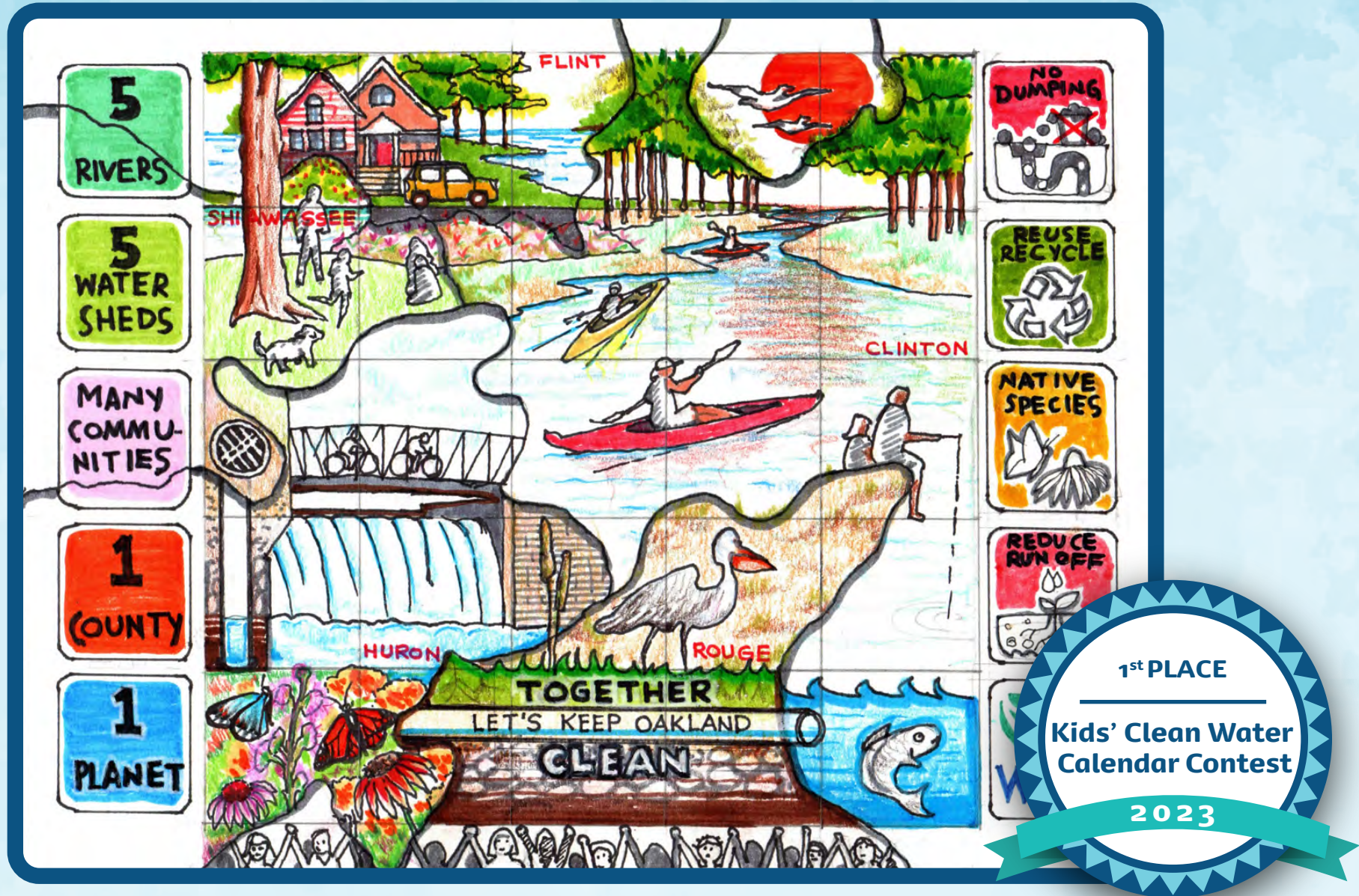


# 2023 Kids' Clean Water Calendar





Friends of our Waterways:

Congratulations to all of the caring and talented young artists, their parents and all the teachers who participated in the 2023 Kids' Clean Water Calendar Contest. We at the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office (WRC) always enjoy reviewing all of 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 more than 700 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 the WRC. 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 2023 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 the WRC!

