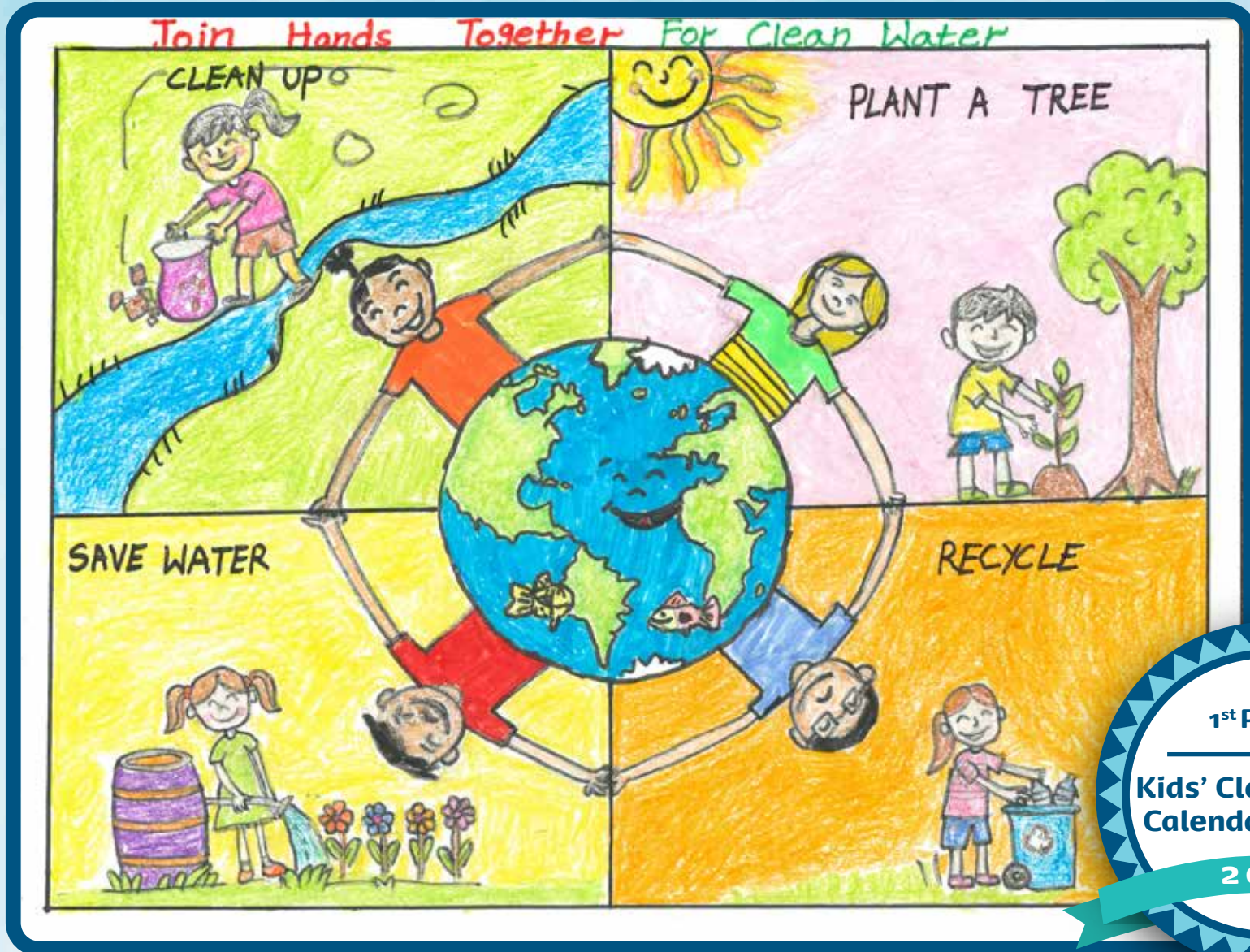


2026 Kids' Clean Water Calendar



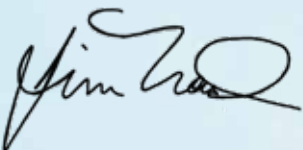
Friends of our Waterways:

Congratulations to all the caring and talented young artists, their parents and all the teachers who participated in the 2026 Kids' Clean Water Calendar Contest. We always enjoy reviewing all the beautiful entries we receive each year. These talented young artists should be very proud of the job they've done in portraying so many important environmental messages with such vibrant and colorful art. With so many great students here in Oakland County, the job of choosing 24 finalists from nearly 550 entries remains a tall task for our judges.

