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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **North Hall Middle School Student Represents Hall County in Essay Contest**

Victoria Rogers, a student at North Hall Middle School, is the Hall 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.

Rogers was presented with an award at North Hall Middle School on Thursday, December 13, 2007. Tom Oliver, Rockdale County Commissioner Chairman, presented Victoria Rogers with the County Award. Chairman Oliver said, "Hall County has enforced a total ban on all outdoor watering, which has made a significant difference, but more has to be done. Simple behavior changes inside the home, for example, turning off the water while brushing your teeth and only run your clothes and dishwasher when you have a full load. These simple every day actions can improve Hall County's water supply." In Rogers' essay, she says, "Driving by Lake Lanier, it is obvious that our water supply is getting low, but sill people use it as if it is never ending."

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. 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 the winning essays, 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.*

***North Hall Middle School** is located at 4856 Rilla Road, Gainesville, GA 30506. For more information about the school or student, please call 770-922-0139.*

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