

Clean Water Art Contest 2020

Did you know anything in our environment can end up in the streams? **No?** You are not alone.

The truth is that trash, pollution, chemicals, and yard waste often enter our local streams untreated!

What can we do about this problem? Educate – spread the word to stop litter and other pollution from ending up in our environment and eventually ending up in our waterways!

Art for the Environment

The Clean Water Art Contest seeks to use art to educate the public about the connection between our communities, streams, and the Bay. The winners will see their art painted on storm drains. This year the art may also be displayed on trash cans and bus ads in the County!



Storm drain painted in 2019

We're looking for artists, of all ages, to submit original pieces of art focused on environmental themes such as anti-litter, wildlife, pollution and our streams.

The art could be used for a variety of purposes in the County. [View pictures of storm drain art](#) currently installed throughout the County. The photo album also includes images of how storm drain art is installed.

Rules and Restrictions

Prize:

Five (5) winners will be selected from all valid entries. They will have their art used in a variety of ways throughout the County with a focus in White Oak near the East County Regional Service Center and the White Oak Community Center.

The timing and the use of the art will be the sole discretion of the Montgomery County government. The five (5) winners will be chosen based on the guidelines outlined in "What to Enter" and "Judging" sections below.

Deadline for Submissions:

All entries must be received by 4:00pm EST on **Friday, April 30, 2020**

Judging:

All entries submitted into the Clean Water Art Contest will first be reviewed for their validity at meeting the guidelines, rules, and restrictions of the contest. Those meeting the minimum guidelines will be eligible to move onto the next round of judging.

Submitted entries must be entered into one of the four (4) categories. The artwork will be judged within the selected category first. The categories are:

- Clean Water
- Fight Litter
- Environment and Youth (For ages 18 and under only)
- Lift Up White Oak (community pride)

Valid entries will be presented to a panel of judges, including Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection and partnering County agencies staff, and local County nonprofits. The entries will be scored based on their ability to meet the “Guidelines for Art” outlined below and the selected category. For each entry, the scores from the judges will be added together. The total scores will then be ranked.

There will be one winner for each of the four (4) categories.

All remaining valid entries will then be entered for the **People's Choice** Public Voting to become the fifth winning entry.

People's Choice - Public Voting:

Valid entries that did not win a category will be voted on by the public on the Department of Environmental Instagram page ([instagram.com/mygreenmc/](https://www.instagram.com/mygreenmc/)). Anyone wishing to vote without using social media can email DEP.Contests@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov to request the images and to submit a vote.

The entries eligible for public voting will be posted on the DEP Instagram page by May 18, 2020. The artwork to receive the most “likes” by 4:00pm EDT on May 22, 2020 will become the winner of the “People’s Choice” award.

DEP will notify the winners via the contact information provided at the time of entry. Winners will be announced via press release and DEP’s social media. Winners will be invited to the installation of their art, but the timing and location of the art installation are the full discretion of Montgomery County.

What to Enter:

To enter the contest, submit:

- An original work of art in .jpg, .png or .pdf format. A maximum of two (2) entries are allowed per individual.
- Signed Entry and Release Forms stating the originality of the art, permission to enter the contest, and address in Montgomery County, MD. For those under 18, the parental consent portion of the release must be completed by a legal guardian.

Entries must be submitted by email to DEP.Contests@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov. Each email must contain the signed Entry and Release Forms and the original work of art. Larger emails may bounce back and not be received by the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection. If your email was sent successfully, you will receive an automatic reply. If you have not received an automatic reply, call 240-777-7778 to confirm receipt.

For those submitting two (2) entries, **each entry must be sent in a separate email** and have their own signed Entry and Release Forms included in the email.

All entries must be submitted for one (1) category:

- Fight Litter
- Clean Water
- Lift Up White Oak (community pride)
- Environment and Youth (For ages 18 and under only)

Guidelines for Art:

- The art must be original. Confirmation of this must be signed in the release form.
- A maximum of ten (10) colors can be used on each art design.
- Art has to be easily replicated on concrete surface and print production.
- Entries must be digital format, either .jpg, .png or .pdf.
- The art must contain at least one (1) slogan or tagline.

