

# WATERWORKS

Free Education Programs for 3rd-12th Grade Teachers



FALL 2023 ISSUE

## **Reservations Now Open for In-Person Water Recycling Facility Field Trips**

West Basin is excited to open the 2023-2024 school year with a full return to in-person visits to its Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility (ECLWRF). Teachers, school groups and youth leaders can now request this free field trip opportunity though the end of the school year. Complimentary bus transportation is provided to schools located in the agency service area by the West Basin Board of Directors.

Students will visit the ECLWRF in El Segundo and the Roundhouse Aquarium in Manhattan Beach where they learn about the water cycle, West Basin's water recycling process and water conservation efforts that protect local marine animals. Students will be immersed in live interaction with a West Basin tour guide as they travel behind the scenes in a world-renowned water recycling facility.

This program is designed to increase student awareness of California's unique water supply challenges and the science behind water recycling while inspiring students to practice water conservation at home.

In addition to in-person field trips, live-streamed virtual field trips are also available to encourage all teachers located throughout the District's service area to participate, particularly those with potential classroom schedule or distance obstacles.

This program can serve one or two classes for each field trip session. Teachers are encouraged to schedule field trips for their entire grade level (limited to one full grade level per school). To reserve this free field trip opportunity, please visit: www.westbasin.org/field-trips.





"The trip is one of the best our students have been on, and of almost any I have been on with a group of students in my 15+ years of teaching."

- Mr. Lenhert, Larchmont Charter



Free Games and Classroom Resources Available on our Website:

www.westbasin.org/education

## A Drop in the Bucket

### School Assembly Program for Grades 3-8



A Drop in the Bucket is an on-campus or virtual program developed in alignment with California academic standards. It is designed to promote awareness of local, regional, and global water issues—especially California's drought cycles—and what everyone can do to conserve our most precious natural resource.

The Drop in the Bucket program can serve up to a full grade level (up to 140 students per visit) for an outdoor, on-campus assembly where students will participate in hands-on activities to learn more about their community's water resources. Distance learning through real-time live streaming is also available.



A Drop in the Bucket is available from March through June 2024! Visit www.westbasin.org/drop-in-the-bucket to learn more about the program and how to reserve your session today.

# **Water Star**Student Water Conservation Winner!



Adams Middle School (Redondo Beach) student Evelyn is a West Basin WATER STAR and will help her family save approximately 20,000 gallons of water each year!

After participating in West Basin's Water Recycling Facility Tour, visiting students receive Water Star student conservation kits to extend conservation skills into their home. Evelyn completed the activity booklet, installed water conservation devices at home, and solved water saving calculations for an entry into our opportunity drawing. She was selected as a winner and received a science related prize and a \$100 classroom supplies gift card for her teacher!



Sign up today for a water recycling facility field trip to secure a set of Water Star student conservation kits for your class!

# Free Learning Materials and Lesson Plans



for Grades 3-8

### Curricula provided by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

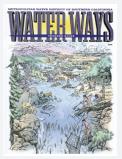
For more information and ordering online, visit: www.mwdh2o.com/education for teachers to get your free copies today.



#### **ALL AGES**

#### **Native Plant Coloring Book**

Students learn about seven different California native plants. Each plant has a drawing that can be colored and facts that range from its watering needs, flower color, leaf type and type of pollinators that visit the plant.



#### **GRADE 5**

#### **Water Ways**

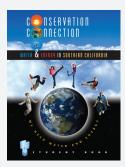
Designed to supplement the 5th grade social studies curriculum, students can discover and compare water uses, sources, problems, geographic areas and attitudes during the Pre-Columbian, Colonial, and Westward Movement periods in American History.



#### **GRADE 6**

#### **Water Times**

A water education newspaper designed for 6th grade students in Southern California. The interdisciplinary subjects, age-relevant stories and engaging activities create an awareness and stewardship of water.



#### **GRADES 6-8**

#### Conservation Connection: Water and Energy in Southern California

This new interdisciplinary curriculum supplement, through hands-on conservation activities, role playing and critical thinking, will engage middle school students in learning about the challenges and importance of conserving both water and energy at home and school. Through the lessons, service-learning activities, and featuring online water and energy use surveys, students will make the "connection" to making water and energy conservation a way of life in Southern California.

### **West Basin** Student Art Contest

### **Opening January 2024**

West Basin's local Student Art Contest is an opportunity for student artists to create eye-catching artwork with smart water use slogans and inspire their communities to adopt water conservation as a way of life.

The program has inspired countless students to become water stewards by featuring:

- 7,500 pieces of art
- 200 finalists
- 100 participating schools
- 100 art lessons

The art contest opens every January and submissions are due in March. To get your students involved and view the latest list of winners, please visit:

www.westbasin.org/artcontest



Ava Steins, Grade 10 Culver City High School, Culver City | 2023

## **Water Harvest** Community Festival

### Save the Date, Saturday, October 14, 2023

Just announced! West Basin's annual Water Harvest Festival will return to the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility in El Segundo on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 10am to 2pm.





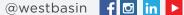
Learn more: www.westbasin.org/waterharvest



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## **Water Industry Careers**

Resources for All Grade Levels



Every community needs water for its economic vitality and daily survival! Water industry careers are both well-paying and fulfilling, providing professionals an opportunity to directly benefit their communities.

There are many career opportunities within the water industry that match a variety of interests, including in science, technology, engineering and math (S.T.E.M.), environmental policy, administration and more.

West Basin provides a variety of opportunities to help students explore the fulfilling and diverse careers in the water industry, including:

- Career-themed Water Treatment Facility
  Tours
- Live Classroom Career Presentations
- Pre-recorded Water Industry Professional Panel Interviews
- Career Fair and School Career Initiative Support

Please contact the West Basin Education Coordinator at janela@westbasin.org if you would like your students to join this program!

# **Teach and Test**Water Quality Monitoring for Students



The Surfrider Foundation, South Bay Chapter's Teach and Test Program introduces high school students to water quality and supply issues and exposes them to environmental science careers.

As part of the program, students collect water samples every other Sunday from September through May. Water samples are prepared and analyzed at Dive N' Surf in Redondo Beach with the oversight of an experienced laboratory technician. Data from the study, which measures Enterococcus bacteria concentrations in 23 different coastal locations, is made publicly available to help the community monitor the health of the Santa Monica Bay.

High school students will gain valuable experience in a laboratory environment through participating in this community science program. West Basin is proud to sponsor this ongoing effort to improve the water quality of the Santa Monica Bay and introduce youth to water quality research and careers.

Please contact the West Basin Education Coordinator at janela@westbasin.org if you would like your students to join this program!

