



Create a mascot for the annual
Queen City Clean Waters Fair!
Location: Hoyt Lake in Delaware Park
Sunday, August 30th, 2026, from 1 PM – 5 PM

The Buffalo Sewer Authority invites students to create a mascot for its annual Queen City Clean Waters (QCCW) Fair. The QCCW Initiative will reduce overflows from the City's sewers by helping flow reach the Bird Island Wastewater Treatment Facility during wet weather, instead of entering Buffalo's creeks and river. **The QCCW vision is clean waters and a resilient Buffalo, and we are looking for a mascot that exemplifies this vision.**

ELIGIBILITY: Students who attend a public, charter or private school in the City of Buffalo; grades Kindergarten through 12th. Only one (1) entry per student is permitted. Multiple entries will be disqualified.

DESIGN RULES:

1. Mascots will be judged on creativity, originality, visual appeal, and relevance to the QCCW vision. Students should allow their imagination to run wild and have fun!
2. Submissions must be original work of the student in idea, design, and execution.
3. Submissions cannot be created by or with the assistance of artificial intelligence (AI) programs.
4. Designs must not incorporate vulgar, violent or offensive content, or any copyrighted characters.
5. Students must draw their creation (using pencils, crayons, markers, and/or paints) **on the attached form** to be considered. They must also name their mascot.

PRIZES:

The QCCW Stakeholder Advisory Committee members will select one (1) Winner from each of the following categories:

- Elementary School (K-4th)
- Middle School (5th-8th)
- High School (9th-12th)

Each Winner will be awarded a \$100 Gift Card to the Buffalo Zoo, which can be used to purchase admission tickets, merchandise, and/or refreshments. All three mascots will be framed and displayed in City Hall for one year. All three mascots will be used on marketing materials and stickers for the annual QCCW Fair.

The parent/guardian of each Winner will be notified by phone and/or email on Friday, June 5th, 2026. The Winners will be invited to attend a press conference (date and time to be determined) at City Hall to receive their gift cards.

Grand Prize: At the QCCW Fair, the public will vote for their favorite mascot. The mascot with the most votes will become the Buffalo Sewer Authority's official mascot!

HOW TO SUBMIT:

Electronically: Email queencitycleanwaters@buffalosewer.org by Friday, May 8th, 2026 at 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time. Entry must be scanned, saved as a PDF, and attached to the email (maximum file size: 10MB).

By Mail: Buffalo Sewer Authority, Attn: Mascot Contest, 65 Niagara Square, City Hall Room 1038, Buffalo, NY 14202. Entry must be postmarked no later than Friday, May 8th, 2026 and received by Wednesday, May 13th, 2026.



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EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES:

	
Buffalo Sewer Authority Queen City Clean Waters website	"What's Inside a Manhole?" video by Practical Engineering

THE INFORMATION BELOW MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THE ENTRY:

STUDENT NAME	
GRADE LEVEL	
SCHOOL NAME	
PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME	
PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL	
PARENT/GUARDIAN PHONE NUMBER	
PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE*	

*By signing, you are allowing the Buffalo Sewer Authority to utilize the student's name and artwork for educational and promotional purposes without additional compensation where permitted by law. Additionally, you acknowledge that all entries will become property of the Buffalo Sewer Authority and will NOT be returned. The Buffalo Sewer Authority assumes no responsibility for late, lost, illegible, damaged, incorrect, postage due, incomplete or misdirected mail and/or email. The Buffalo Sewer Authority reserves the right to re-crop, revise or alter artwork as needed.



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Design Your Mascot in the Box Below!

Mascot Name	
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