The art entries will be judged on whether the art:

- **Educates about a water quality issue related to streams, storm drains, or general environmental topics.** Examples include litter, pet waste, oil, chemicals, yard waste, or how the storm drain leads to nearby streams.
- **Easy to re-create.** A complicated design might be interesting, but if it can't be replicated, it won't work.
- **Creative, colorful and original.** We want the designs to be eye-catching. If people don't see it, then it won't be able to serve as an educational tool.
- **Coherent and easy to understand message.** Don't try to fit every water quality or environmental topic into your art. For the public to easily understand, one theme works best.
- **Relevant slogan or tagline included.** Integrate at least one (1) slogan or tagline into your design. It should be connected to the theme, and large enough to be read by passerbys. The slogan does not have to be in English. Examples from a past contest include, "Mi Agua es Tu Agua" and "Protect Rock Creek: Scoop the Poop".
- **Is submitted as a high resolution .jpg, .png or .pdf file.** Clarity of the art will be used in the judging portion. The art design does not have to be made on a computer, only submitted as a .jpg, .png or .pdf file. For instance, the art can be hand drawn and then a picture of the drawing as a .jpg is submitted to the contest. As long as the clarity and resolution of the image is high.
- **The artwork is appropriate for the selected category.** There are four (4) categories to choose from:
 - Fight Litter
 - Clean Water
 - Lift Up White Oak (community pride)
 - Environment and Youth (For ages 18 and under only)
- **Meets all the guidelines expressed in the Rules and Restrictions.**

How to Enter:

Entries must be submitted by email to DEP.Contests@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov. We do not accept art submitted through the mail.

Each email must contain a .jpg, .png or .pdf of the original work of art with signed Entry and Release Forms. Larger emails may bounce back and not be received by the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection. If your email was sent successfully, you will receive an automatic reply. If you have not received an automatic reply, call 240-777-7778 to confirm receipt.

For those submitting two (2) entries, each entry must be sent in a separate email and have their own signed Entry and Release Forms included in the email.

For language assistance or technological support, contact 240-777-7778.

Participants retain the rights to their art; however, by entering the contest, you grant the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (and those authorized by the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection) a royalty-free, perpetual, non-exclusive license to publicly display, distribute, reproduce, and create derivative works of the entries, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or later developed, for any Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection purpose, including, but not limited to, advertising and promotion of the Department on its website, and Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection publications. Any art reproduced will include a credit as feasible. The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection will not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval in connection with such uses.

Entry deadline:

All entries must be received by 4:00pm EST, **April 30, 2020.**

Terms and Conditions:

1. The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Clean Water Art Contest begins 12:01am EST, March 22, 2020 and ends 4:00pm EST, April 30, 2020. By submitting an entry, each contestant agrees to the rules of the contest. Entries by those under 18 must include a parent or legal guardian signature.
2. Contest is only open to residents of Montgomery County, MD.
3. There is no entry fee and no purchase necessary to enter this competition. Offer is void where prohibited.
4. Montgomery County does not accept responsibility for entries not received for whatever reason.
5. Art/slogans/messages that violate or infringe upon any group or individual rights, including but not limited to copyright, are not eligible. Designs that contain obscene, defamatory, sexually explicit, or otherwise objectionable or inappropriate content will be disqualified at Montgomery County's sole discretion.
6. Montgomery County reserves the right to cancel or amend the competition and these terms and conditions without notice in the event of a catastrophe, war, civil or military disturbance, act of God or any actual or anticipated breach of any applicable law or regulation or any other event outside of the promoter's control. Any changes to the competition will be notified to entrants as soon as possible by the promoter.
7. Montgomery County does not guarantee the length of time art will be displayed publicly. Art can be removed at the discretion of Montgomery County.
8. No cash alternative to the prizes will be offered.
9. The winner will be notified by email and/or phone based on the information submitted in the signed release form.
10. Employees of Montgomery County, MD government, contest judges or family of contest judges are exempt from participation.
11. By entering this competition, an entrant is indicating his/her agreement to be bound by these terms and conditions and the rules and restrictions.
12. The winner agrees to the use of his/her name and image in any publicity material. Any personal data relating to the winner or any other entrants will not be disclosed to a third party.
13. This promotion is in no way sponsored, endorsed or administered by, or associated with, Facebook, or any other Social Network. You are providing your information to Montgomery County and not to any other party.

Who May Enter:

Anyone who is a resident of Montgomery County, Maryland. Entries submitted by those under 18 must include a parent or legal guardian signature on the release form. Individuals affiliated with Montgomery County, contest judges, or family of contest judges are not eligible. Montgomery County will determine the winners' eligibility in its sole discretion.