



Pasco County Utilities & FGUA

3rd Annual Water Awareness Poster Contest

OVERVIEW

The Water Awareness Poster Contest is a joint educational, outreach program between Pasco County Utilities and the Florida Governmental Utility Authority (FGUA). The goal of the program is to educate elementary school children about the importance of the limited supply of fresh water and the role of a water utility in their community.

After soliciting feedback from teachers and administrators from last year's program, the poster contest has been redesigned to include relevant information for teachers and students by connecting the theme with applicable water related topics in science. For many teachers, this may be in alignment with objectives outlined in the Florida Next Generation Science Standards for K-8. The timing of the program has also been adjusted to accommodate the curriculum schedule. We anticipate that these changes will make the program easier for teachers and their students.

In addition to education, another important aspect of the contest for the last two years has been recognition. In previous years, all participants have received certificates for their hard work and contest winners for each grade level have been recognized in an award presentation. Additionally, top finishers have been awarded admission to well-known educational attractions in the Tampa Bay area through generous donations from sponsors and have had their names published in the local newspaper.

PROGRAM DETAILS

I. Eligibility Requirements

The 2012 Poster Contest is open to all 1st through 5th grade students enrolled in a public, private, or home-school in Pasco County.

II. Contest Theme: "The Adventures of Drippy: How Does He Get To My Home?"

This year's theme focuses on the infrastructure that brings water from the ground to the Pasco County community. The theme centers on our character, Drippy. Drippy is a water droplet stuck deep underground in the Florida Aquifer who needs to make it home to your sink, so that you and your students have clean water to drink.

By incorporating his journey into a lesson plan, students will learn about the science behind how water gets from one area to another. After learning about how water makes its way from the ground to the tap, students can illustrate what they've learned by drawing a poster, which will be entered into the poster contest.

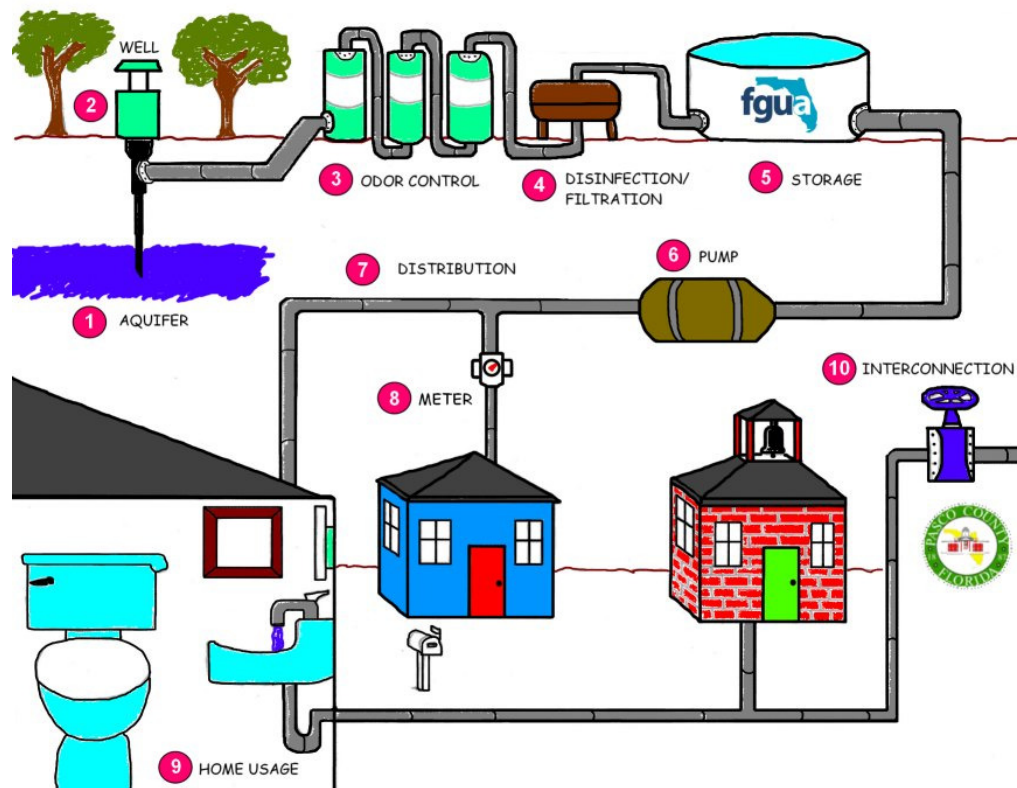
III. Program Timeline

Registration Begins: **Friday, February 17, 2012 at 8:00am**
Registration Ends: **Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 5:00pm**

