

January 29, 2026

Dear Teachers:

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission is responsible for storm water education throughout the county. We are sponsoring a coloring/billboard contest for students in grades K-5. The objective of this contest is to emphasize the importance of keeping our water clean. Only 1% of our water is usable drinkable water and we are polluting and contaminating it. Students need to be aware of things that can be done to help protect our waterbodies from so many contaminants. Our theme this year is "From Soil to Sea, Keep It Pollution Free." Clawd the crayfish, our stormwater mascot, is pictured on the coloring page enclosed.

Please have the students color the page enclosed and neatly print their name, school and grade on the lines provided. We hope that the contest will give the students something fun to work on and an important learning experience as well.

The four winning entries will be displayed on several billboards throughout Stark County. Each winning entry will also receive a \$25 Visa gift card.

Entries must be received by Friday, April 17, 2026. They may be submitted through regular mail to Stark County Regional Planning Commission, 201- 3rd St. NE, Suite 201, Canton, Ohio 44702 or emailed to me. If you have any questions please contact me at 330-451-7405 or email – mrwatkins@starkcountyohio.gov.

We want to give students the opportunity to show their coloring skills, and a chance to see their work on an actual billboard, while conveying an extremely important message to the community. I look forward to your entries.

Sincerely,

Malia Burgasser
Senior Community Relations Planner