

SCHOOLS

Schools in attendance today and county represented:

- Dodge Elementary, Hall (3 classes)
- Centennial Elementary, Seward
- St. Anthony Elementary, Platte
- Emmanuel-Faith Lutheran, York
- Humphrey St. Francis, Platte
- Litchfield Elementary, Sherman
- Pershing Elementary, Dawson (9 classes)
- Riverside Elementary, Boone
- Sandhills Elementary, Blaine
- Eustis-Farnam Elementary, Frontier
- Red Cloud Elementary, Webster
- Ord Elementary, Valley (3 classes)
- Superior Elementary, Nuckolls
- Shell Creek, Platte (2 classes)
- St. Edward Elementary, Boone
- Bryan Elementary, Dawson (3 classes)
- Axtell Elementary, Kearney
- Kenesaw Elementary, Adams (2 classes)
- St. Paul Elementary, Howard (2 classes)
- Sandy Creek Elementary, Clay
- Hitchcock County, Hitchcock

NEBRASKA REPRESENTED!

We have 36 classes from 17 counties with 700+ teachers and students in attendance today. From the largest class at Pershing (Lexington) with 160 students...to the coziest class at Riverside (Spalding) with 5 students.

FESTIVAL COORDINATORS

Central Platte NRD Staff

Marcia Lee, Information/Education Specialist
Brody Vorderstrasse, Communications Assistant

Campus Coordinators

Central Community College: Karen Cox, Rob Briseno, Dave Stewart
Central Community College: Megan Taylor

SPECIAL THANK YOU

Presenters, Volunteers and NRD Staff

A heartfelt THANK YOU for your participation in the 2024 Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival! We truly appreciate your generous contribution of expertise and time. Your impact on the students is immeasurable.

THANK YOU!



The Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival brings together educators, businesses and individuals dedicated to supporting groundwater education. Special recognition to the Central Community College and College Park for offering their facilities free of charge. This collaborative effort exemplifies the power of community engagement in fostering groundwater awareness.

Main Sponsor (\$10,000)

Central Platte Natural Resources District

Awesome Aquifer Adventurer (\$1,000 - \$5,000)

Fred Otradosky
Hunter Industries/Senninger

Legendary Lake League (\$400 - \$999)

Lower Loup Natural Resources District

Babbling Brook Benefactor (\$250 - \$399)

Copycat Printing and Signs
Coca-Cola of Grand Island
Grand Island Rotary
NEDELCO Inc/Hamilton Communications
Pepsi Beverages Company – Grand Island
The Daughtery Water for Food Global Institute

Supreme Springwater Supporter (\$100 - \$249)

Agricultural Services Inc
CHI Health St. Francis
General Collection Co. Inc
Kiwanis Club of Grand Island
Little Blue Natural Resources District
Olsson
Sam's Club of Grand Island
Super Saver – Grand Island State Street
Walmart North of Grand Island
Wanitschke Family
Wenzl Construction

Festival Friend (\$25 - \$99)

Lee's Family Restaurant
Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District
Super Saver – Grand Island Second Street

Would you or your organization like to support the Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival with a donation? We are a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, with funds managed by the Grand Island Community Foundation. Our Tax ID is 47-6032570. Please send checks to: CPNRD c/o Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival 215 Kaufman Ave. Grand Island, NE 68803. Thank you for considering supporting our efforts to educate children about the importance of groundwater and environmental stewardship.

Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival



Educating youth on the importance
of our most precious resource...
GROUNDWATER

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Central Community College and College Park
Grand Island, Nebraska

WELCOME TO THE 36TH ANNUAL NEBRASKA CHILDREN'S GROUNDWATER FESTIVAL!

The Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival stands as a beacon for promoting the conservation and sustainable use of groundwater. Since its establishment in 1988, this annual event has been instrumental in educating over 31,000 students about the importance of groundwater quality and preservation.

With the participation of water and natural resources professionals, the festival provides a unique opportunity to educate up to 900 students in a single day. Through six in-depth classroom activities and an engaging stage show, students are immersed in an educational experience that leaves a lasting impact.

Generous donations from sponsors ensure that each participating school receives a free sack lunch, enhancing the overall experience for students and educators alike.

The festival's pioneering efforts have sparked similar initiatives across 42 states in the USA, as well as in Mexico, Canada, India, and the United Kingdom, strengthening its significance in environmental education.



Central Platte Natural Resources District
www.cpnrd.org/education (308) 385-6282

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Students are scheduled to attend 6 classroom activities, a stage show and lunch. The 25-minute activities are in-depth and hands-on. Activities are held in three campus buildings and outdoors:

CCC = Central Community College **CP** = College Park

CHTS = Center for Health & Technical Science

All the Water in the World (Outside/Meet CCC Registration Lobby) *Crane Trust*
Using models and household containers, students experiment to explore how much water is on the planet & how it is stored.

Aquifer in a Cup (CHTS 929) *Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy*
Build your own aquifer in a cup & play a quick game of 'porosity vs permeability.

Awesome Aquifers (CP 103/104) *NRDs - Lewis & Clark/Lower Niobrara*
Build an aquifer to learn how water withdrawal and pollution affect aquifers.

Awesome Aquifer (CCC 405) *NRCS - Natural Resources Conservation Service*
Learn about the location, size, and function of the High Plains Aquifer by constructing your own model.

Awesome Aquifers (Meet Outside CCC Registration Entrance) *USGS - U.S. Geological Survey*
Learn how surface and groundwater interact and how external factors i.e. pumping and contamination affect them.