### **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.

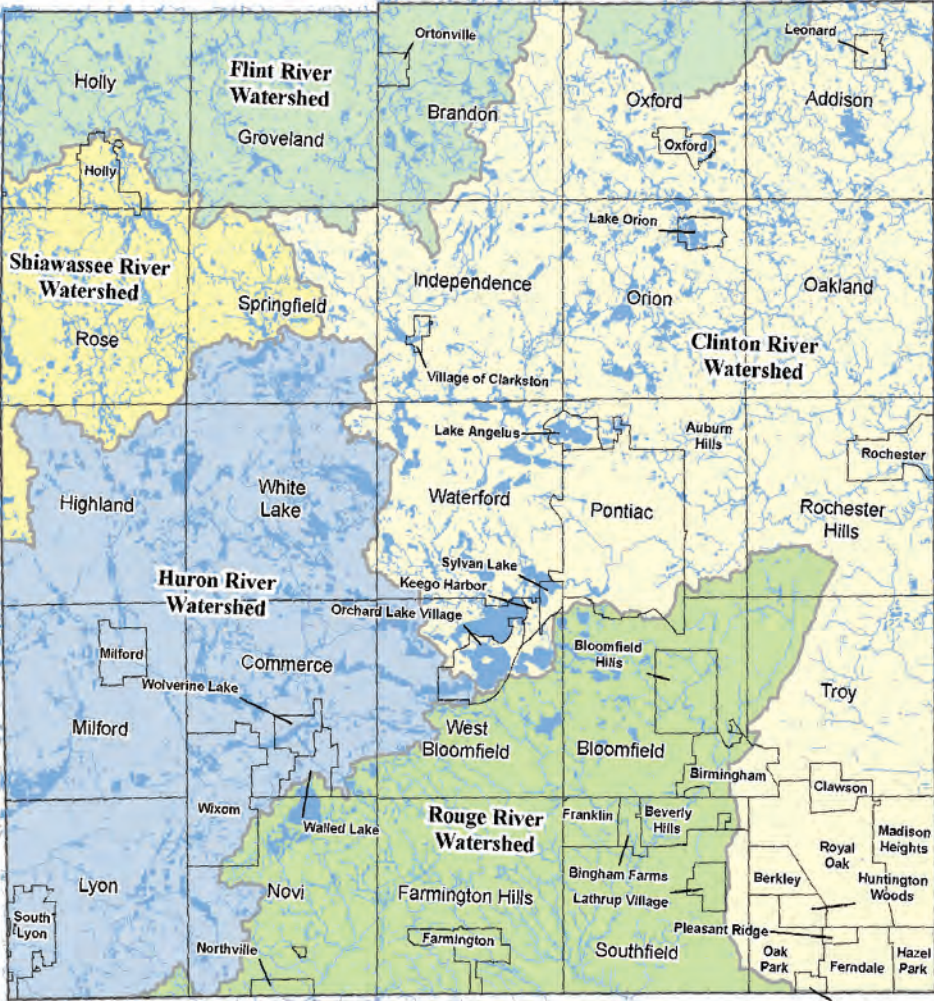


Contact the Environmental Team at 248-858-0958 or email: [envreq@oakgov.com](mailto:envreq@oakgov.com) to schedule a presentation or view a virtual demonstration!



# 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 • [www.oakgov.com/water](http://www.oakgov.com/water)

Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) • 248-601-0606 • [www.crwcc.org](http://www.crwcc.org)

Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) • 313-792-9900 • [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org)

Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) • 734-769-5123 • [www.hrwc.org](http://www.hrwc.org)

Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) • 313-961-4266 • [www.semccog.org](http://www.semccog.org)

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) • 800-662-9278 • [www.michigan.gov/egle](http://www.michigan.gov/egle)

Cranbrook Institute of Science (CIS) • 877-462-7262 • [science.cranbrook.edu](http://science.cranbrook.edu)

Pure Oakland Water (POW) • 248-259-0058 • [www.pureoaklandwater.org](http://www.pureoaklandwater.org)

# Kids Making the Difference in Water Quality

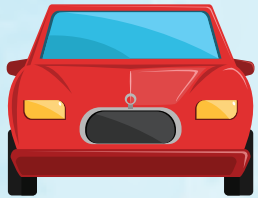


Never dump anything down storm drains, in the street or in roadside ditches. Anything that goes into a storm drain flows directly to a waterway, not a treatment plant.