Educating the public about protecting and preserving our most precious natural resource, clean fresh water, is a core mission performed by our office. Teaching our youth and families the importance of protecting our waters benefits us all in cleaner and healthier streams, rivers and lakes. President Theodore Roosevelt once said, "Conservation is a great moral issue, for it involves the patriotic duty of ensuring the safety and continuance of the nation." I believe his words are just as important today, as they were when he first spoke them more than one hundred years ago.

This 2026 calendar provides a year-round reminder of important messages about environmental protection while showcasing the wonderful talent of these young people. Together we can protect our environment, by remembering that what we do as individuals makes a difference for us all.

Thanks and congratulations again!



Jim Nash



Take advantage of the **FREE** Environmental education programs offered by our office!

Enviroscape™ Watershed Model



This program explains the importance of freshwater, the water cycle, drinking water sources, watershed awareness, nonpoint source pollution and simple actions we can all take to protect water quality.

Dirt Doctors Program

This program teaches children about the connection between rainfall, vegetation, runoff, soil erosion and water quality in a fun-filled, interactive way.



Drain Detective Program

This program is designed to teach children how Oakland County staff members investigate and eliminate pollution sources to our area waterways.



Contact the Environmental Team at 248-858-0958 or email: envreq@oakgov.com to schedule a presentation or view a virtual demonstration!

DO YOU KNOW YOUR WATERSHED?

Watersheds within Oakland County



What is a watershed? It's an area of land that drains into a particular body of water, such as a lake, stream or river. Did you ever wonder where all the rain and melting snow goes when it washes down a storm drain? In Oakland County, the rain and melting snow makes its way to one of five different rivers: the Clinton, Flint, Huron, Rouge or Shiawassee. Oakland County is home to these five different watersheds. Can you find the watershed you live in on the map?

Unlike the water from our sinks and toilets that gets cleaned at a wastewater treatment plant or in a septic system, rain and melting snow (termed stormwater runoff) goes directly to our waterways without any kind of treatment. Anything on the land, such as fertilizers, pesticides, grease and oil, sediment and pet waste can get carried into our waterways in stormwater runoff. The good news is, we can all help to prevent pollution so it doesn't mix with the runoff and cause pollution in our lakes, streams and rivers. This calendar highlights the variety of ways we can all help!

How Can You Help Prevent Water Pollution?

Change Your Habits. On an individual level, changing some habits can help protect the quality of our water resources. Individual actions, shared responsibility and collective community actions are important to keep our land and water resources healthy and pollution-free.

Get Involved. Participate in local efforts that improve our environment. Many organizations in Southeast Michigan are actively working to protect and preserve our water resources. Get involved by volunteering. Remember, individual and collective efforts will help protect the quality of our valuable water resources. A variety of local organizations are dedicated to water clean-up and protection. Activities are available for people of all ages, such as: Bug Hunts, Frog and Toad Surveys, Litter/Trash Clean-Ups, River Clean-Up Days and Stream Monitoring.

For more information and additional programs, please contact:

Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's office (WRC) • 248-858-0958 • oakgov.com/water
Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) • 248-601-0606 • crwc.org
Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) • 313-792-9900 • therouge.org
Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) • 734-769-5123 • hrwc.org
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) • 313-961-4266 • semcog.org
Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) • 800-662-9278 • michigan.gov/egle
Cranbrook Institute of Science (CIS) • 877-462-7262 • science.cranbrook.edu
Pure Oakland Water (POW) • 248-259-0058 • pureoaklandwater.org

Kids Making the Difference in Water Quality



Never dump anything down storm drains, in the street or in roadside ditches. Anything that goes into a storm drain flows directly to a waterway, not a treatment plant.



Sweep grass and dirt off your driveway and back onto the lawn.

Household hazardous waste, like oil-based paints, computers and used motor oil, should not go in the trash. It should go to a household hazardous waste facility for proper recycling or disposal.



Pick up your pet's waste and throw it in the trash.