All registration forms must be returned by **5:00pm on Thursday, March 22, 2012** in celebration of the United Nations World Water Day. Poster entries must be returned by **Friday, April 13, 2012 at 5:00pm** to allow ample time for judging, public display, and award presentations.

IV. Program Materials and Setup

Program curriculum is available in a PDF document on the FGUA website at: <http://education.fgua.com>. The curriculum provides teachers with a better understanding about each of the ten components that goes into making a water utility capable of delivering clean drinking water to the community. An illustration is pictured below with the ten components and serves as a sample of the types of resources that can be found on the website. This information should be shared with students prior to the development of their poster, so that students have an understanding of how the process works.



Since water utilities contain many complex components, we recommend that teachers tailor the contest to each grade level. For 1st graders, some ideas for a poster might be drawing a well or the pipes that get Drippy to the home. For 5th graders, emphasis might be placed on how all the components come together to form one complex system. In other words, a 1st grader may choose to illustrate one component, while a 5th grader may choose to focus on all

ten components in their drawing. To add some fun to the contest, stickers of Drippy will be provided to teachers for their students to use in their drawings.

V. Poster Criteria

Students may use crayons, water colors, poster paint, markers, and ink, cut paper, and colored pencils to complete their designs. Stickers of Drippy will be provided to participating teachers for students to use in their designs, as well.

Posters should display original ideas, without the use of popular cartoon characters or reproductions. Three dimensional pieces will not be allowed.

Winning posters will be put on display. As such, pictures should be tasteful and suitable for display in a public setting. Students are encouraged to use large lettering, bold colors, and heavy lines that will be easily visible from a distance.

Please be advised that group submissions are accepted and will receive recognition, but are discouraged since they are ineligible for contest awards. Individual submissions are highly recommended for this program. Submitted posters must meet the following criteria:

- 11" x 14" poster-size paper or foam board
- Contain at least one component of the water system
- Have a student's name, grade level, and teacher written legibly on back
- Contain a Drippy sticker (Optional)

VI. Submission

All posters should be clipped together. Posters can be dropped off or mailed to any of the following locations

<p>Pasco County Utilities Water Awareness Poster Contest Attn: Kelly Ross West Pasco Government Complex 7536 State Street, Suite 118 New Port Richey, FL 34654</p>	<p>Pasco County Utilities Water Awareness Poster Contest Attn: Kelly Ross East Pasco Government Complex 14236 Sixth Street Dade City, FL 33523</p>
<p>FGUA Water Awareness Poster Contest Attn: Matt Rihs Pasco County Office 6915 Perrine Ranch Road New Port Richey, FL 34655</p>	

VII. Judging

Contest judging will be provided by representatives of Pasco County Utilities, the FGUA, Pasco County Commissioners, and a special guest judge. Judging will be based on the following standards:

- Clarity of message
- Neatness
- Creativity
- Originality
- Grade level appropriateness

Judging is tentatively scheduled for the last week in April 2012. A Pasco County Representative or FGUA Representative will contact the schools with information on the contest winners and finalists.

VIII. Contest Awards and Recognition

First place winners from each grade level will receive a trophy and a special award. Second and third place winner for each grade level will receive award ribbons. Special awards may be given to second and third place, if available. Each student that participates will receive a Certificate of Participation and the names of the contest winners will be submitted to local newspapers for publication.

Special awards are being solicited from local educational and entertainment attractions. Previous awards have included: tickets to the Florida Aquarium, Big Cat Rescue, MOSI, Clearwater Marine Aquarium and Lowry Park Zoo.

