



## Call for Entries: K-12 Green Life Art Contest

K-12 students in Athens-Clarke County are invited to participate in the Annual Green Life Awards Art, Photography, and Poetry Contest. The theme is based on a fresh start to a new year. 2021 offers us the opportunity to Renew, Reinvent, and Rejoice. Renew our commitment to the environment; Reinvent ways to live a greener life; Rejoice in our environmental successes. We encourage K-12 students to create artwork (painting, drawing, and sculpture), short video (30 seconds – 1 minute), take a photograph, or write a poem to demonstrate how you will live a green life in 2021.

Winners will be notified mid-March and will be recognized at a virtual awards ceremony in April. In addition to being recognized at the ceremony, all winning entries will be displayed in the North Gallery of the Lyndon House Arts Center during the month of April.

Selections will be made based on grade level and medium category. All entries are due to the ACCGov Recycling Division at 725 Hancock Industrial Way, Athens, GA 30605 by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 1, 2021.

For more information and to download the entry form, visit [www.accgov.com/greenlife](http://www.accgov.com/greenlife) [<http://www.accgov.com/greenlife>].



2020 winning art by Jayden Mulamoottil (2nd Grade, Barrow Elementary)



2020 winning video by Shaden Qeaidi (4th Grade, Barrow Elementary)



2020 winning art by Adah Nackashi (7th grade, Burney-Harris-Lyons Middle)



This year's cover photo was taken by Sue Lawrence.

## 2021 Stormwater Calendars

We have a handful of 2021 Stormwater Calendars left to distribute! Visit [www.accgov.com/stormwatercalendar](http://www.accgov.com/stormwatercalendar) [<http://www.accgov.com/stormwatercalendar>] to request a copy for your home, office, or business lobby. Calendars can be picked up in-person from

## Nominate a Stormwater Steward

We are now accepting nominations for the 2021 Stormwater Steward Award [<https://www.accgov.com/5312/Stormwater-Steward-Award>]. The Stormwater Steward Award recognizes environmental stewardship in the area of stormwater management. Organizations, businesses, individuals, design firms, or community groups that have worked to consider the impact of stormwater runoff on the health of area waters through a specific project, practice, or event are encouraged to apply for the award. Full details and instructions can be found at [www.accgov.com/stormwater](http://www.accgov.com/stormwater) [<http://www.accgov.com/stormwater>].

Applications are due on Monday, March 1, and winners will be honored at the annual Green Life Awards in April.



The Stormwater Management Program recognized Armentrout, Matheny, Thurmond P.C. and McLane Company in 2020 for their engineered pocket wetland, pictured above.

## Help Stop Water Pollution

ACCGov Stormwater needs your help in reporting water pollution and illegal dumping in Athens-Clarke County. Most storm drains flow directly to rivers, streams, ditches, or ponds without any treatment. Pollutants like paints, oils, litter, and soapy water can have harmful effects on water quality. Please call the Stormwater Hotline at 706-614-1282 if you:

- See someone dumping oil, grease, paint, or other pollutants down a storm drain or into the street
- See someone blowing leaves or grass clippings into the street or a storm drain
- Notice flooding due to clogged storm drains and pipes
- Notice strange colors, suds, or smells in a stream or near a storm drain



## Upcoming Events

**Virtual Native Plant Symposium**  
**Wednesday, February 10, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**  
**Online via Zoom**

Growing and protecting native plants are important for many reasons: they celebrate our state and region, they are well suited to our region's growing conditions, and they are the foundation of the complex ecosystem that supports insects, birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals. Join the State Botanical Garden of Georgia to explore the conservation of monarch butterflies. Learn about the plants that attract monarchs and other pollinators to our gardens, their importance to our ecosystems, and how we can continue to protect them. Register online at [botgarden.uga.edu/event/native-plant-symposium/](https://botgarden.uga.edu/event/native-plant-symposium/) [<https://botgarden.uga.edu/event/native-plant-symposium/>]. The registration cost is \$35.

**Green Thumb Lecture Series: Raised Beds and Garden Fences**

**Wednesday, February 10, 6:00 - 7:30 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Join Athens-Clarke County Extension online for a free, educational webinar about raised beds and garden fences. Gardeners of all experience levels are welcome. Register by February 9 at [www.accgov.com/gardening](http://www.accgov.com/gardening) [<http://www.accgov.com/gardening>] to be emailed the Zoom link.

**Online Beekeeping for Beginners**

**Wednesday, February 17, 6:00 - 7:30 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Join Athens-Clarke County Extension online for a free, informative presentation on topics including what is involved with keeping bees, starting and maintaining a hive, necessary equipment and supplies, and costs, commitments, and benefits associated with beekeeping. Register by February 16 at [www.accgov.com/anrclasses](http://www.accgov.com/anrclasses) [<http://www.accgov.com/anrclasses>].

## Contact Us

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