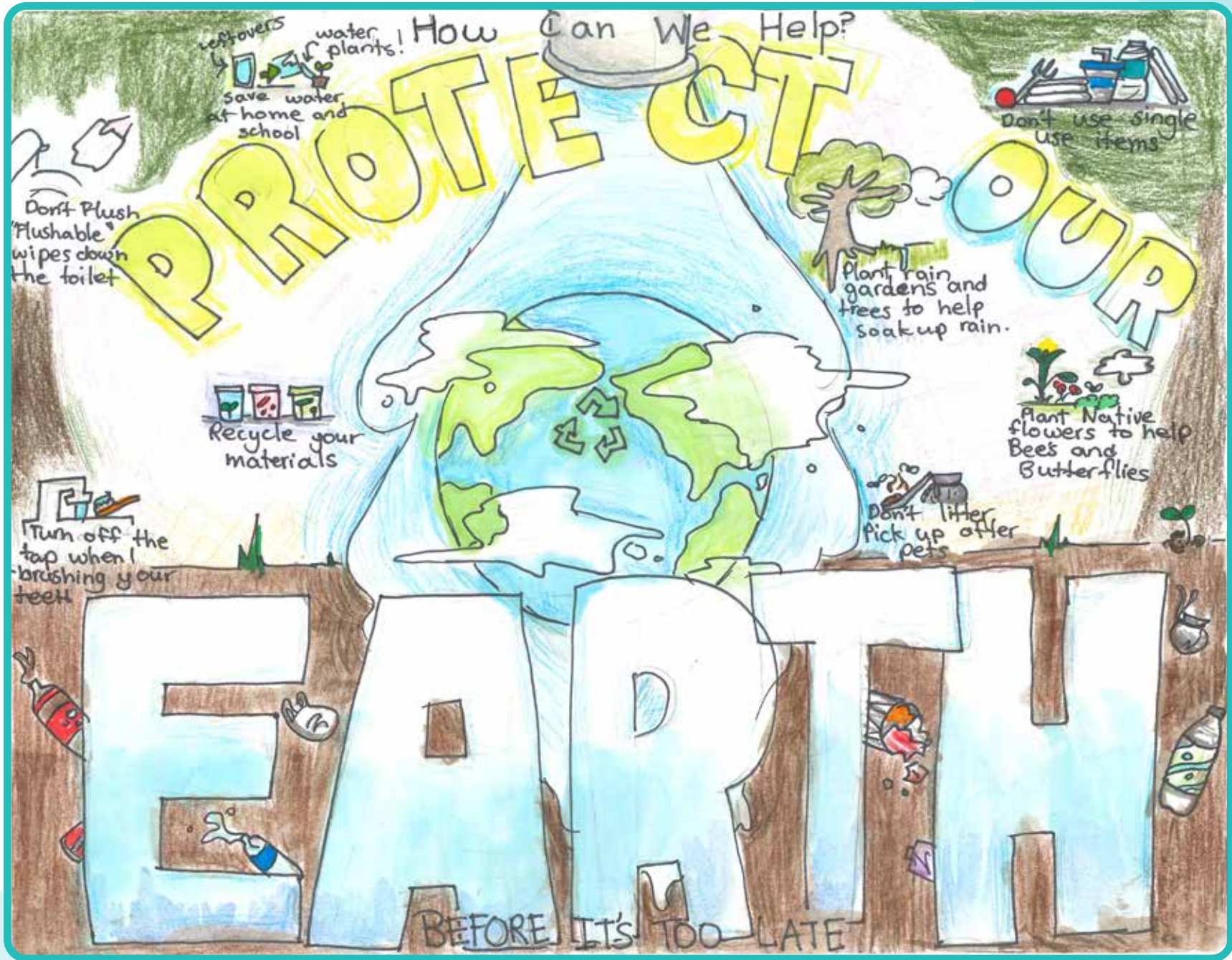
Wash your family's car away from the street to keep dirty, soapy water from getting into the storm drain. How about washing it on the grass?

Leave grass clippings on the lawn instead of bagging.
It's free fertilizer for the lawn.



Make sure you're only watering your grass –
not the street, sidewalk or driveway.





ANNA JIANG | 5th Grade
Avondale GATE Magnet School

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3
4	5	6 <i>Epiphany</i>	7	8 <i>Bubble Bath Day</i>	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 <i>CRWC Stonefly Search</i> <i>HRWC Stonefly Search</i> <i>Kid Inventors' Day</i>
18	19 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	20	21	22	23 <i>National Pie Day</i>	24 <i>FOTR Winter Stonefly Search</i>
25 <i>Opposite Day</i>	26 <i>Holocaust Remembrance Day</i>	27	28	29	30	31

Clean Water Tip:

It takes each and every one of us to keep our water clean! To learn more, visit bit.ly/SevenSimpleSteps.



HOSANNA PONNUDURAI | 5th Grade
Costello Elementary

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i> <i>World Wetlands Day</i>	3	4	5	6	7
8 <i>Superbowl Sunday</i> <i>National Scout Day</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>
15	16 <i>Presidents' Day</i>	17 <i>Mardi Gras</i> <i>Fat Tuesday</i> <i>Ramadan Begins</i> <i>Chinese New Year</i>	18 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	19	20 <i>Love Your Pet Day</i>	21
22	23 <i>Eastern Orthodox</i> <i>Lent Begins</i>	24	25	26	27	28

Clean Water Tip:

Reduce flooding and water pollution by planting native plants in a rain garden and collecting water in a rain barrel for use in the garden!



