



Partnering to Protect and Restore  
Schuylkill Waters

The winners of each category will be honored at an award ceremony during National Drinking Water Week in May 2011. Schools and students will receive region-wide exposure and recognition from high ranking government officials and local media.

#### What are some actions that your school can do to help protect source water?

- **Create a Rain Garden**

A rain garden is an area planted with wild flowers and other native vegetation that soaks up rain water, mainly from a roof.

- **Plant Trees**

Trees reduce the amount of polluted stormwater that would normally flow directly into storm drains and streams.

- **Buffer Your Stream**

Establishing a "no mow" zone along the stream bank on your campus can offer protection from pollution and erosion.

For more information or additional ideas, please see the *Guide to Storm-water Management on School Campuses* available online courtesy of the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary:

[www.delawareestuary.org/pdf/](http://www.delawareestuary.org/pdf/)



[www.SchuylkillWaters.org](http://www.SchuylkillWaters.org)

# Call For Nominations

## Drinking Water Scholastic Awards

Sponsored by the Schuylkill Action Network

***In Celebration of National Drinking Water Week  
May 2 to 6, 2011***

#### What is the award?

The award recognizes schools, colleges and universities that protect drinking water sources through educational programs, class projects or land management practices. **Awards will be given to elementary, middle, high school and college levels.** Winning schools receive an award accompanied by a prize valued at \$200.

#### What is source water and how is it protected?

Source water is water from streams, rivers, lakes and aquifers that eventually serve as a source of drinking water. Taking positive steps to prevent pollutants from ever reaching these sources can be more efficient and less costly than treating drinking water later. Schools can protect water through many ways, including:

- Educating students about the importance of clean drinking water sources
- Smart application of pesticides and herbicides

#### What is your school doing to protect drinking water sources?

Many schools in the Schuylkill River watershed incorporate creative educational programs and curricula to promote awareness of water protection among students and the community. School districts may also incorporate innovative property management techniques like creating "no mow" zones along stream banks and using less or no fertilizers, or collecting rainwater to water plants. Schools are one of the largest combined property owners in the Schuylkill River watershed.

#### What are the criteria for selecting winners? *Revised for 2011*

Programs and projects should include significant student involvement, and those with additional community participation are given special consideration. New for 2011: nominations in the university category must go beyond traditional class instruction. Nominations in the university category are welcome for individual students, student environmental groups and campus clubs that empower students and communities on a grass-roots level to protect water quality and quantity for future generations. A winning project *in the university category* will meet the following criteria:

1. Provides opportunities for students, faculty, alumni and campus community to take an active role in preserving and restoring the environment
2. Yields an awareness of environmental concerns locally and internationally
3. Teaches students, faculty, alumni and campus community how to become meaningful advocates of the environment by example
4. Promotes insight of human cultures, animal and plant life, and their interactions with the environment and resultant impact to water quality and quantity

Previous winning projects among all of the categories include hands-on water quality testing of local creeks; classroom discussions of environmental stewardship with journals, observational sketches and reflective essay assignments; student participation in creating a campus rain garden; and student-produced multimedia public service announcements.

#### Who is eligible for nomination?

All schools, colleges and universities in the Schuylkill River watershed are eligible. Not sure if you're located in the watershed? Contact us (see reverse) and we'll let you know! Please note that previous winners are not eligible to receive another award for 5 years, unless submitting a new project or program for consideration.



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For more information about  
SAN please visit us online:  
[www.SchuylkillWaters.org](http://www.SchuylkillWaters.org)

**What is the deadline?**

Nominations are due by  
Tuesday, March 1, 2011.

**Who can nominate a school  
or project?**

Anyone can submit a  
nomination. Students, teachers,  
administrators, parents and  
community members are  
encouraged to recognize an  
innovative project, lesson plan or  
facility design that incorporated  
student involvement and  
education about protecting  
sources of drinking water.

**How do you nominate a  
school or project?**

The preferred method is to email  
the information requested on the  
right to the address below.  
However, nominations are also  
accepted via postal mail.

**Please send nominations to:**

Alysa Suero  
EPA Region 3  
Mail Code 3WP21  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029  
Or  
[Suero.Alysa@epa.gov](mailto:Suero.Alysa@epa.gov)

**If you require additional  
information or confirmation  
that your school is located in  
the Schuylkill River  
watershed, please contact:**

Alysa Suero  
EPA Region 3  
Tel: (215) 814-5733

# Schuylkill Action Network Drinking Water Scholastic Awards 2011 Official Nomination Form

**What is the Schuylkill Action Network? Who are the judges?**

The Schuylkill Action Network was formed in March 2003 to improve the water resources of the Schuylkill River watershed. Members of this collaborative network include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the City of Philadelphia Water Department, the Delaware River Basin Commission, the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, conservation districts, local officials and other environmental organizations. A representative panel of SAN members will select the winners.

**1. What school, college or university is being nominated?**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Category (Circle One): Elementary Middle High School College/University

Contact/Project Lead: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Who is making the nomination?**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Have you notified the school or project leader of your intention to submit a nomination for the 2011 Drinking Water Scholastic Award?\***

(Circle One): Yes No

\*The nominator must notify the school/project leader that a nomination has been submitted for the award.

**4. Please provide a brief description of why this school is deserving of recognition through the Source Water Protection Award.**



**Don't forget about SAN's other competition, the Schuylkill Stories contest!** The SAN wants to see more people return to the river for fun! Do you like to hike, fish, photograph, kayak, or just relax along the Schuylkill River? Is there something special about your local stream or creek

that you want to share with others? Is your class involved in a project to improve the local tributary (stream that flows into the Schuylkill river)? Use your creativity and tell your "Schuylkill Story" through an online video in 3 minutes or less. Your video should incorporate the theme "This Is My Watershed" and explain why the Schuylkill River watershed is important to you. Open to all students in kindergarten through college who live or study in the Schuylkill River watershed. First place in each age group will receive a prize valued at \$50. One grand prize winner will be announced at an award ceremony and will receive a Green School Makeover Plan for their school. For more information visit the SAN website.

[www.SchuylkillWaters.org](http://www.SchuylkillWaters.org)