



DATE: October 3, 2023

TO: Minnesota Rural Water Association Members

FROM: Robyn Hoerr, MN Rural Water Association

RE: Enclosed Groundwater & Drinking Water Educational Material:

- **Drinking Water Education Material for the 4th Grade**
- **4th Grade Water Week Poster Contest Information**

The Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA) is committed to helping you educate community youth about the importance and value of our drinking water resources! To help achieve that goal **and to provide a simple way for you to complete a WHP plan public education implementation activity**, we are targeting the education and poster contest material at the 4th-grade student level. Distribute the included corresponding cover letter and annual MRWA Water Week Poster Contest information to area 4th-grade teachers to increase local awareness of groundwater issues!

Material Highlights:

- ✓ The enclosed material focuses on Groundwater and the Water Cycle.
- ✓ The material includes a set of 4 “Lesson Plans” that focus on interactive activities and web links to assist teachers present and discussing groundwater with their students. The lesson plans are also available on the MRWA website at <https://www.mrwa.com/mrwa-water-week-poster-contest/>
- ✓ The material was reviewed in the past, and at that time the lessons were “*certified to meet Minnesota 4th Grade Science curriculum standards.*”
- ✓ Distribution of the enclosed “Water Week Material to Teachers” should be done within the next several weeks so lessons can be incorporated into student lesson plans and to provide ample time for poster contest entry completion.

Follow These Steps:

1. Find out who is the local 4th Grade Teacher in your school. By phone or in person, contact the teacher and inform him/her of your interest and why you are providing the information. *(If you are currently implementing an existing WHP plan for your public water supply system, be sure to document that this action was taken, and place information in your WHP file.)*
2. Fill in or edit the enclosed template letter and provide the letter and poster contest information to the 4th-grade teacher.
3. Set a time to follow up with the teacher about participating in the Water Week Poster Contest.
4. **Submit the (1) local winning 4th Grade Water Week Poster to the MRWA Office, Elbow Lake, MN by February 2nd, 2024.** You will need to arrange a time and process locally to select the local winning 4th-grade student poster. (See enclosed flyer with complete poster contest instructions & requirements). Please provide only the top poster entry from your community to the MRWA.
5. MRWA will select the top 3 posters from this year’s group of entries, and they will be displayed at the MRWA Annual Technical Conference in St. Cloud during the first week of March 2024. The winner will be selected by conference attendee popular vote!

We hope that you and local 4th-grade students take advantage of the material that has been developed and participate in the Water Week Poster Contest! If you have questions, please contact MRWA at (800) 367-6792.