



Michigan Rural Water Association
2127 University Park Drive Suite 340
Okemos MI 48864
Phone 517-657-2601
website: www.mrwa.net

Dear Educators:

The Michigan Rural Water Association would like to extend an excellent opportunity for your students to express their ideas, gain insight into the importance of water conservation and a clean water supply and possibly win cash prizes for themselves and your school.

MRWA is sponsoring a video contest for Michigan High School Students. The goal is to create public awareness on the topics of Water Conservation or Watershed Protection. Each team is encouraged to include their local water and/or wastewater utility in their video if that is possible at this time. Each team must have a sponsoring teacher and while any teacher can serve as a sponsor, this is ideal for those who work with environmental science, media technology or communications. **There is a 10 video limit per school. Sponsoring teachers should coordinate and select their top 10 videos for submission.**

There is a Grand Prize of \$1,500.00 to be awarded to the sponsoring teacher/department as well as \$250.00 gift card to each student of the winning team. There is a limit of four students per team.

The winner will be notified by February 27, 2026 and will be invited to attend MRWA's Annual Conference to receive their prizes. Deadline to submit videos is January 16, 2026

All we ask of you is to please:

- **Announce the MRWA Video Contest to your students and teachers and**
- **Post the information where students will see it**

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please call our office at 517-657-2601 or send an email to Melisa at membersvcs@mrwa.net.

Sincerely,

Melisa Lincoln
Membership & Marketing Director



2026 Michigan Rural Water Association Video Contest

*Win \$1,500 for your school and a \$250 gift card for
each member of your team.*

Video Contest Registration Form:

The Sponsoring Teacher – The sponsor's role is to encourage students' participation and provide general guidance in how to plan a video and enter the contest – not developing the creative concept or executing the video. Any teacher can serve as the sponsor, but this is ideal for those who work with environmental science, media technology, English or communications. If a science teacher wants to work with media technologies teacher to co-sponsor, that's great – they just need to split the \$1,500 award if their student(s) win the contest.

Name of Participating High School: _____

Address: _____

Name and Title of Sponsoring Teacher: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Name of Student Team Members: _____

Contact E-mail for Teacher & Team Members: _____

Return this registration form and a signed copy of the Authorization for Use of Audio/Visual Images Form by each team member and teacher. **If you are emailing this information, you MUST include the video link with this paperwork to qualify.**

**To see past winners, go to the MRWA Annual Conference
page under the events tab on our website.**



2026 MRWA Video Contest Instructions

Win \$1,500 for your school and a \$250 gift card each Member of your team.

Video Contest Details

- Open to 9th-12th grade students in any accredited high school in Michigan
- Each video must be sponsored by a school teacher
- Create a video up to 45 seconds ---- on your own or as a team
- Limit of 4 four students per team
- **LIMIT OF 10 VIDEOS PER SCHOOL**
 - Contest Themes: Water Conservation, Watershed Protection
- Teams are encouraged to include local water and/or wastewater utilities in the video if possible. (if you include them you get bonus points when video's are being scored)
- \$1,500 will be awarded to the school which can be used for equipment etc.
- Gift Cards in the amount of \$250 will be given to each winning team member.
- End your video with the MRWA logo. Found on the MRWA website.
- At either the beginning or end of the video, you must include the school name and the FIRST name only of each student who worked on the video. This introduction or ending does not count toward the 45 second limit.
- **Your video must be received no later than January 16, 2026**
- You may upload the video to your youtube, instagram or other online account and email the link and forms to membersvcs@mrwa.net.
- **Sponsoring teach must send the video link and forms on the same email. One video per email.**
- Please send each video on a separate email and in the subject line include the school and team name or video number
 - ie: Smithville School Video 1 or Smithville School Team Jane. Something to make each email unique so they are easily searched on.

OR MAIL A THUMB DRIVE TO

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- Winning team will be notified by February 27, 2026 and showcased at the MRWA Annual Management and Technical Conference and on Michigan Rural Water Association's website (www.mrwa.net).

Judging – MRWA Conference and Awards Committee will conduct judging. Entries will be judged on creativity, effective communication, quality of execution and compliance with contest rules.

To see past winners, go to the MRWA Annual Conference page under the events tab on our website.

Contest Questions? – Email your questions to Melisa at membersvcs@mrwa.net.

Michigan Rural Water Association
Authorization for Use of Audio/Visual Image

I _____, hereby consent to the photographing of myself and/or the recording of my voice and the use of the photographs and/or recordings of singularly or in conjunction with other photographs and/or recordings for advertising, publicity, commercial, or other business purposes. I understand that the term "photograph" as used herein encompasses still photographs, motion pictures and video footage.

I further consent to the reproduction and/or authorization by Michigan Rural Water Association for use of said images and recordings of my voice, in all domestic and foreign markets. Further, I understand that others, with consent the consent of Michigan Rural Water Association, may use and/or reproduce such images and recordings.

I hereby release Michigan Rural Water Association and any of its associated or affiliated counterparts, their directors, officers and employees from all claims of every kind on account of such use.

I give consent for the following areas:

_____ Michigan Rural Water Association Web Site

_____ Michigan Rural Water Association Video Productions

_____ Michigan Rural Water Association Publications

_____ Michigan Rural Water Association Management & Technical Conference

Signature (Parent or Guardian if participant is under age 18)

Date