CECILIA PROKOP | 5th Grade
Salem Elementary

MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <i>Purim Begins at Sundown</i> <i>Dr. Seuss Day</i>	3	4	5	6	7
8 <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i> <i>International Women's Day</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>Girl Scouts Day</i>	13	14 <i>HRWC Chemistry and Flow Training (Washtenaw)</i>
15	16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18	19 <i>(Eid) al Fitr Begins at Sundown</i> <i>Absolutely Incredible Kid Day</i>	20 <i>Vernal Equinox</i>	21 <i>HRWC Chemistry and Flow Training (Wayne)</i>
22 <i>World Water Day</i>	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	30	31				

Clean Water Tip:

It takes each and every one of us to keep our water clean! To learn more, visit bit.ly/SevenSimpleSteps.



BROOKLYNN BOSS | 4th Grade
Clear Lake Elementary

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Passover Begins at Sundown</i> <i>April Fools' Day</i>	2	3 <i>Good Friday</i>	4
5 <i>Easter</i>	6	7	8	9	10	11 <i>FOTR Spring Bug Hunt</i>
12 <i>Eastern Orthodox Easter</i>	13	14	15	16	17	18 <i>CRWC Clinton Clean Up</i>
19	20	21	22 <i>Administrative Professionals Day</i> <i>Earth Day</i>	23	24 <i>Arbor Day</i>	25 <i>HRWC River Roundup</i>
26	27	28	29	30		

Clean Water Tip:

Protect the health of our waterways and wildlife by helping with a river cleanup event!

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>May is American Wetlands Month</i>					1	2 <i>CRWC Adopt-A-Stream Spring Monitoring</i>
3 <i>World Laughter Day</i>	4 <i>May Day</i>	5 <i>Cinco de Mayo National Teacher Day</i>	6	7	8	9
10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	11	12	13	14	15	16 <i>Love a Tree Day Armed Forces Day</i>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 <i>Memorial Day</i>	26 <i>(Eid) al Adha Begins at Sundown</i>	27	28	29	30
31	Clean Water Tip: It takes each and every one of us to keep our water clean! To learn more, visit bit.ly/SevenSimpleSteps .					



LOGAN WASHINGTON | 5th Grade
Carpenter Elementary

JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 <i>World Environment Day</i>	6 <i>CRWC River Day</i>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 <i>Art Fish Fun Festival in Pontiac</i>
14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15	16 <i>Muharram Begins at Sundown</i>	17	18	19 <i>Juneteenth</i>	20
21 <i>Father's Day Summer Solstice</i>	22	23	24	25 <i>Ashura Begins at Sundown</i>	26	27
28	29	30				

Clean Water Tip:

Plant a garden using native plants - they require less water and maintenance. Native plants don't require fertilizers and pesticides like some non-native plants do. Consider planting a rain garden!

LET'S STOP

INVASIVE
SPECIES

Only plant
native plants!



check your boat
for invasive species
immediately



NO!
Sea Lamprey



NO!
Invasive Carp



NO!
Zebra Mussels



PHILIP BARBER | 5th Grade
Way Elementary

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>International Joke Day</i>	2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <i>Parents' Day</i>	27	28	29	30	31	

Clean Water Tip:

Learn more about invasive species management from the Oakland County CISMA at oaklandinvasivespecies.org.



INDIRA BROWN | 5th Grade
Detroit Country Day Middle School

AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Visit oakgov.com/calendarcontest for 2027 Calendar Contest information!						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 <i>Play in the Sand Day</i>	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Clean Water Tip: Help protect our limited freshwater resources - saving water at home is a great way to do your part!				



