



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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MID Sponsors Student Canal Safety Art Contest

Merced, California. April 1, 2005. The Merced Irrigation District is sponsoring a Canal Safety Art Contest in an effort to raise awareness with children of the dangers of playing in and around irrigation canals.

The contest encourages fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade Merced area teachers to have their students create individual art posters focused on some aspect of canal safety. The winners from each grade will receive a \$50 savings bond and have their posters displayed in the MID offices and on the District's Web site at www.mercedid.org under the Canal Safety link.

Interested teachers should send or deliver posters to: Canal Art Safety Contest, Merced Irrigation District, 744 W. 20th St., Merced, CA 95340. All entries must be received by May 15, 2005 and should be no larger than 11" x 14" in size with the student's name, grade and school listed on the back.

MID asks children to remember a few simple rules: never play near canals, climb fences near canals, swim in canals, walk or play on bridges or gates near canals, fish in canals, let younger children go near canals, walk on canal banks, or ride bikes or dirt bikes on canal banks.

Teachers can also download canal safety teaching materials, such as a coloring book, safety tip posters and a class exercise, from MID's Web site under the Canal Safety link in the For Kids section.

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