

Watershed Educator

This is a part-time contract position to the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission that pays \$45/hour plus mileage and materials. WMWA currently has an annual budget of \$20,000 for this program. Most work occurs October–May.

The West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) Watershed Educator should have an education, water sciences or communications background. A Minnesota teaching license is preferred but not required. The Educator coordinates with teachers and schools and visits 4th grade classrooms to teach water-related curriculum within the WMWA area of Hennepin County: Rogers, Dayton, Champlin, Corcoran, Maple Grove, Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center, Osseo, Robbinsdale, Crystal, New Hope, Plymouth, Golden Valley, Medina, Medicine Lake, St. Louis Park, Minnetonka and Minneapolis.

This program was developed to meet elementary science curriculum requirements. The focus of the program is to present water resource-based classes to 4th grade students as they are introduced to the concept of the water cycle. There are three one-hour class modules (which can be taught in any order).

Lesson 1: What is a Watershed and Why do We Care? This lesson provides an overview of the watershed concept and is specific to each school's watershed. It also describes pollutant issues and introduces the Adopt-A-Drain program.

Lesson 2: The Water Cycle – More than 2-Dimensional! This lesson describes the movement and status of water as it travels through the water cycle and how pollution enters and leaves the cycle.

Lesson 3: Erosion and our Water This lesson teaches how human-caused erosion affects our waters and presents engineering concepts and methods to reduce erosion.

Lesson 4: The Watershed Game Helps students understand the relationship between land uses within a watershed, water quality, and their community. The game emphasizes collaboration and cooperative decision-making, persuasive argument, teamwork, and leadership skills along with science and math.

WMWA has been providing this programming to students since 2013 and has had nearly 40,000 students participate since the program's inception. The Educator is expected to build rapport with schools and communicate with teachers to schedule class visits during the school year. Most schools schedule visits in October–May of each year, with April being a slower month due to state testing. This video of the Watershed PREP was made during COVID for students with online classes <http://www.westmetrowateralliance.org>.

In addition to the Watershed PREP classes in schools, there are several community events throughout the year that the Educator is asked to attend and table at to engage with watershed residents. The program may expand into other outreach areas as well. The Educator also asked to attend monthly online meetings of the WMWA Committee to provide updates on the program and other outreach opportunities.

Submit cover letter and resume to laura.jester@keystonewaters.com. Questions? Contact Laura Jester, Administrator with Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission at 952-270-1990. The position is open until filled.

Job Posting: Watershed Educator

Position Details:

- **Type:** Part-time contract with [West Metro Water Alliance \(WMWA\)](#)
- **Pay:** \$45/hour plus mileage and materials
- **Schedule:** Flexible and dependent on number of classroom visits per week or month
- **Budget:** \$20,000 annually
- **Work Periods:** Mainly October – May

Job Responsibilities:

- **Teaching:**
 - Visit elementary schools in Hennepin County (Rogers, Dayton, Champlin, Corcoran, Maple Grove, Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center, Osseo, Robbinsdale, Crystal, New Hope, Plymouth, Medina, Golden Valley, Medicine Lake, St. Louis Park, Minnetonka, and Minneapolis).
 - Teach one-hour classes focused on water resources to fourth-grade students.
 - **Lesson 1: What is a Watershed and Why do We Care?** This lesson provides an overview of the watershed concept and is specific to each school's watershed. It also describes pollutant issues and introduces the Adopt-A-Drain program.
 - **Lesson 2: The Water Cycle - More than 2-Dimensional!** This lesson describes the movement and status of water as it travels through the water cycle and how pollution enters and leaves the cycle.
 - **Lesson 3: Erosion and our Water** This lesson teaches how human-caused erosion affects our waters and presents engineering concepts and methods to reduce erosion.
 - **Lesson 4: The Watershed Game** Helps students understand the relationship between land uses within a watershed, water quality, and their community. The game emphasizes collaboration and cooperative decision-making, persuasive argument, teamwork, and leadership skills along with science and math.
- **Coordination:** Communicate and coordinate with schools and teachers to offer classes and schedule lessons. Reach out to schools with visits in the past as well as new schools.
- **Additional Duties:**
 - Attend and table at community events throughout the year.
 - Attend monthly online WMWA Committee meetings to provide updates and explore new outreach opportunities.
 - Track and report hours, student numbers, lessons taught.

WMWA Program Details:

- Developed to meet elementary science curriculum requirements.
- Nearly 40,000 students have participated since 2013.
- Schedule classes primarily in October-May
- [Watershed PREP class video](#) available for at-home learning.

Qualifications:

- Background in education, water/environmental sciences, or communications
- Minnesota Teaching license is preferred but not required

Application Information:

- Questions: Call Laura Jester, Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission at 952-270-1990.
- Submit resumes to laura.jester@keystonewaters.com
- Immediate hiring; open until filled.