OWEN BRAUN | 4th Grade
Harlan Elementary

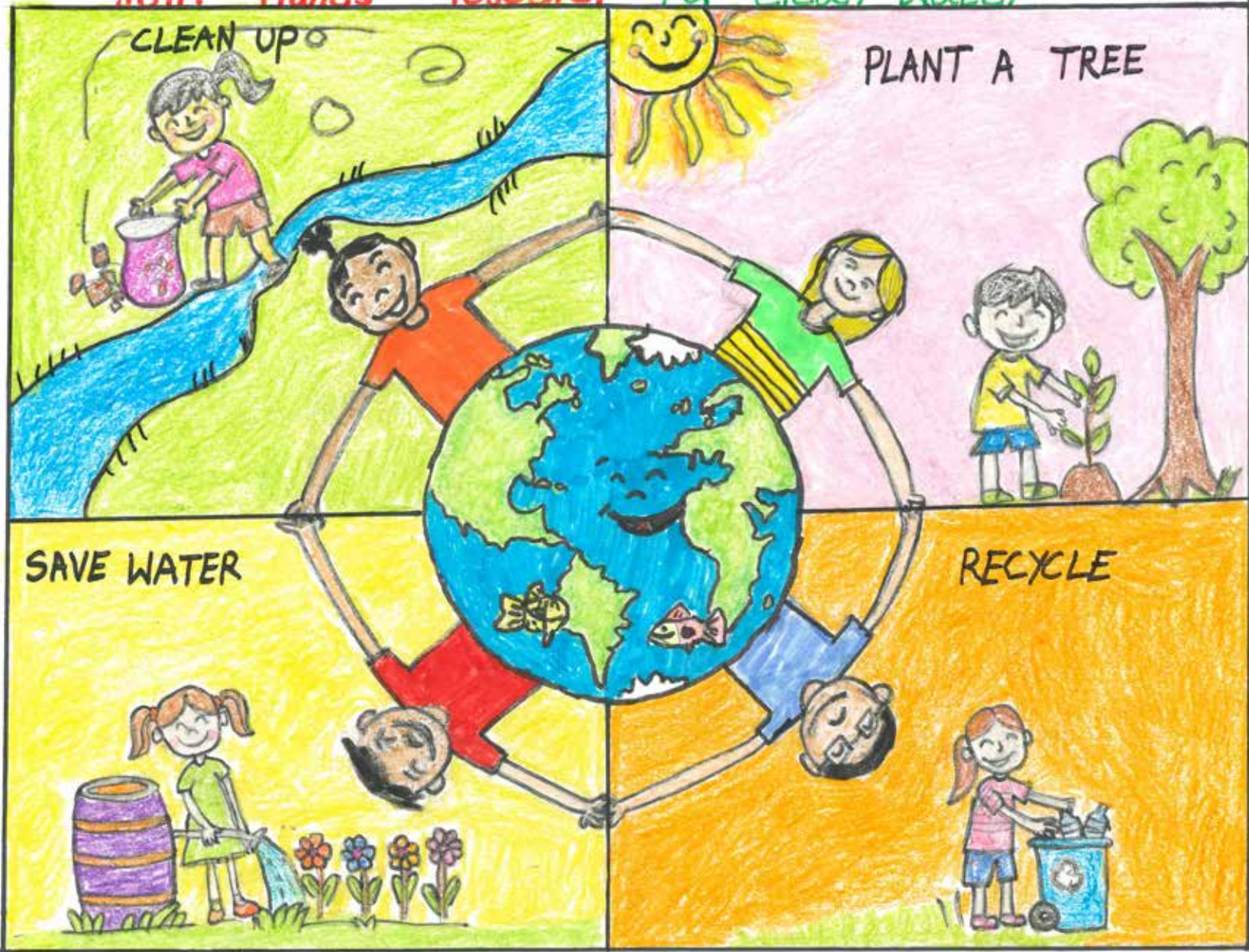
SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 <i>Labor Day</i>	8	9	10	11 <i>Patriot Day</i> <i>Rosh Hashanah</i> <i>Begins at Sundown</i>	12
13 <i>Grandparents' Day</i>	14	15	16 <i>Collect Rocks Day</i>	17	18	19 <i>Talk Like a</i> <i>Pirate Day</i>
20 <i>Yom Kippur</i> <i>Begins at Sundown</i>	21 <i>Peace Day</i>	22 <i>Autumnal Equinox</i>	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Clean Water Tip:

Remember, "Only Rain in the Drain!" If you see suspicious dumping, odors or strange colors or oily sheens on waterways, call the Oakland County 24-Hour Pollution Hotline at 248-858-0931.

