

# Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District

## Education Program Menu

**GROUNDWATER MODEL:** A table-top model which shows a cross-section of an aquifer system. This program discusses the water cycle, aquifers, groundwater, water tables, permeability, supplying people with water, how groundwater gets polluted, effects pollution can have on people and how water travels underground. Suggested for Grades 4-6.

**ENVIROSCAPE MODEL:** A table-top model that demonstrates the dynamics of a watershed. Point and non-point sources of pollution are discussed. Each student is provided an opportunity to help demonstrate the Enviroscape Model with the instructor. Suggested for Grades 4-6.

**WHAT IS YOUR WATERSHED ADDRESS?** Students will become familiar with watersheds and the importance of water quality and be able to determine which watershed the school is in and what bodies of water originate or feed into that watershed. Suggested for Grades 5-9.

**WATER OLYMPICS:** Students compete in various hands-on activities that demonstrate water's cohesive and adhesive properties. Suggested for Grades 5-9.

**WATER JEOPARDY:** Game played just like television's "Jeopardy" to learn some fun facts about water. Suggested for Grades 5-9.

**AQUATIC ILLINOIS:** Discussion of watersheds, water quality, surface water, groundwater, water as a resource, and aquatic invertebrates. Suggested for Grades 5-9.

**SOIL-THE WORLD BENEATH OUR FEET:** You have a choice of an indoor, interactive classroom presentation involving powerpoint and props or an outdoor soil exploration program. The outdoor program involves the use of a soil borer to extract samples from the ground, a soil life discovery kit\*, pH test probe and soil thermometer. Suggested for Grades 4-12.

**LEOPOLD EDUCATION PROJECT:** Uses A Sand County Almanac as a Curriculum Guide. A curriculum that guides learning through direct observation of the natural world and relates it to history, math and science. Suggested for Grades 5-9.

**FORESTRY:** Various lesson plans and hands-on activities about trees, forests, forest careers and the forest industry. Suggested for Grades 5-9.

**WILDLIFE:** Various lesson plans that discuss endangered and threatened species, the diversity of wildlife and animal niches. You may choose a focus on mammals. Fur samples, skulls, track and scat replicas, lessons, activity sheets, posters and other items compliment the mammal program. Suggested for Grades 5-9.

**RECYCLING/COMPOSTING:** Anatomy of a landfill, local waste product facilities, what can/cannot be recycled and why. How long does it take to degrade? Discusses the raw materials required to manufacture materials and the conversion of energy into manufacturing and converting materials. Suggested for Grades 5-9.

**PRAIRIES:** Discussion of the Illinois native landscape of prairies and the benefits of this precious resource. Field guides, books, DVDs, posters, bison artifacts and many other items are included. Suggested for Grades 4-9.

**ILLINOIS STATE SYMBOLS:** Photos, replicas, actual samples, activity books, information and other items are used in this presentation that teaches what state symbols are natural resources. Suggested for Grades 4-9. For younger audiences, we have the educational game- BINGO that teaches the Illinois State Symbols for Grades 1-3.

*\*The Soil Life Discovery Kit offers an in-depth look at the diversity of terrestrial invertebrate. The kit challenges students in grades 5-8 to apply scientific reasoning and mathematical skills to the distribution patterns of common terrestrial insects and other invertebrates. Two basic techniques are used, the pitfall trap technique and the Berlese funnel method. All materials needed for both techniques are provided. There is a book of activities that (1) improve student's ability to investigate, gather data, and interpret results (2) gain an appreciation for the diversity of insects and other invertebrates which live around the school, park or backyard; and (3) develop an understanding of food chain relationships, decomposition and life cycles.*

You must fill out a program request form and send it back to the SWCD office. Staff will consult with you for availability and program expectations. Checks should be made payable to: Winnebago county SWCD. Payment is provided to SWCD staff after completion of the program.

### SCHOOLS

\$2.00/student for an individual classroom visit  
\$1.00/student for a large assembly (less than 3 hours)

### SCOUTS/OTHER YOUTH & ADULT GROUPS

\$1/person donation