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.



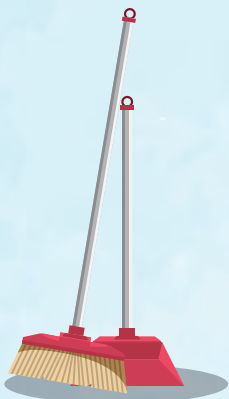
Pick up your pet's waste and throw it in the trash.



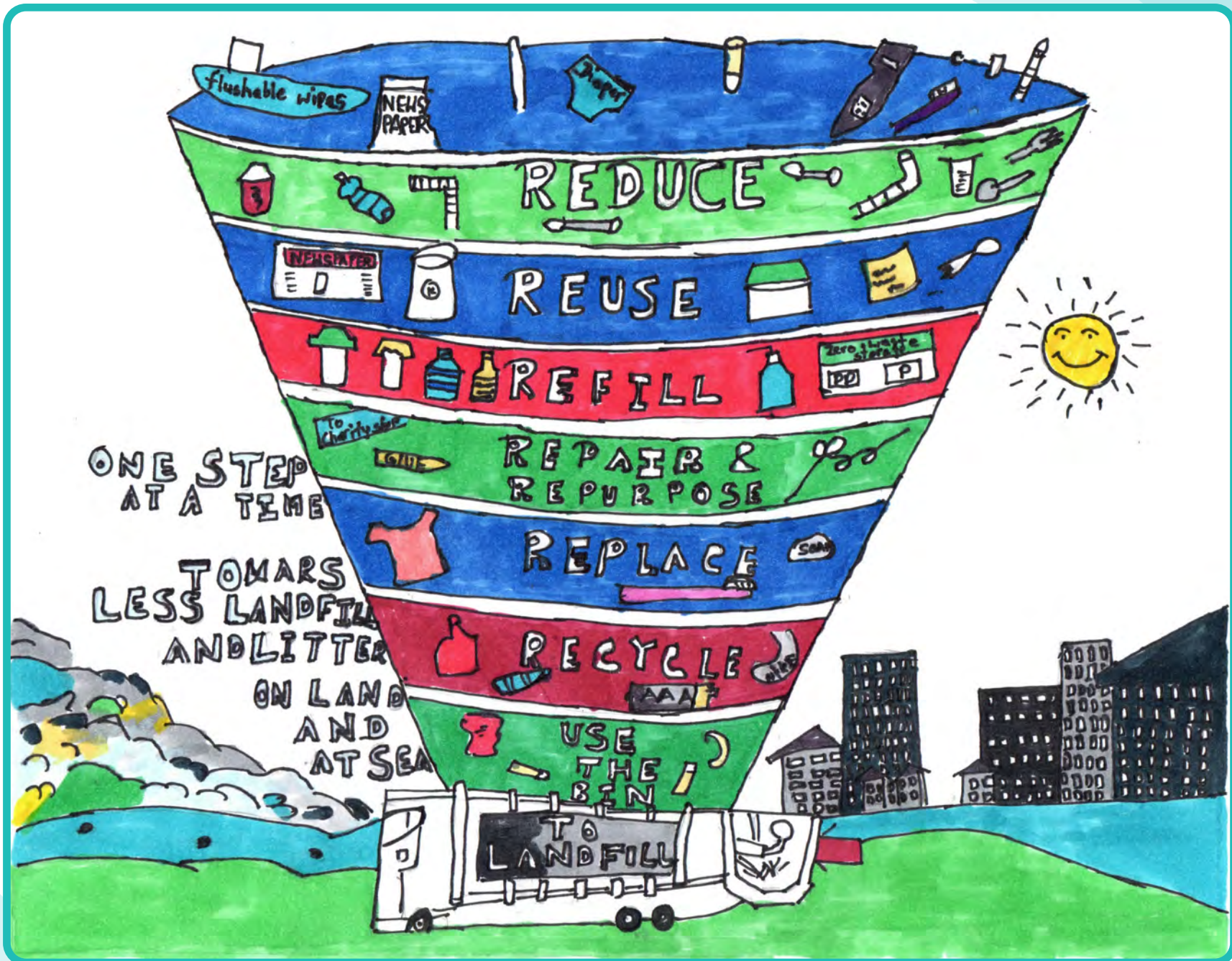
Wash your family's car away from the street to keep dirty, soapy water from getting into the storm drain. How about washing it on the grass?