Join Hands Together For Clean Water



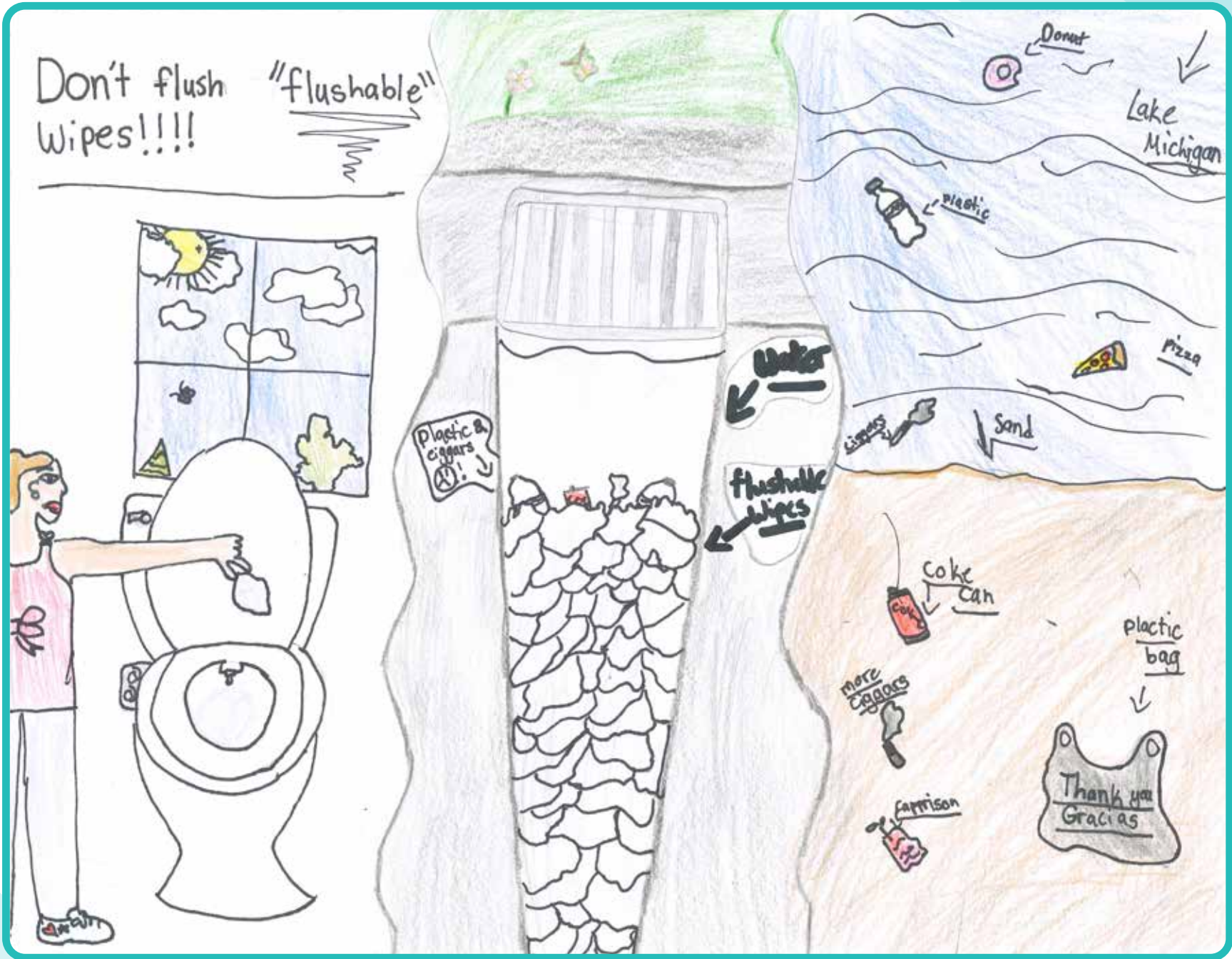
SAHASRA REDDY KOTHINTI | 4th Grade
North Hill Elementary

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 <i>CRWC Adopt-A-Stream Fall Monitoring HRWC River Roundup Look at the Leaves Day</i>
4	5 <i>World Teachers' Day</i>	6	7	8	9 <i>Deadline for entries for the 2027 Kids' Clean Water Calendar Contest</i>	10
11	12 <i>Indigenous Peoples Day Columbus Day</i>	13	14	15	16 <i>National Boss's Day</i>	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>

Clean Water Tip:

Fresh, clean water is essential for all life on Earth. We must all do our part to protect this precious natural resource. To learn more, visit bit.ly/SevenSimpleSteps.



