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**Maricopa County Stormwater Pollution Poster Contest Winners**

Maricopa County Environmental Services Department Stormwater Quality Program is proud to announce the results of the 2016 Stormwater Pollution Awareness Poster Contest.

Stormwater runoff is one of the leading causes of water pollution in the United States. In an effort to bring awareness to this problem, elementary students in Maricopa County were encouraged to submit posters supporting the message “**Help Sam\* Make Clean Storm Drains Happen.**” A total of more than 400 entries from sixteen schools were received and judged based on artwork, originality, and message delivery. With the support of Maricopa County Library District, Wildlife World Zoo and Aquarium, Children’s Museum of Phoenix, Arizona State Parks, Maricopa County Parks & Recreation, and Desert Botanical Garden, prizes were awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in two categories: 3<sup>rd</sup> /4<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade.

“We are thrilled to see such a growing interest in our Stormwater Poster contest with new schools participating this year,” said Maricopa County Supervisors’ Chairman Clint Hickman. “This poster contest is an excellent tool to teach young students to be aware of stormwater pollution and to be involved in keeping contaminants from entering our waterways.”

**3<sup>rd</sup> /4<sup>th</sup> Grade winners**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Valeria Veleta-Martinez	4th Grade	Tomahawk Elementary	Mrs. Wydo
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Bella Clancy	4th Grade	Settlers Point Elementary	Mrs. Rall
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Kyla Wuollet	4th Grade	New River Elementary	Mrs. Clover

**5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade winners**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Schanath Leon Rodriguez	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Stevenson Elementary	Mrs. Kulina/ Mrs. Johnson (Art Teacher)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Trevor Wagoner	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	New River Elementary	Mrs. Davis
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Edmer Roman	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Kerr Elementary	Mr. Brandt /Mrs. Johnson (Art Teacher)

“Protecting the quality of our water resources remains an important issue in our community; especially in our arid environment. These posters are a very creative and effective way of sharing this important message,” said Steven Goode, director with Maricopa County Environmental Services Department. “We thank the teachers for their cooperation, and appreciate the student’s imagination and talent in producing these wonderful art pieces on Stormwater pollution.”

The winners were recognized with a certificate signed by Chairman Hickman and MCESD Director Goode presented at a Maricopa County Board of Supervisors formal meeting. They also received several prizes, courtesy of the poster contest sponsors.

Winning posters will be used as part of the Stormwater Quality outreach efforts.

Thank you to all of the contest entrants and congratulations to the winners.

To find out how you can help to keep our waters clean, please check out our website at [www.maricopa.gov/stormwater](http://www.maricopa.gov/stormwater) .



Maricopa County  
Parks and Recreation



Back row (from left): Supervisors: Andy Kunasek (Dist. 3); Denny Barney (Dist. 1); Steve Chucri (Dist. 2), County Manager Tom Manos; Chairman Clint Hickman (Dist. 4) and Supervisor Steve Gallardo (Dist. 5)

Front row (from left): Schanath Rodriguez—1st Place 5th/6th Grade; Kyla Wuollet—3rd Place, 3rd/4th Grade; Valeria Martinez—1st Place 3rd/4th Grade; Edmer Roman—3rd Place 5th/6th Grade; Trevor Wagoner—2nd Place 5th/6th Grade  
*Not pictured, Bella Clancy—2nd Place 3rd/4th Grade*



*\*Meet Sam – the Stormwater Quality mascot! Sam is a Sonoran Tiger Salamander, an amphibian that can only be found in a small part of southern Arizona and Northern Mexico. Sam is capable of surviving both in water and on land! He’s an indicator animal meaning he is sensitive to water quality and pollutants. Sam is going to assist in educating the public about keeping stormwater pollutants from reaching our waterways so that he can have a clean, healthy habitat.*

*As we fulfill the Department’s mission, we keep the environment clean for Sam and for ourselves.*