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.







**SAKET VOHRA | 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Hickory Woods Elementary**

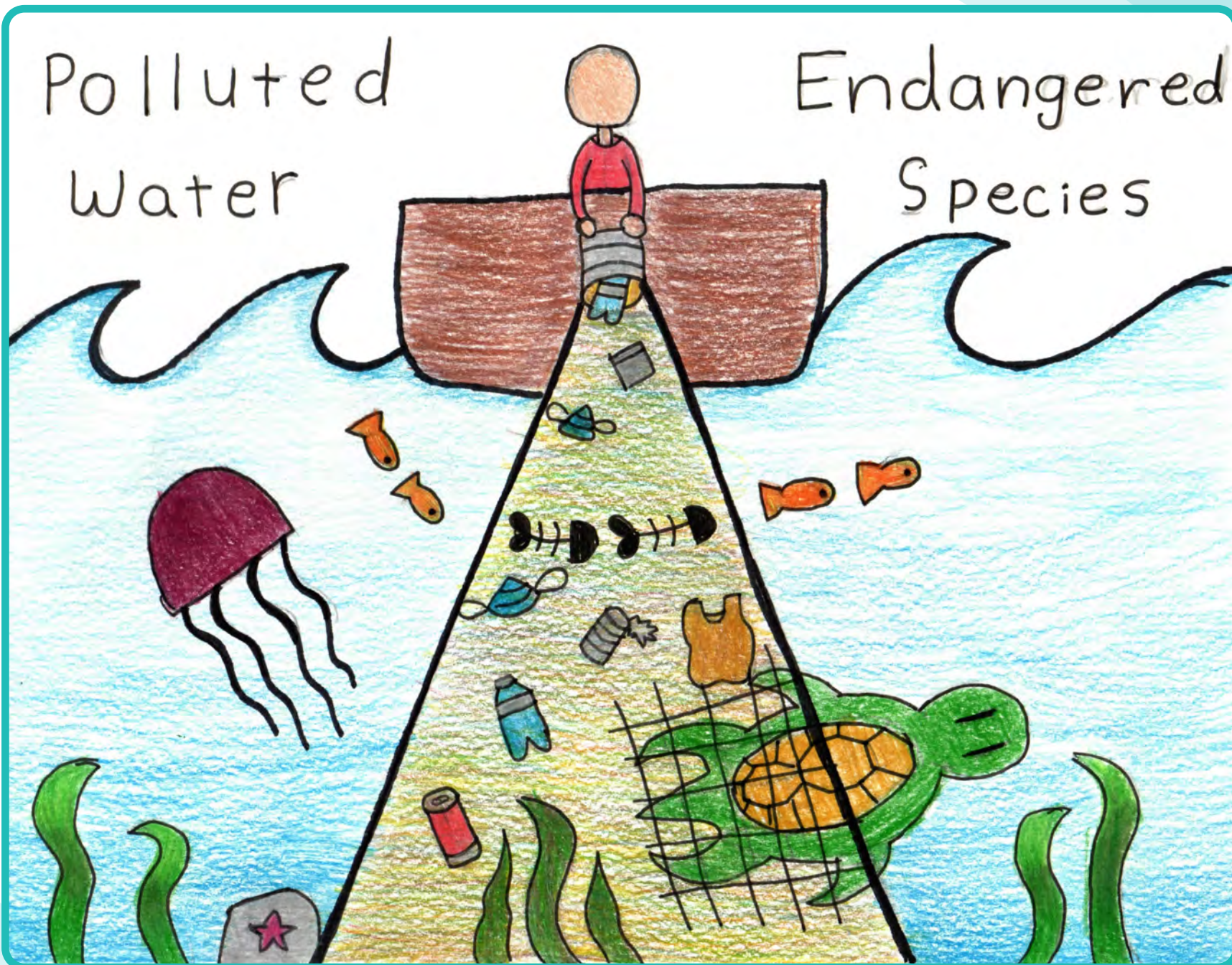
# JANUARY

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  <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	17  <i>Kid Inventors' Day</i>	18	19	20	21  <i>FOTR Stonefly Search</i>
22  <i>Chinese New Year</i>	23  <i>National Pie Day</i>	24	25  <i>Opposite Day</i>	26	27	28  <i>HRWC Stonefly Search</i>
29	30	31				

## Clean Water Tip:

Litter on roadways can clog storm drains and cause flooding. Properly dispose of trash and "reduce-reuse-recycle!"





