

We are so excited you are considering having your child or entire class enter the **Alameda County Unincorporated Area's Clean Water Program POSTER CONTEST for 3rd and 4th graders!** We aim to spread the message to the community that **Litter Hurts**. Below are the contest rules, along with, information to discuss about the importance of keeping waterways clean. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Allison Rodacker at allison.rodacker@acrcd.org. Get creative and good luck! Winners will be announced in late April 2024 with winning posters displayed online and at the Castro Valley Library!



WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH LITTER?

When trash —plastic bags, bottles, utensils, etc—is thrown on the ground, it gets washed into storm drains and directly into our waterways. Much of it is not dropped directly into or near the water, but because litter travels—even from miles away – it can end up in our local creeks and the Bay! Litter can also leave tiny particles that birds, fish, and other animals mistake for food. The animals can die or become sick, as their digestive system becomes clogged. Volunteers find hundreds of pounds of litter during local creek and beach cleanups.

Contest Rules

Step 1: Watch this short Fred and Izzy Litter Hurts video <https://youtu.be/qJLG4o9Xi1w>, discuss these poster ideas (things to draw), and brainstorm additional ideas.

- **Put litter in its place:** Use nearby garbage cans or pack your trash until you reach the next available trash can. If possible, pick up any litter you see, and dispose of it properly.
- **Use reusables:** You can prevent litter by using a travel mug, cloth napkin, and reusable lunch kits.
- **Clean up litter:** Show people participating in a litter clean-up to keep the trash out of the local waterways.

Step 2: Follow the contest rules:

- Poster must be created on 8 1/2 x 11 white paper.
- Posters must be drawn horizontally.
- Please include this wording on your poster: "Litter Hurts! Help Keep Our Water Clean."
- Students may use the Fred and Izzy characters (from the video) in their artwork.
- Artwork should be original, creative, bold, and thoughtful.
- Students may use colored pencils, crayons, markers, paint, ink, fabric, poster paint, or pencil.
- Please write on the back of posters: Name, Grade, Teacher, School
- One entry per student.
- **Teachers: if your entire class participates, please mail all posters at once to be entered to win one of two \$100 Amazon Gift Cards!**

Step 3: Mail your poster with Name, School, Teacher's Name, and Grade on the back, on or before Monday, April 1, 2024, to the address below. All submitted posters will be property of the Alameda County Unincorporated Area Clean Water Program. Thank you for your participation!

This activity is part of the Alameda County Unincorporated Area's Clean Water Program, in our efforts to help reduce stormwater pollution and protect the health of local creeks and the Bay.

Clean Water Poster Contest
Attn: Allison Rodacker
Alameda County RCD
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