



Broward County Waterway Cleanup Short Story Contest Guidelines

The Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF) invites Broward County middle school students (grades 6 - 8) to participate in the Broward County Waterway Cleanup Short Story Contest.

Students are encouraged to explore the importance of Broward County's waterways through an original fiction or nonfiction story highlighting their environmental, historical, recreational, or economic significance.

Submission Deadline: Friday, February 5, 2027

SCHOLARSHIP

- One winner will receive a **\$250 scholarship**.
 - **To be considered for the scholarship, students must register and plan to actively participate in the Broward County Waterway Cleanup on March 6, 2027. Online Registration: [waterwaycleanup.org](https://www.waterwaycleanup.org)**
- The winner will be recognized during the Trash Bash, the official Broward County Waterway Cleanup Afterparty.
- The winner's parent/guardian and teacher will be notified prior to the Waterway Cleanup.

STORY PROMPT

Write an original story that demonstrates why Broward County's waterways matter. Your story should:

- Include researched information about local waterways and marine life
- Reflect the importance of Broward County waterways to our community
- Be either fiction or nonfiction
- Be 600–800 words

The Broward County Waterway Cleanup isn't just about removing trash; it's about protecting the places that connect our communities, wildlife, and economy. Through your writing, inspire others to appreciate and protect our waterways.



CONTEST RULES

Eligibility

- Grades 6 - 8
- One entry per student
- Must register for the Waterway Cleanup

Submission Requirements

- 600–800 words
 - Text only - entries with illustrations will not be accepted
- Typed, double-spaced
- Word or PDF
 - File Name: LastName_FirstName_ShortStory
- Email as an attachment to info@miasf.org
 - Subject line: Short Story Contest – [First & Last Name]
 - Links to cloud storage services (such as Google Drive, Dropbox, or OneDrive) will not be accepted.
- Must include completed application (page 3)
- **Deadline: Friday, February 5, 2027**

Content Requirements

- Original work
 - May not be previously submitted anywhere else
- Fiction or nonfiction
- Research required
- AI prohibited
 - Entries created with the use of Artificial Intelligence, or containing AI-generated text, will not be accepted. All entries will be verified.

Judging Criteria

- Creativity
- Writing quality
- Accuracy of research
- Understanding of Broward County waterways
- Overall impact

Ownership

- The winning entry becomes the property of MIASF and may be edited, adapted, or otherwise modified for marketing and promotional purposes.



Broward County Waterway Cleanup Short Story Contest Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: First _____ Last _____ Middle Int. _____

Title of Short Story: _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Grade level: _____ School: _____

Teacher Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Apt: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

APPLICANT AGREEMENT

I certify that this submission is my original work and has not been previously published or submitted elsewhere. I have read and agree to the contest rules. If selected as the winning entry, I understand that MIA SF may edit, publish, reproduce, and use my story for educational, promotional, and marketing purposes as outlined in the contest guidelines.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____