IX. Award Presentations

Schools have the option of having a Pasco County Representative and FGUA Representative announce the winners and present awards at their school. In the past, this has been done in one of three ways:

1. Classroom presentation
2. During morning announcements
3. At a school assembly

The decision is ultimately up to the teacher and administrator of the winning students. We recommend picking an option that is convenient, yet still honors students for their contributions to the program. A representative will contact the schools of the winners in April 2012 to schedule a time to present awards to the winners.

X. Public Display

Winners and finalists will have their posters displayed at the West Pasco Government Center at: 8731 Citizens Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34654 during the month of May 2012.

GUIDELINES FOR TEACHERS

1. Register for the Program

To participate, please fill out the registration form at the end of this document. Directions are listed on the form. The form can be returned via scan and e-mail, fax, or standard mail. You may also request that a Pasco County Utilities or FGUA representative come to your school to answer questions and explain the program.

2. Read Curriculum on FGUA Website

Participating teachers should review the Drinking Water Tour on the FGUA website at: <http://education.fgua.com/drinkingwatertour.htm> explaining what infrastructure is involved in the process and how the water system works. A PDF version is available for download to use as a handout at <http://education.fgua.com>.

3. Develop a Lesson Plan

Teachers are encouraged to develop a lesson plan based on the curriculum and have a discussion with their class, so they have a better understanding of how Drippy goes from each part of the system until he reaches the faucet.

4. Facilitate the Drawing Exercise

After the lesson plan, students should be encouraged to illustrate the infrastructure that Drippy goes through to get from the Florida Aquifer to the faucet. Stickers will be mailed or delivered to teachers after they submit a registration form.

5. Return the Posters

Once all posters are complete, please submit all entries by **5:00pm on Friday, April 13, 2012**. Submission locations are listed above. In addition, please be sure that each poster clearly indicates:

- Student's first and last name
- Grade level
- School name
- Teacher's full name

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

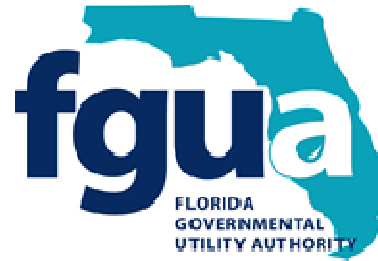
For more information about the Pasco County Utilities/FGUA 3rd Annual Water Awareness Poster Contest or to setup an appointment to have a representative come to your school to explain the program in further detail, please contact:

Kelly Ross - Pasco County Utilities
kross@pascocountyfl.net

727-847-8131 ext. 2544

Matt Rihs - Florida Governmental Utility Authority (FGUA)
mrihs@govmserv.com

727-372-0115 ext. 330



2012 Water Awareness Poster Contest School Registration Form

The Water Awareness Poster Contest is a joint educational, outreach program between Pasco County Utilities and the Florida Governmental Utility Authority (FGUA). The goal of the program is to educate elementary school children about the importance of the limited supply of fresh water and the role of a water utility in their community.

Teacher Name _____

School Name _____

Check box that applies: Public School Private School Home School

Address _____

City State Zip _____

E-mail _____

Presentation Request Would you like a Pasco County Utilities or FGUA representative to come to your school to answer questions and explain the program? Yes No

Number of Stickers: How many stickers would you like us to mail your class? _____

Please indicate grade levels of participating students:

First Grade Second Grade Third Grade Fourth Grade Fifth Grade

Please submit application to Kelly Ross, at Pasco County Utilities by e-mail at kross@pascocountyfl.net or fax at (727)847-8972. Submissions may also be submitted to Matt Rihs, at the Florida Governmental Utility Authority (FGUA) by e-mail at mrihs@govmserv.com or fax at (727) 372-2677. For standard mail, please see mailing addresses below.

Pasco County Utilities
Attn: Kelly Ross
7536 State Street
New Port Richey, FL 34654

Florida Governmental Utility Authority
Attn: Matt Rihs
6915 Perrine Ranch Road
New Port Richey, FL 34655

The deadline for registering for the contest is **Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 5:00pm**. The deadline for submitting student posters is **Friday, April 13, 2012 at 5:00pm**. For additional information and for contest rules, please visit the FGUA website at: <http://education.fgua.com> or call Matt Rihs at: (727) 372-0115 ext. 330.