

You are invited to apply for a Groundwater Workshop for Educators and receive a free groundwater model for your school or nature center.

All workshops are 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Space is limited to 8 schools or nature centers per location
Deadline for application is November 1, 2008

Wednesday, January 21st
Eau Claire
Beaver Creek Reserve

Tuesday, January 27th
West Bend
Riveredge Nature Center

Wednesday, February 4th
Mount Horeb
WGHNS Core Lab

Educators from schools and nature centers are invited to attend a January Groundwater Workshop and receive a free groundwater flow model. In addition to learning how to use the model, participants will learn about local groundwater issues and educational materials available for expanding your environmental education curriculum. The model, valued at \$400, is an acrylic tank filled with sand and gravel that allows students to "see" groundwater and how it works. For more information on the model, go to:

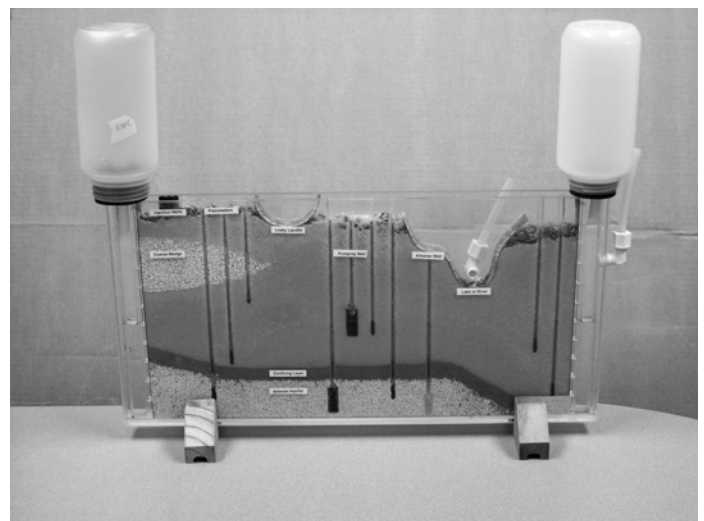
www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/awra/h2omodel.html.

In addition to the model, schools are eligible for reimbursement of \$100/teacher for substitute teacher costs after completing a 2-page, end-of-year survey.

Who is eligible and how do we apply?

To be eligible to attend a workshop and receive a model, two educators from each organization must complete the application form and submit it by November 1, 2008. Educators must work with students in grades 6-12. Notification of acceptance will be sent to the top candidates in early December, 2008.

What are we committing to if accepted?



Who can I contact for more information?

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Wisconsin Department of Natural
Resources,

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Applications are available at:
[dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/gw/education/
2009application.pdf](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/gw/education/2009application.pdf)

If selected, the two educators who applied for the workshop will:

- attend a one-day training session on using the model
- incorporate the model into classroom curriculum or nature center programs
- demonstrate the groundwater flow model to students before May 2009
- involve parents in at least one "take home" activity
- complete and return a 2-page survey by the end of May, 2009

Timeline:

November 1, 2008 applications due
December, 2008 applicants notified of acceptance
Jan/Feb, 2009 teachers attend workshop
Spring 2009 teachers use model with students in their schools or nature centers
May, 2009 teachers complete a 2-page survey to qualify for substitute teacher costs

How do we benefit from this program?

- schools/nature centers will receive a free groundwater sand tank model valued at \$400
- educators receive training on using the model, learn about groundwater concepts and issues in Wisconsin, and receive other free groundwater education materials
- educators will have the opportunity to share ideas on teaching about groundwater
- schools are eligible to receive \$100 per participating teacher for substitute teachers

Who will conduct the workshops?

Faculty and staff from the UW-Stevens Point Center for Watershed Science and Education and Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey will conduct the training with assistance from WDNR Drinking Water and Groundwater staff and UW-Extension Basin Educators.

How will participants be selected?

DNR and Extension staff will evaluate applications and select eight pairs of educators per location based on the following criteria:

- existing or planned curriculum related to groundwater
- use of the model outside of the classroom involving the families of students
- number of people/students, types of classes and grades involved
- preference will be given to schools that have not previously received a model through this workshop

Why should your school or nature center teach about groundwater?

About 70% of Wisconsin residents get their drinking water from groundwater. However, this "buried treasure" is vulnerable to pollution from many sources. In some areas of Wisconsin, the amount of groundwater available for drinking has become limited. Teaching students and their parents about protecting groundwater can lead to cleaner, more abundant drinking water for future generations.

Why is DNR offering the workshops?

The DNR is committed to protecting Wisconsin's valuable groundwater - its *buried treasure*. It is the DNR's goal to educate students, parents and communities to make informed decisions about their drinking water supply. This project is funded through wellhead protection funds provided to the Wisconsin DNR through the US Environmental Protection Agency.

What have past participants said about the workshops?

"..The groundwater model is a necessity in my environmental science classroom."

"Exceptional experience at the workshop. Very good resources/handouts. The model is a gold mine."