

New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
& the Kensico Environmental Enhancement Program (KEEP)

**2009 Kensico Reservoir Watershed
Water Conservation & Water Quality Preservation**

ART & POETRY



New York City Department of
Environmental Protection

Entries are to be submitted by: Friday, April 17, 2009
Award Ceremony: First week in May - National Drinking Water Week

This program is aligned with New York State Learning Standards and New York City Performance Standards for elementary and middle school students.

2009 Kensico Reservoir Watershed Water Conservation & Water Quality Preservation **ART & POETRY CONTEST**

Guidelines

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Kensico Environmental Enhancement Program (KEEP) invite 7th and 8th grade students in the towns of the Kensico Reservoir watershed to enter the 2009 Kensico Water Conservation & Water Quality Preservation Art & Poetry Contest. This contest offers local students a chance to learn about and express their understanding of the New York City Water Supply System, which provides 90% of Westchester County's drinking water; the role that the Kensico Reservoir plays in the overall system; and the importance of water conservation and water quality preservation locally and regionally. Students may create original art and/or compose poetry to illustrate any or all of the themes listed below.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

All 7th and 8th grade students attending public or private schools located in the five towns surrounding the Kensico Reservoir may enter (Harrison, Mt. Pleasant, New Castle, North Castle and Greenwich, Conn).

WHAT ARE THE CONTEST THEMES?

WHY IS WATER IMPORTANT TO US?

- The importance of water conservation.
- Computing how much and where water can be saved at home and at school.

For excellent reference material, visit DEP's Web site at: www.nyc.gov/dep

THE NEW YORK CITY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY

- How and why the City's water supply system evolved, from the first reservoirs in Westchester County to the system today, with 19 reservoirs in 8 counties.
- The value of clean drinking water in our lives and how its availability has affected the growth of Westchester County and its quality of life.
- The role of the Kensico Reservoir in supplying clean water to southern Westchester County, including Yonkers, as well as to New York City.

DRINKING WATER QUALITY

- How New York City and watershed residents help protect water quality, with special emphasis on the Kensico Reservoir watershed.
- What are the threats to water quality in the Kensico watershed?
- How testing is done to make sure that the water supply is safe for everyone.

HOW CAN STUDENTS PARTICIPATE?

Just follow these simple rules:

- Each seventh and eighth grade class can create art and poetry that relates to one or more of the themes.
- The principal or teacher will select **10** winning art and **10** winning poetry entries from grade seven and **10** winning art and **10** winning poetry entries from grade eight for participation in the contest.
- Each school will then submit its winning seventh and eighth grade entries to DEP for final judging.

» Please note:

- Each school may submit up to **40** entries.
- Entries may be created by individual students or small teams of students.
- Artwork and poetry may be prepared in any medium: crayons, paint, pencil, etc.
- Entries **must be** mounted on heavy duty paper or poster board.
- Entries should be no smaller than 8.5" x 11" and no larger than 22" x 28".
- Entries must have an identification card securely attached to the back.

(Please do not send more than allowed. If you do, some entries will not qualify for judging and students may be disappointed. We will be happy to send you Certificates of Appreciation for those students not selected at the school level).

WHEN IS THE DEADLINE?

Entries must be received by 4:00 p.m. on **Friday, April 17, 2009**. Send or deliver in flat packaging only (only **one** package per school) to:

Ms. Nancy Levine, Director
Watershed Office of Public Affairs
New York City Department of Environmental Protection
465 Columbus Avenue — 2nd floor
Valhalla, New York 10595
nlevine@dep.nyc.gov

Please remember that no more than 40 entries can be submitted by each school.

HOW WILL THE ENTRIES BE JUDGED?

The criteria for judging entries are: creativity in interpreting one or more of the contest themes, originality, and craftsmanship.

An impartial panel of judges selected by DEP & KEEP will review the entries.

All submissions become the property of DEP.

WHO WINS?

Every entry submitted to the DEP is a winner. First, second and third place winners will be selected in both Art and Poetry categories.

A special **award ceremony** for winners and all entrants will be held the first week in May, during National Drinking Water Week. Invitations will be mailed soon after the judging is completed. Winners will receive a certificate and small gifts in appreciation of their participation in the contest. Winners and school principals will be contacted in April.

If you need help or additional information, please call Nancy Levine at (914) 742-2086 — Monday through Friday, 9 am – 5 pm.

HAVE FUN!

WINNING POETRY

Water Is Essential

Water is essential in our lives,
Otherwise, we would be washed away.
It is our job to keep it clear,
Because Kensico Reservoir is so near.

The quality of life has increased,
Since we have kept our water in one piece.
We must keep it clean it is our job!
Unless you want water bottles laying a bob.

Westchester must keep our waste
Otherwise we would be drinking a substitute of paste.
The time has dawned, it seems so clear
The water's complete purity is near.

Water's availability is the key,
Of healthiness for your and me!
Water conservation and preservation
Will help build our own united nation.

Of course not a country,
However, a place with clean water!
Come one, here we go
Don't you dare say no!

Let us jump up for joy and hear a scream,
As we all sip water that is as cream.
Conservation is crucial to not waste a bit,
Get out and help, do not do only a bit!

Project your voice let everyone hear,
That a bright new future is near.

By Josh
H.C. Crittenden Middle School

Fight the War on Water Crime

Save the water, every drop—
Do something to stop every wasteful plop.
Catch that rainwater in a jar
You'll find that your water supply goes very far.
You don't want to waste our water or toss it,
When brushing your teeth turn off the faucet.
Make showers faster,
Don't cause a disaster.
Use a self-closing nozzle on your hose outside,
When watering gardens where your plants reside.
Be sure to close your washing machine,
And keep all water safe and clean.
Quickly plug up your nasty pipe leaks,
Protect your water and you won't freak.
Run your dishwasher with only a full load,
Now you're into water saving mode.
Fight the war on water crimes,
You'll save the world and lots of dimes.
Fight the war on water crime
Our water will last us a lot more time.

By Elizabeth
Westlake Middle School

The water here

The water here
Is not clear
It has become a mess
This has made clean water, less and less.
MY S.O.S. and so our earth's water can be
At its best
LESS POLLUTION!
IS THE SOLUTION!!
Save the earth while we can
Nature can be one with man.
Save the rain
So the earth won't be in pain.
Because the earth is everyone's
Responsibility to run.

By Lauren
H.C. Crittenden Middle School



New York City Department of
Environmental Protection

Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Steven W. Lawitts, Acting Commissioner

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Valhalla, NY 10595



Visit our website at:

www.nyc.gov/dep