



HANDLE WITH CARE

FRAGILE

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**U R B A N
E N V I R O N M E N T A L
P A R T N E R S H I P
2009-2010 PROGRAMS**

ABOUT THE URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP



The mission of the **URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP** (UEP) is to assist our communities in understanding their roles and responsibilities in proper water and waste management.

In April 2000, four utilities:

- Metro Waste Authority
- Des Moines Water Works
- City of Des Moines Storm Water Utility
- Wastewater Reclamation Authority

joined forces to form the:

URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

The cities of:

- Clive
 - Grimes
 - Johnston
 - Norwalk
 - Waukee
- are associate members.



Encourage your students to **Handle the Earth with Care** with these great environmental education programs.

The Urban Environmental Partnership offers 16 great programs at **no cost** for teachers like you! Your students will learn about topics such as:

- Understanding Watersheds
- The Water Cycle
- Water Pollution and Prevention
- Water's Link to Health
- Recycling & Waste Reduction
- Drinking Water Treatment
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Storm Water Pollution
- Landfills
- Waste Water Treatment

Presentations include hands-on learning activities, follow-up student activities, as well as teacher follow-up packets containing a variety of resource materials. The grade levels listed for each presentation are only a suggestion; most topics can be adapted to other grade levels.

To schedule a presentation, call or e-mail the UEP contact persons listed in the brochure. Presentations are available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. See page 8 and 9 for information on **tours** and **trunk** checkout.

For **more teacher resources** check out our Web sites:

- **www.dmwww.com** – click on **Education** to find activity ideas, water-related facts, and other water-related articles
- **www.mwatoday.com** – find out all the latest facts about Metro Waste Authority and recycling and waste management in Central Iowa.

WE NEED WATER

Grades: Pre-K to Kindergarten • **Time:** 35 minutes

Younger kids will love participating in this program! Through the use of large picture cards and other hands-on materials, students learn water basics – how we use water, how much water is in our bodies, and how much water we need each day.

To schedule, contact: Gail Peckumn • (515) 283-8753 • peckumn@botanicalcenter.com

WATER TRAVELS WITH DEWEY™

Grades: 2nd semester kindergarten to 1st • **Time:** 30 minutes

Tired of the same old routine each day? Then let us introduce you to Dewey™, the waterdrop puppet. Dewey™ teaches your students about the places water goes after it rains and helps them understand water movement and pollutants that are picked up along the way. After the show, students participate in a sequencing activity to review what they have learned.

To schedule, contact: Gail Peckumn • (515) 283-8753 • peckumn@botanicalcenter.com

RACCOON RIVER PLAYERS PRESENT . . .

Grades: 1-3 • **Time:** 40 minutes

... a trilogy of skits to entertain and raise students' awareness about things we do that may harm our environment. The skits – *Rainy Day*, *It's Your Neighborhood*, and *Name That Litterbug* – target the need for taking responsibility for backyard pollutants. The skits also reinforce the need to squash that nasty litterbug habit.

To schedule, contact: Gail Peckumn • (515) 283-8753 •
peckumn@botanicalcenter.com

RECYCLE ME!

Grade: 2 • **Time:** 30 minutes

We all make choices daily when it comes time to get rid of things we no longer need or want. Believe it or not, that choice really matters! Kids love participating in this hands-on activity and making decisions about items used in their everyday lives.

To schedule, contact: Mary Gillaspey • (515) 323-6505 • mgi@mwatoday.com

WATER JOURNEY

Grades: 2-3 • **Time:** 30 – 40 minutes

Students learn about what happens to water in their neighborhood by going on a “Water Journey.” Using large picture cards and water treatment chemical samples, students get involved in explaining all the places water goes in the drinking water and wastewater treatment processes and how it can become polluted along the way.

To schedule, contact: Gail Peckumn • (515) 283-8753 • peckumn@botanicalcenter.com

WATER, PRECIOUS WATER

Grades: 2-3 • **Time:** 30-40 minutes

Water is a precious part of our future. Your students will discover how much water we use to brush our teeth, to take a shower, to wash our clothes, and to do many other daily activities. Students participate in a group activity to learn about water usage and ways they can be more water-wise.

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WONDERS OF THE WATER CYCLE

Grades: 3-5 • **Time:** 35-40 minutes

We make protecting the environment fun! We answer your students' questions, such a "Where does water go after it rains and how does it get so dirty?" Students "solve" a puzzle as they participate in two different activities to help them learn about the traditional water cycle and an expanded form of the water cycle.

To schedule, contact: Gail Peckumn • (515) 283-8753 • peckumn@botanicalcenter.com

DRINK TO YOUR HEALTH

Grades: 3-6 • **Time:** 45 minutes

What does water have to do with keeping a healthy body? Plenty! Students connect water facts to a variety of real-life objects that give clues to the importance of water in their lives.

Students then practice what they have learned by playing the **Water Walk Game**, an activity similar to a "cakewalk."

To schedule, contact: Gail Peckumn • (515) 283-8753 • peckumn@botanicalcenter.com

POLLUTION OR PROTECTION? CARING FOR OUR WATERSHED

Grades: 3-5 • **Time:** 45 minutes (plus 15 min. cleanup)

Using an Enviroscape® Watershed Model, students learn about the watershed in which we live. Students are shown how a watershed becomes polluted, then get the chance to watch the pollutants enter bodies of water when it rains. Students brainstorm ways to reduce water pollution and protect our environment.

