of Commissioners will present Michaela Calvin with the County Award. Commissioner Singleton said, "I am glad a student from Rex Mill Middle School will be representing Clayton County as an outstanding writer and passionate about preserving and conserving our water resources. Clayton County aggressively works every day to provide the best water to our residents through our award winning water treatment plants and management facilities." In Calvin's essay, she outlined a few ways we can all preserve and conserve water, she says "You should take a shower that only last five minutes, when you brush your teeth, shave, or wash your face, do not let the water run, wash only full loads of dishes and laundry and make sure you don't have any leaks. There are even more ways we can protect our water. Throw trash in the garbage can instead of littering in lakes and streams, never dump anything on the street or down the storm drain and we should clean up after our pets."

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 river, lakes and streams. The main goal of this

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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 Walton Counties. Each participating school submitted its winning essay for the county competition, and one overall District Winner was selected among the county winners. The District Winner will receive a \$100 check and County Winners receive a \$25 check along with a certificate presented by a county representative.

To view the names of the winners, and read the winning essays please visit, the Clean Water Campaign website at [www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com).

**About the Campaigns**

*The **Clean Water Campaign** ([www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://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 15-county District.*

***Water- Use It Wisely** ([www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://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.*

***Rex Mill Middle School** is located at 6380 Evans Drive, Rex, GA 30273. For more information about the school or student, please call 770-474-0702.*

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