Building Floodplain Town (CP 207/208) *Nebraska Department of Natural Resources*
Construct a paper house for an interactive floodplain table to learn the benefits of surface water and groundwater interaction.

Color Me a Watershed (CCC 312) *Central Platte NRD/Nebraska Forest Service*
Interpret maps to determine how development can affect a watershed.

Critter Cube Count (CCC 522) *Grand Island Izaak Walton League*
Role dice to ID macroinvertebrates/use math to calculate the health of a stream and how it affects groundwater.

Duck, Duck, Guess (CHTS 901) *Nebraska Department of Natural Resources*
Hands-on activity to test your knowledge of water.

Enviroscape: Stormwater (CHTS 965) *City of Grand Island & City of Kearney*
Students will see how easy behaviors/practices can make a big impact on or environment to reduce pollution.

Green/Gray Relay (CP Ext. Room 2) *Nebraska Extension*
What is the difference between green & gray infrastructure? Participate in a green vs gray infrastructure relay to see.

Groundwater: It's in What You Drink (CCC 310) *Ensign Beverage, Hastings*
We'll brainstorm about what beverages are made with groundwater, including those made right here in Nebraska.

Groundwater Jeopardy (CCC 554) *Nebraska Corn Board*
Interactive game to learn the importance of Nebraska groundwater, how it affects agriculture & simple groundwater terms.

Hidden Household Hazards (CP 105/106) *Meridian Enrichment Program*
Use safe, effective, alternative cleaning solutions that will not harm the groundwater.

Incredible Journey (CCC 456) *EA Engineering, Science & Technology*
Learn how water moves through the water cycle by rolling dice to create a bracelet with properties of water in soil, plants, surface water and groundwater.

Incredible Journey (CCC 454) *Hastings Museum*
Become a water molecule and move through the water cycle by collecting beads along your journey to make a bracelet.

Infiltration Station (Outside/Meet at CP 107) *JEO Consulting Group*
Shoot water guns at targets to simulate rainfall. Compare runoff and infiltration based on the target's soil/surface type.

Migration Headache (Outside/Meet in CP Lobby) *Little Blue NRD*
Learn the importance of managing surface water and wetlands by simulating migrating birds during their migration.

Our World – Soil & Water (CCC 313) *Nebraska Farm Bureau*
Create a fractional model of Earth's water/land resources and best practices that farmers use to protect these resources.

Preserving Grasslands (CP North Parking Lot) *Central Platte NRD*
Learn the challenges facing Nebraska's grasslands and habitat. See equipment used for wildfire and prescribed burning.

Renewable Grid Simulator (CP 201/202) *Nebraska Public Power District*
Discuss how vital water is during the production of electricity and how NPPD keeps water clean.

Soil Hydrology & Water Quality (CCC 555) *CCC's Environmental Sustainability Office*
Learn how water moves through soils and how to clean 'dirty' water.

Soil is the Skin of the World (CP Ext. Room 1) *Nebraska NRCS*
Build a Soil Profile Card, conduct Soil Aggregate Stability tests.

There's No New Water (CP Multipurpose Room) *Nebraska Extension*
Learn how many users need groundwater and the importance of conserving the resources that we have.

Wagons and Water (CCC 457) *Stuhr Museum*
Make choices that pioneers made on the trails. Learn if groundwater or river water is cleaner.

Wastewater Jeopardy (CCC 524) *Nebraska Water Environment Association*
Play an interactive water version of the game show Jeopardy with questions about water and wastewater.

Water + Wildlife (CHTS Meet Outside Near 975) *Prairie Loft Center*
Learn about water ecosystems that support Nebraska's wildlife.

Water & Weather Fued (CCC 311) *National Weather Service*
Play an interactive game while answering questions about weather and hydrology.

STAGE SHOWS

Fax Gilbert-Interactive Stage Show (CP Auditorium)
Enjoy characters & skits for a deeper understanding of aquifers, the water cycle, groundwater and contaminants.

The Raptor Connection (CCC 355 - Cafeteria)
Raptor Conservation Alliance shares live raptors for you to meet up close! Learn how raptors are dependent upon ground/surface water for food, shelter and nesting.

Water Cycle (CCC 552) *Hall County 4-H*
Learn the parts of the water cycle - from evaporation to precipitation with an interactive vocabulary-matching game.

Water Cycle Bingo (CCC 525) *Grand Island Clean Community System*
Have fun learning and memorizing how the water cycle works.

Water Department Dilemma (CHTS 959) *Raising Nebraska*
Participate in a simulation to take on the role of diverse constituents to manage groundwater supply.

Water Rockets (CP 203/204) *Grand Island Groundwater Guardian Team*
Use water and compressed air to build a water rocket and learn about Grand Island's water system. Then launch your water rocket!

We All Live in a Watershed (CCC 566) *Lower Loup NRD*
Scenario: You have \$5 million to build/develop riverside land however you want. Learn how everyone affects the watershed they live in.

Wetlands Bingo (CP 209/210) *Upper Big Blue NRD*
Watch a wetlands music video, discuss how wetlands filter groundwater, and play Wetland Bingo.

Double-check the location & presenter of each activity you are attending, as many activity names are the same or similar. Large maps are available at both CCC & CP Registration desks.

CP-COLLEGE PARK



LUNCH TENT



CHTS BUILDING



CCC BUILDING