To schedule, contact: Mary Gillaspey • (515) 323-6505 • mgi@mwatoday.com

RECYCLING: WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN?

Grades: 4-7 • **Time:** 45 minutes

Most students have a strong desire to connect with their environment. Designed for older elementary and middle school students, this presentation will lead them down the right path. Using the Curb It! recycling program has become a way of life for many of us, but what really happens to the glass, plastic, cans, and papers you place in your cart? Students learn how these items are turned into useful new products. Samples of materials at different stages in the recycling process, along with a video clip to show what happens in a recycling facility, provide students with a greater understanding of the benefits of recycling.

To schedule, contact: Mary Gillaspey • (515) 323-6505 • mgi@mwatoday.com

LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Grades: 4-6 • **Time:** 45 minutes

Recycle that water bottle! Learn the best ways to wash the family car! In this program your students have the opportunity to provide feedback and ideas as they watch several skits that demonstrate how our actions affect the environment.

To schedule, contact: Gail Peckumn • (515) 283-8753 • peckumn@botanicalcenter.com

EARTH CARE 101

Grades: 5-8 • **Time:** 45 minutes

Kids love playing this environmental knowledge game! The game encourages your students to work together to identify good and bad environmental choices people make in their daily lives. They see how individual actions affect the whole community while learning how they can make a difference in maintaining a clean, safe environment.

To schedule, contact: Mary Gillaspey • (515) 323-6505 • mgi@mwatoday.com

THROWING IT ALL AWAY, BUT WHERE IS AWAY?

Grades: 5-8 • **Time:** 45 minutes (plus 15 minutes cleanup)

That paper towel was handy, but now that it has been used, what happens to it once we throw it away? This and many other questions can be answered when your students view an Enviroscape® Landfill Model. Students learn about the workings of a landfill, just like Metro Waste Authority's Metro Park East Landfill in Polk County. Find out what happens to your garbage when it leaves the curb and how landfill by-products – leachate (waste water) and methane gas – can contribute positively to the environment and community.

To schedule, contact: Mary Gillaspey • (515) 323-6505 • mgi@mwatoday.com

DON'T DUMP IT!

Grades: 5-8 • **Time:** 45 minutes (plus 15 minutes cleanup)

What is household hazardous waste and how should we get rid of it?

Students learn the do's and don'ts, as well as the impact hazardous materials can have on water quality, by watching a demonstration of an Enviroscape® Hazardous Materials Model. Effects of discharges and spills and environmental risks associated with contamination are topics of discussion. Students learn how to identify and safely dispose of household hazardous waste.

To schedule, contact: Mary Gillaspey • (515) 323-6505 • mgi@mwatoday.com

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Grades: 6-8 • **Time:** 45-60 minutes

Before you turn the handle to your kitchen faucet, your water has undergone a battery of tests to ensure it meets U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards. Some of those common tests include dissolved oxygen levels, turbidity, nitrate, and hardness. In this program, some of your students have the opportunity to conduct the very same tests used by utility laboratories to determine water quality in our streams and rivers. A discussion of how high or low levels of these characteristics affect water quality is included in the presentation. Students also get the chance to see some of the treatment chemicals used to remove pollutants.

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LET'S GO ON A TOUR!

Des Moines Water Works

2201 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines

Grades: 3 and up • **Time:** 1 ½ hours

Students take a walking tour through Des Moines Water Works facilities and see the treatment process firsthand. A highlight of the tour is a visit to the state-of-the-art laboratory.

When: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 8:00 a.m. to Noon, Friday

To schedule, contact: Gail Peckumn • (515) 283-8753 • peckumn@botanicalcenter.com

Metro Park East Landfill

Highway 163, 9 miles east of Pleasant Hill

Grades: 3 and up • **Time:** 1 hour

Landfill visitors learn about garbage, recycling, composting, methane gas, and other environmental issues on this driving tour. A constructed wetlands that purifies leachate (wastewater produced by the landfill) is included in the tour.

Tours are weather-dependent; groups must supply own transportation.

When: 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

To schedule, contact: Mary Gillaspey • (515) 323-6505 • mgi@mwatoday.com

Wastewater Treatment Facility

3000 Vandalia Road, Des Moines

Grades: 7 and up • **Time:** 1 ½ to 2 hours

Visitors are led on a walking tour of the wastewater facility as they view the many steps of cleaning water from drains, toilets, and older storm sewers.

When: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

To schedule, contact: Rod Biondi • (515) 323-8009 or
Steve Moehmann • (515) 323-8130

CHECK OUT OUR TRUNKS!

The **Water Trunks** are packed with materials to use with your students as you teach about water, pollution, recycling, and taking care of our environment.

The **Trash and Treasure Trunk** explores recycling, composting, landfilling, and proper household hazardous waste disposal.

In each trunk, you will find some of the following items:

Environment-related literature • Hands-on activities • Books of science experiments
Picture cards • Videos • Career information • Games
Teacher resource notebook full of activities and reproducibles to use with your class

Three **Water Trunks** are available: K to 2nd Trunk; 3rd to 6th Trunk; and 5th to 8th Trunk. For reservations, **contact:** Gail Peckumn • (515) 283-8753 • peckumn@botanicalcenter.com

The **Trash and Treasure Trunk** is available for grades 3rd to 6th. For reservations, **contact:** Mary Gillaspay • (515) 323-6505 • mgi@mwatoday.com

Each trunk may be reserved for a month.
Trunks will be delivered and picked up from your school.



2201 George Flagg Parkway
Des Moines, Iowa 50321



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