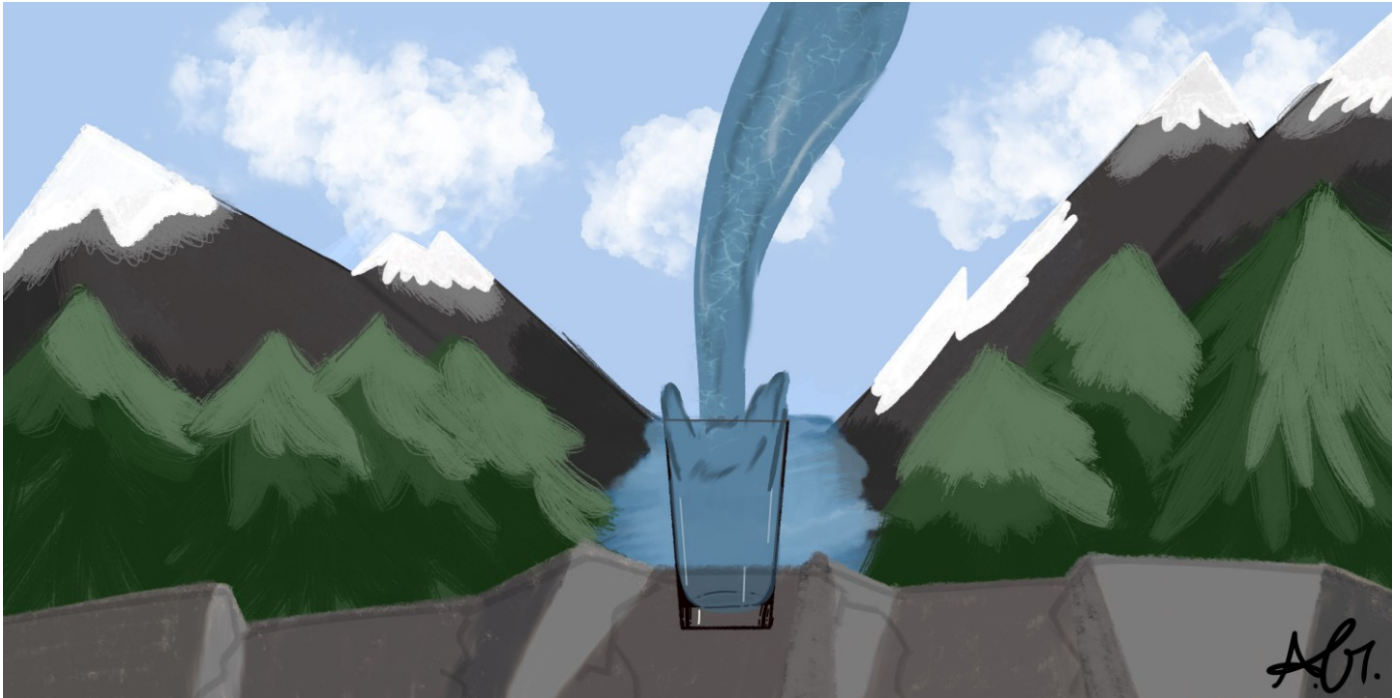


TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM



Join NYC DEP in celebrating the 40th annual Water Resources Art and Poetry Contest this year! More details below.
Pictured: artwork by Arabella G., M.S. 172, Queens

TIC Spring Teacher Conference

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

9:00 am-3:00 pm

Solar One Education Center
 800 FDR Dr Service Rd East,
 New York, NY

[RSVP here!](#)

Save the date for the **2026 Spring TIC Conference and Professional Learning Opportunity** on **Tuesday, March 10** at Solar One’s new Environmental Education Center in Stuyvesant Cove Park, Manhattan. Gather trout release field trip ideas and learn about new resources to support your TIC program. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. NY State teachers are eligible to earn 4.5 CTLE hours for participating. Please [register to attend](#) and let us know if you would like to lead a workshop.

Time to Start Planning Trout Releases!

Please complete the [2026 New York Trout Release Permit Application](#) for NYS DEC Region 3 **by Friday, March 13**. For a Region 4 permit, please contact Jackie Trosterud directly at jackie.trosterud@dec.ny.gov or 607-652-7366. Trout releases taking place in all [other regions](#) should contact the [appropriate NYS DEC regional office](#). Please note that the stocking permit does not grant you permission for site use. Look out for more information about trip planning details in the February newsletter, and please [contact me](#) with any questions.



Water Resources Art and Poetry Contest

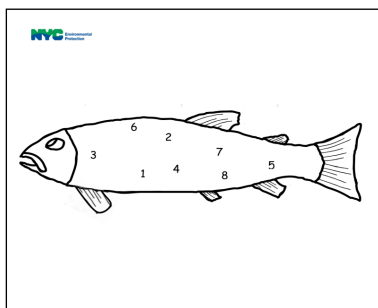
NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is excited to announce the 40th annual [Water Resources Art and Poetry Contest](#). Second through twelfth grade students in New York City and the East and West of Hudson Watersheds are invited to create original art and compose poetry that reflects an appreciation for our shared water resources. The five central themes of the contest, incorporating STEM and humanities disciplines, include: Water, a Precious Resource; the NYC Water Supply system; NYC Wastewater Treatment; Harbor Water Quality and Healthy Marine Ecosystems; and Water Stewardship and Climate Change.



Harrison W., PS 164, Brooklyn

Entries will be accepted online through **Friday, March 6**. To learn more and submit entries, visit [DEP's website](#). For questions, contact artandpoetry@dep.nyc.gov.

Lesson of the Month: Trout Organ Puzzle



As your trout are hatching in your tank, it is the perfect time to begin exploring their internal anatomy with your students using our [Trout Organ Puzzle](#) lesson! This lesson is best suited for middle and high school students. For elementary school students, the [Internal Trout Anatomy Collage](#) is a great option. For more TIC lessons on other topics, please visit [our website](#) where we have several options available.

Wastewater Resource Recovery in NYC

Join DEP for a Wastewater Resource Recovery in NYC professional learning opportunity on **Wednesday, March 18** from 4:30 – 6:30 PM at the Newtown Creek Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility. Learn about NYC's wastewater treatment process from experts in the field and view educational exhibits on waste-to-energy and biogas-to-grid projects while touring the Newtown Creek facility in Brooklyn. [Register here!](#)



Other Announcements

- [Catskill Water Corporation's Watershed Education Grant](#): If you are hoping to start a TIC program, make sure you [apply](#) by Friday, February 6 at 4 pm.
- Apply for [NYS DEC's School Seedling Program](#) by March 27. Schools and youth education organizations across NY State may apply to receive 50 free seedlings to plant with their students. Help foster environmental stewardship and explore natural systems and the valuable role trees play with your students. Visit [DEC's website](#) to learn more about the types of seedlings, how to order, and planting instructions.