



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Fairplay Middle School Student Represents Douglas County in Essay Contest**

Remel Williams, a student at Fairplay Middle School, is the Douglas County winner 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 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.

Williams will receive an award at Fairplay Middle School on Tuesday, December 18, 2007. Douglas County Commissioner David Latham, presented Remel Williams with the County Award. Commissioner Latham said, "Douglas County is one of the 61 counties included in this history making drought. We are currently under a complete ban on all outdoor watering and this has made a significant difference in conserving water, but more can be done by both policy makers and the residents of Douglas County." Williams' essay outlines some simple ways to implement these changes inside our homes that can make a greater impact on our water supply." In Williams' essay, she says, "We must reduce the number of times we wash clothes and dishes, and if possible choose economy cycles. We can take navy showers, repair leaks, and drink all water in containers before getting more. We can recycle water by using rain barrels and other utensils to collect cold shower water while we await warm 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.

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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 from 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, 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 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](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.

**Fairplay Middle School** is located at 8311 Highway 166, Douglasville, GA 30135. For more information about the school or student, please call 770-651-5300.

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