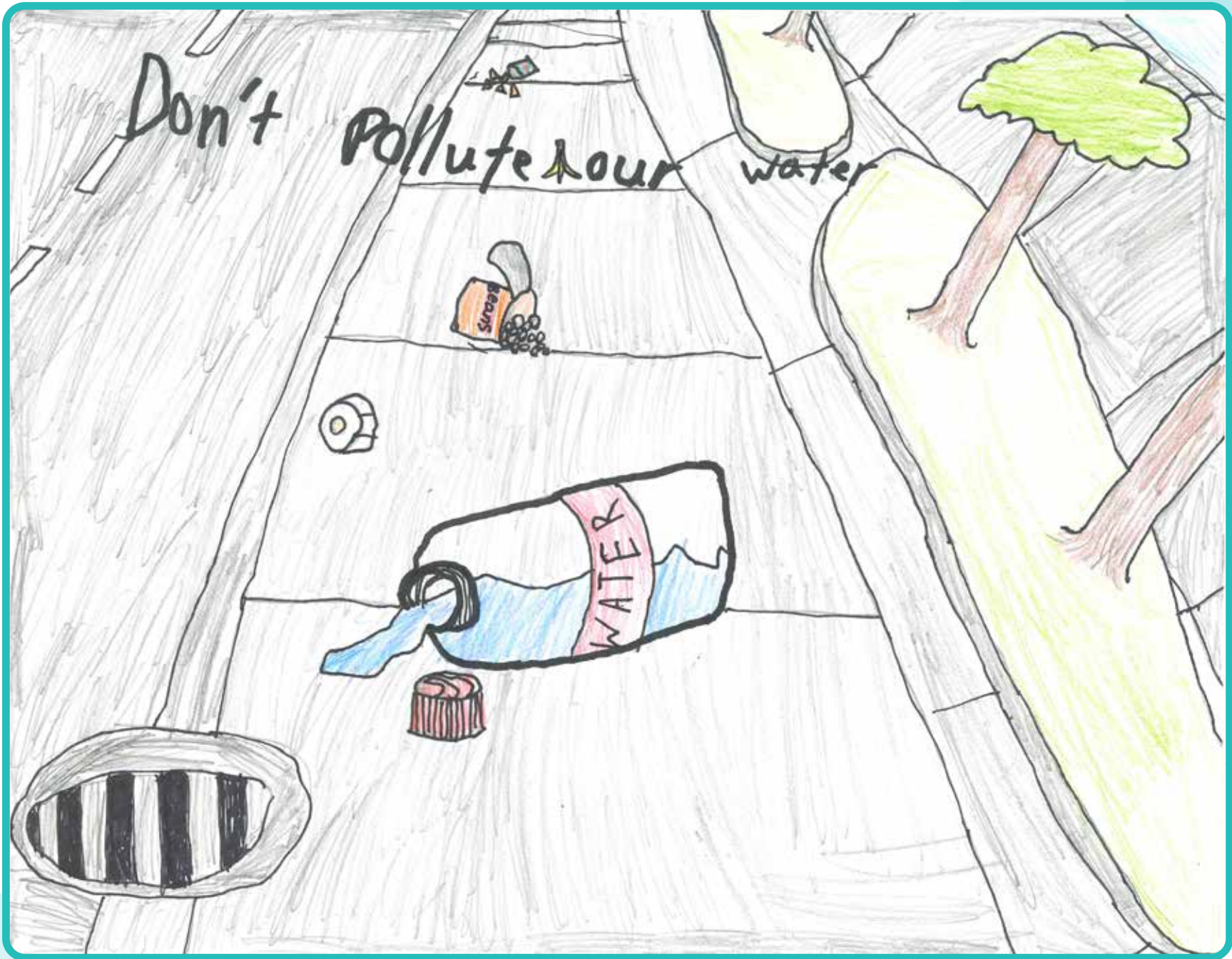
MARY AJO | 5th Grade
Avondale GATE Magnet School

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>All Saints' Day</i> <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends - Fall Back</i>	2 <i>All Souls Day</i>	3 <i>Election Day</i>	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 <i>Veterans Day</i>	12	13	14
15 <i>America Recycles Day</i>	16 <i>National Stormwater Day</i>	17 <i>National Take a Hike Day</i>	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	27	28
29	30					

Clean Water Tip:

Properly dispose of "flushable" wipes in the trash. They don't break down like toilet paper does!



LUCA LORIA | 5th Grade
Way Elementary

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>GivingTuesday</i>	2	3	4 <i>Hanukkah Begins at Sundown</i>	5
6	7 <i>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>	8 <i>National Chocolate Brownie Day</i>	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 <i>Winter Solstice</i>	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas</i>	26 <i>Kwanzaa Begins</i>
27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>		

Clean Water Tip:

Remember, "Only Rain in the Drain!" If you see suspicious dumping, odors or strange colors or oily sheens on waterways, call the Oakland County 24-Hour Pollution Hotline at 248-858-0931.