**ADVIKA PODDAR | 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Barnard Elementary**



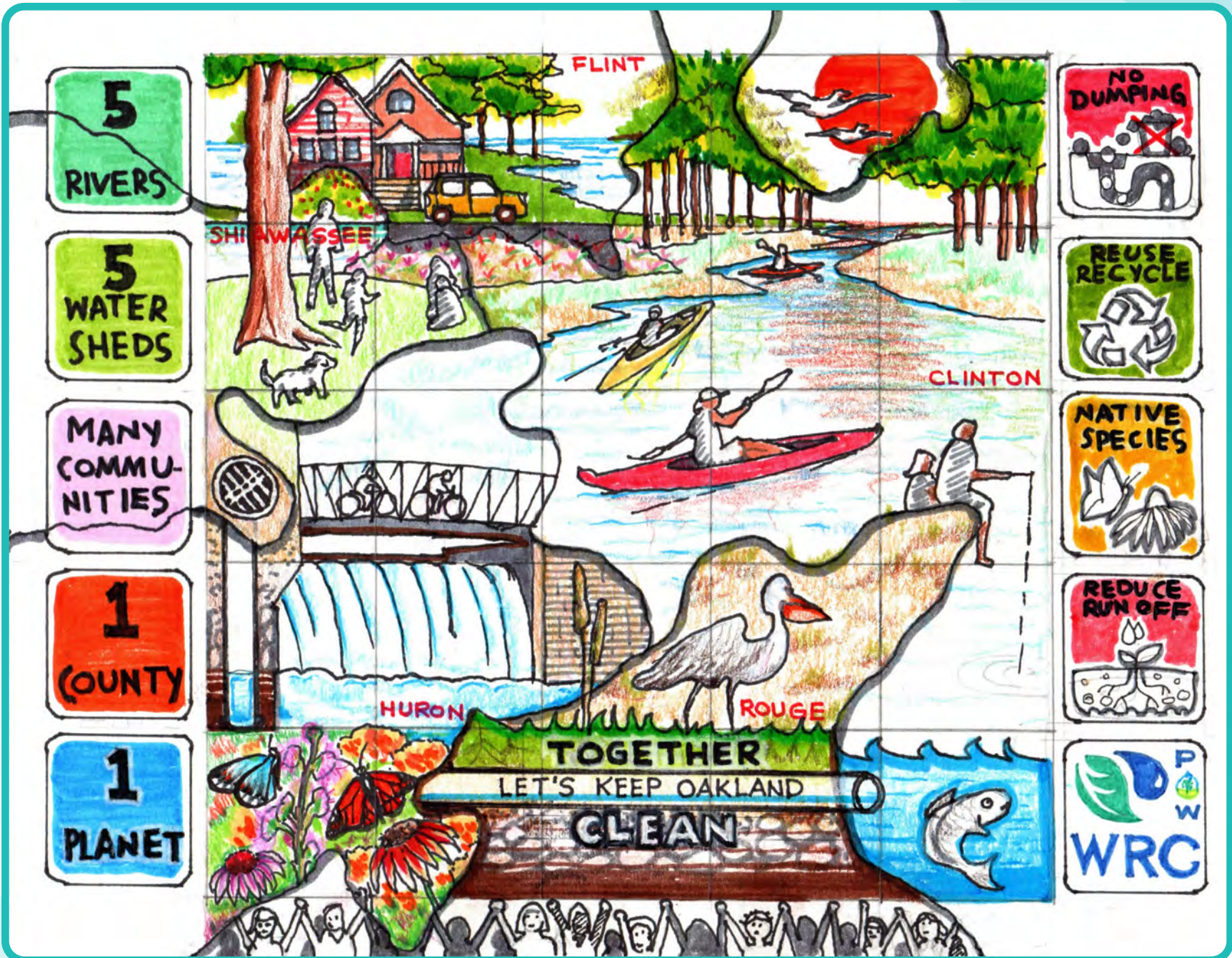
# FEBRUARY

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

## Clean Water Tip:

Litter can end up in our waterways causing harm to wildlife. Properly dispose of trash and "reduce-reuse-recycle!"





**AGNISH ADHYA | 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Leonard Elementary**



# MARCH

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

## Clean Water Tip:

Oakland County is home to five different watersheds and thousands of lakes! We can all help to keep our lakes, rivers and streams healthy! To learn more, visit [oakgov.com/riparian](http://oakgov.com/riparian).



**CLEAN UP THE POOP**  
**DON'T POLLUTE**



**JULIA SKETCH | 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Barnard Elementary**

# APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1  <i>April Fools' Day</i>
2  <i>Palm Sunday</i>	3	4	5  <i>Passover Begins at Sundown</i>	6	7  <i>Good Friday</i>	8
9  <i>Easter</i>	10	11	12	13	14	15  <i>FOTR Spring Bug Hunt</i>
16  <i>Eastern Orthodox Easter</i>	17  <i>Holocaust Remembrance Day</i>	18	19	20	21  <i>(Eid) al Fitr Begins at Sundown</i>	22  <i>Earth Day</i>
23	24	25	26  <i>Administrative Professionals Day</i>	27	28  <i>Arbor Day</i>	29  <i>HRWC River Roundup</i>
30	<b>Clean Water Tip:</b> Pet and waterfowl waste contains bacteria and nutrients that can make our lakes and rivers unsafe for swimming. Pick up pet waste promptly and dispose of it in the trash!					





