## Local Students Score Top Prizes in West Virginia American Water "Protect Our Watersheds" Art Contest

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (Apr. 25, 2024) – One student from Cabell County and one student from Jefferson County have taken the top two prizes in the ninth annual Protect Our Watersheds Art Contest organized by West Virginia American Water. The competition aims to educate the state's young generation on the significance of protecting watershed health, water conservation and source water protection through interactive art projects in classrooms.

Claire Noble, a Culloden Elementary School student from Cabell County, was awarded one of the top prizes for her artwork showcasing a litter-free planet with a mountain of clean water streaming down it, emphasizing the importance of protecting our shared drinking water sources.

"Preserving and protecting our watersheds benefits billions of humans and the many species of animals that call Earth home," said Noble. "We all have a part to play in keeping the planet and our drinking water healthy and clean."

Isabella Ramirez, a T.A. Lowery Elementary School student from Jefferson County, also won the top prize with her artwork featuring a young girl promoting various eco-friendly practices like recycling, picking up litter and keeping trash out of drinking water sources.

"I am committed to taking care of the environment as it is vital to the health of our watersheds," said Ramirez. "As citizens of Earth, it is important to recycle, pick up trash and litter and dispose of waste properly."

Rosie Rainer, a Mountain Valley Elementary School student from Mercer County, was named runner-up for her artwork depicting the harmful effects of litter and debris on animals that live in our drinking water sources.

Claire and Isabella will both receive a \$50 bookstore gift card, while their entire class will be awarded a pizza party and a \$50 gift card for their teacher to purchase classroom supplies. Rosie will receive a \$50 bookstore gift card.

## **About American Water**

American Water (NYSE: AWK) is the largest regulated water and wastewater utility company in the United States. With a history dating back to 1886, We Keep Life Flowing® by providing safe, clean, reliable and affordable drinking water and wastewater services to more than 14 million people with regulated operations in 14 states and on 18 military installations. American Water's 6,500 talented professionals leverage their significant expertise and the company's national size and scale to achieve excellent outcomes for the benefit of customers, employees, investors and other stakeholders.

For more information, visit <u>amwater.com</u> and join American Water on <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

West Virginia American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK),
is the largest regulated water utility in the state, providing high-quality and
reliable water services to approximately 600,000 people.

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