

2021 MIDDLE SCHOOL WATER ESSAY CONTEST



GEORGIA'S WATER

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 8, 2021.

In May 2021, the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District co-hosted a Live Exploration with Georgia Public Broadcasting. The event was broadcast to elementary, middle and high school classrooms across the state and highlighted the importance of Georgia's water sources to our natural environment, economy, recreation, and agriculture. It highlighted a variety of water careers, and explored the water infrastructure that brings clean water to our homes, schools, and businesses. The Live Exploration videos are available for viewing at www.gpb.org/water.

Please watch Georgia Water Live and choose one of the following essay topics:

1. Georgia Water Live featured many experts and professionals in the water industry. Choose an essential water career that was featured in Georgia Water Live or a water career that means a lot to you. Research the career, the functions of the job, the type of education needed to do this job, why the job is important, and why you would consider doing this job.
2. In Georgia Water Live, the audience learned what makes Georgia's water resources unique. Tell us why you think a clean, abundant water supply is essential for our metro Atlanta region and our state.

Successful essays will also show an understanding of the following facts and resources:

- 💧 Think about all the things you do in a day that require water to keep you safe and clean. The average metro Atlantan uses around 50 gallons of water a day at home, most of which is used for drinking, bathing, washing clothes and dishes, and flushing toilets.
- 💧 The water cycle is the process that describes the continuous movement of water on earth, between the oceans, atmosphere, and land. The human water cycle is the process of how water from a surface water source is treated, carried to your home, and then once used, treated again and returned to the source. Google "water cycle" and "human water cycle" for more information.
- 💧 In the 15-county Metro Atlanta region, there are over 50 drinking water and wastewater systems. When your family pays your monthly water bill, remember that much of that money pays for infrastructure (treatment plants, pipes, pumps, etc.) updates, maintenance, and repair, as well as water and wastewater treatment.
- 💧 Visit www.gpb.org/water to view Georgia Water Live.
- 💧 Visit www.h2Opportunity.net for more information on the many types of water jobs available.
- 💧 Visit www.mydropcounts.org for more information on water conservation in our region.
- 💧 Visit www.cleanwatercampaign.org for more information on stormwater pollution prevention in our region.
- 💧 Visit www.northgeorgiawater.org for more information about the contest.

Teachers, want to dive a little deeper?

We encourage you to perform the "What's Your Standard" activity from Georgia Project WET's Urban Watershed (visit northgeorgiawater.org/essay for a link to the activity) with your class to help them gain a better understanding of the natural and manmade infrastructure that keeps our water flowing. You can also check out www.discoverwater.org/ for nine activities (in English and Spanish) that cover topics such as conservation, hygiene, fresh/salt water, watersheds and more. If you're not familiar with Georgia Project WET, find out more information about this program, the excellent teaching resources it offers, and how you can participate in trainings at www.projectwet.georgia.gov.