**YUVAN KADALA | 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Wass Elementary**

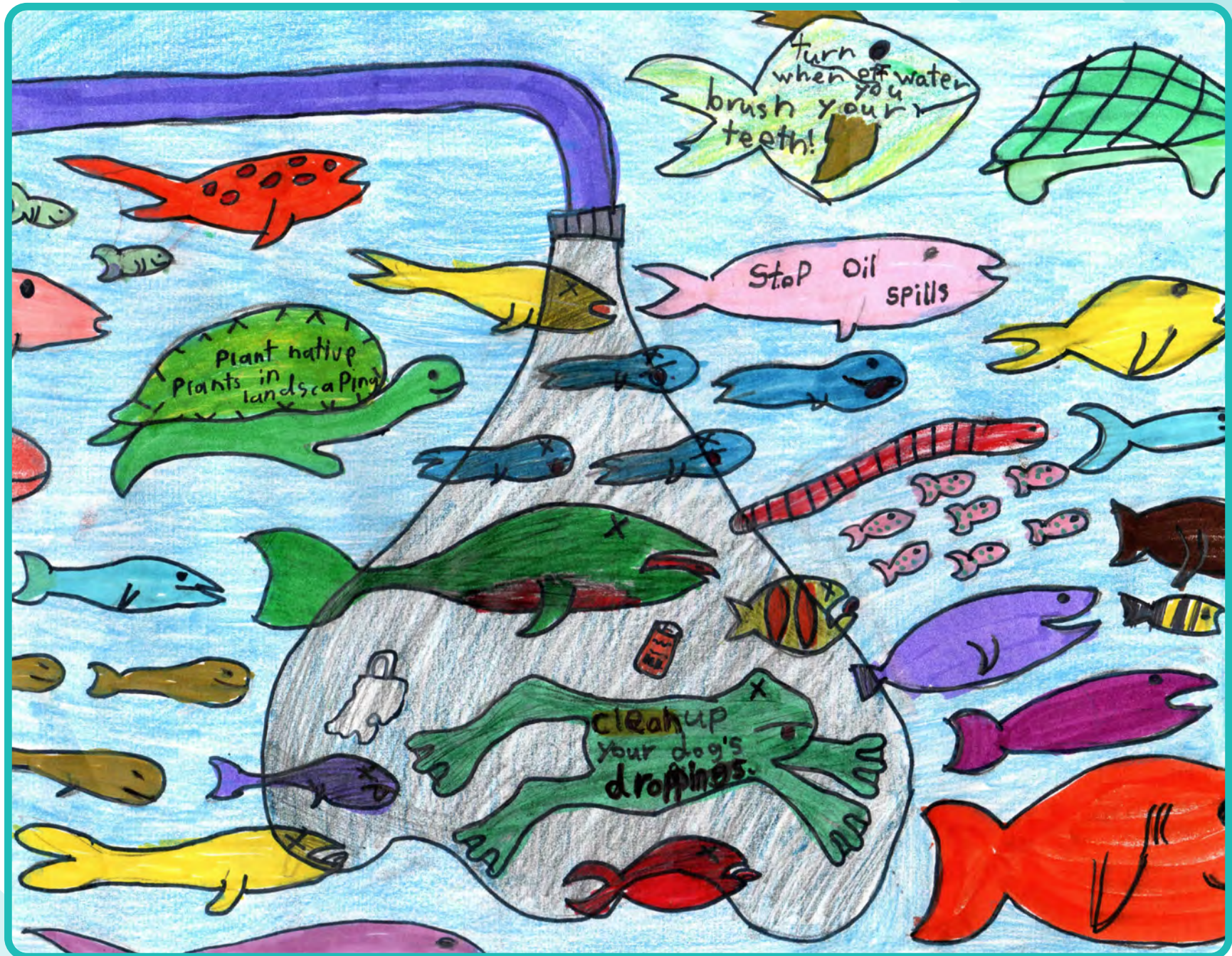
# MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>May Day</i>	2 <i>National Teacher Day</i>	3 <i>Rouge Education Project Spring Monitoring Day</i>	4	5 <i>Cinco de Mayo</i>	6 <i>CRWC Adopt-A-Stream Spring Monitoring</i>
7 <i>World Laughter Day</i>	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 <i>Mother's Day</i>	15	16 <i>Love a Tree Day</i>	17	18	19 <i>Clinton River Water Festival at Oakland University</i>	20 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 <i>Memorial Day</i>	30	31			<i>May is American Wetlands Month</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.





**BRYSON HESPENHEIDE | 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Schroeder Elementary**

# JUNE

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

## Clean Water Tip:

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



Save the **Great Lakes**  
from  
Asian Carp



**YUMO JIANG | 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Avondale GATE Magnet School**

# 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 <i>Muharram Begins at Sundown</i>	19	20	21	22
23 <i>Parents' Day</i>	24	25	26	27 <i>Ashura Begins at Sundown</i>	28	29
30 <i>Friendship Day</i>	31					

## Clean Water Tip:

Learn more about invasive species management from the Oakland County CISMA at [oaklandinvasivespecies.org](http://oaklandinvasivespecies.org).





**LAINA PITT | 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Barnard Elementary**

# AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		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	Visit <a href="https://oakgov.com/calendarcontest">oakgov.com/calendarcontest</a> for 2024 Calendar Contest information!	

## Clean Water Tip:

Water conservation is an important part of protecting our water resources for future generations. Every drop counts - use it wisely!





**ISHANA DAS | 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**University Hills Elementary**

# SEPTEMBER

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

## Clean Water Tip:

Properly dispose of trash and don't litter! Never flush non-degradable items down the toilet - including "flushable" wipes. They don't break down and cause damage in sanitary sewer systems.