Honorable Mention Winners



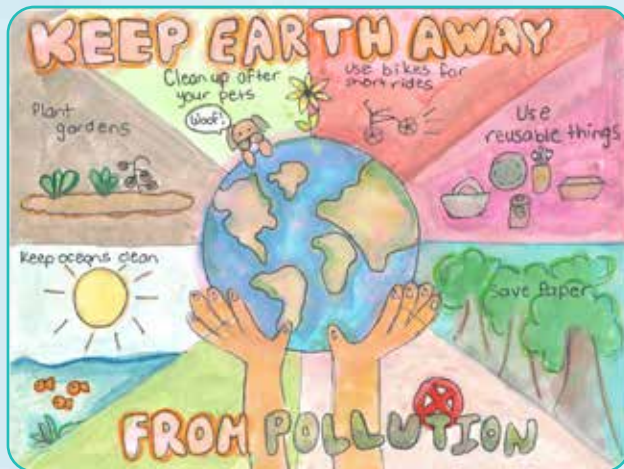
Stella Barr
5th Grade
Avondale GATE Magnet School



Suranshi Dash
5th Grade
Hampton Elementary



Bailee Davis
5th Grade
Pleasant Lake Elementary



Amaira Dive
5th Grade
Avondale GATE Magnet School



Connor Fracz
4th Grade
Harlan Elementary



Iris Hespenheide
5th Grade
Schroeder Elementary

Honorable Mention Winners



Siyul Kwak
5th Grade

Avondale GATE Magnet School



Brayden McMillion
4th Grade

Barnard Elementary



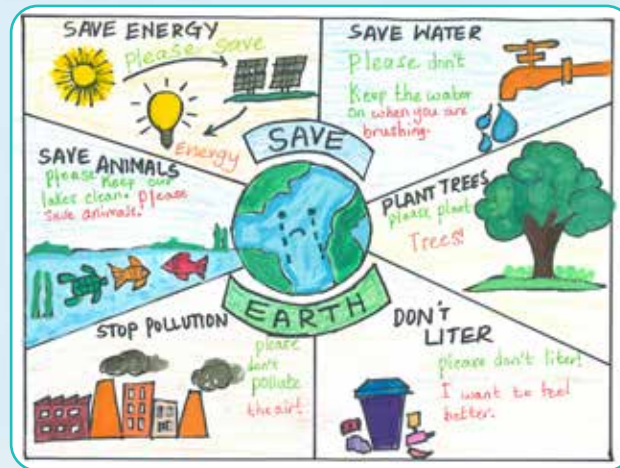
Angela Seuffert
5th Grade

Avondale GATE Magnet School



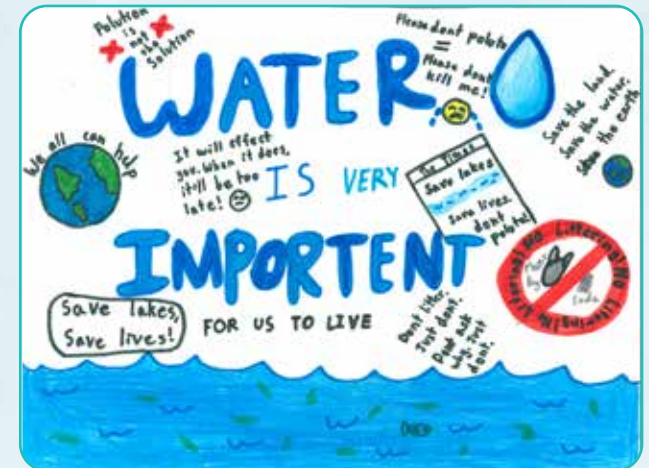
Olivia Sun
5th Grade

Avondale GATE Magnet School



Anvika Vanam
4th Grade

Barnard Elementary



Christina Wang
5th Grade

Way Elementary

The Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's office would like to offer a special thanks to the 2026 calendar contest judges, Pure Oakland Water, Cranbrook Institute of Science, and sponsoring companies for their help with the calendar contest and financial support of the calendar contest award ceremony.

A special thank you to the following participating schools:

Andersonville Elementary, Avondale GATE Magnet School, Barnard Elementary, Beverly Elementary, Carpenter Elementary, Clear Lake Elementary, Costello Elementary, Detroit Country Day School, Dublin Elementary, Hampton Elementary, Harlan Elementary, Holly Elementary, Madison Elementary, North Hill Elementary, Novi Christian Academy, Oxford Elementary, Patterson Elementary, Pierce Elementary, Pleasant Lake Elementary, Salem Elementary, Sayre Elementary, University Hills Elementary, Wass Elementary and Way Elementary.

And a very special thank you to all the wonderful artists!

2026 Calendar Sponsors



Calendar printing was funded by Pure Oakland Water, a non-profit foundation dedicated to the protection and sustainability of our region's water resources, including our lakes, streams, rivers and underground water reserves.