**SEUNGAH OH | 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Leonard Elementary**

# OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 <i>Look at the Leaves Day</i>	4 <i>Rouge Education Project Fall Monitoring Day</i>	5 <i>World Teachers' Day</i>	6 <i>Deadline for entries for the 2024 Kids' Clean Water Calendar Contest</i>	7 <i>CRWC Adopt-A-Stream Fall Monitoring</i>
8	9 <i>Indigenous Peoples Day</i>	10	11	12	13	14 <i>FOTR Fall Bug Hunt HRWC River Roundup</i>
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:

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.





**SALLY HUANG | 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Leonard Elementary**

# NOVEMBER

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

## 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 [oakgov.com/riparian](http://oakgov.com/riparian).





**SCARLETT RIGA | 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Birmingham Covington School**

# DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 <i>Hanukkah Begins at Sundown</i> <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>	<b>Clean Water Tip:</b> Litter can end up in our waterways causing harm to wildlife. Properly dispose of trash and "reduce-reuse-recycle!"					



# Honorable Mention Winners



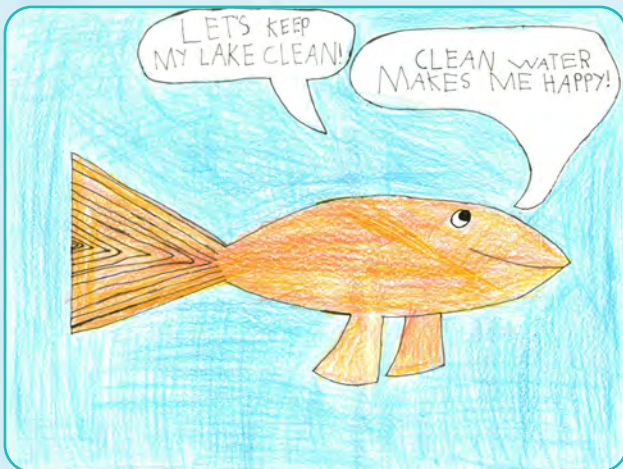
**Tabitha Brand**  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Way Elementary



**Clara Yancey**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Birmingham Covington School



**Molly Maguire**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Salem Elementary



**Reese Malkovskii**  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Clarkston Virtual



**Donovan Rodorigo**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Sayre Elementary



**Giuliana Puzzuoli**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Birmingham Covington School



# Honorable Mention Winners



**Haddie McDonald**  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Way Elementary



**Edha Khurana**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Carpenter Elementary



**Addison Monkman**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Pleasant Lake Elementary



**Emely Ramos**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Avondale GATE Magnet School



**Samuel Lee**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Avondale GATE Magnet School



**Ishani Thakur**  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Avondale GATE Magnet School



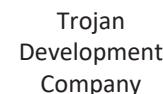
The Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office would like to offer a special thanks to the 2023 calendar contest judges, Pure Oakland Water, Cranbrook Institute of Science, and sponsoring companies for their help with the calendar contest and financial support of the calendar contest award ceremony.

**A special thank you to the following participating schools:**

Andersonville Elementary, Avondale GATE Magnet School, Bailey Lake Elementary, Barnard Elementary, Beechview Elementary, Bemis Elementary, Beverly Elementary, Birmingham Covington School, Bloomfield Hills Middle School, Brewster Elementary, Carpenter Elementary, Clarkston Virtual, Clear Lake Elementary, Costello Elementary, Davisburg Elementary, East Hills Middle School, Glengary Elementary, Hampton Elementary, Harlan Elementary, Hickory Woods Elementary, Holly Elementary, Kingsbury Country Day School, Kurtz Elementary, Leonard Elementary, LongLong Art Studio, Notre Dame Prep Marist Academy, Oxford Elementary, Patterson Elementary, Pierce Elementary, Pleasant Lake Elementary, Quarton Elementary, R. Grant Graham Elementary, Riverside Elementary, Rose Pioneer Elementary, Salem Elementary, Sayre Elementary, Schroeder Elementary, Springfield Plains Elementary, Susick Elementary, University Hills Elementary, Wass Elementary and Way Elementary.

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

## 2023 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.