



DRINKING WATER WEEK POSTER AND PHOTO CONTEST



Dear Educator,

Some of the most plentiful, safest and cleanest drinking water on the planet can be found here in Vermont. Everyday Vermonters' health and well-being is supported by safe and reliable water supplies and the water professionals working at water treatment facilities in nearly every town. Think about what life would be like without safe and reliable drinking water. Each year we, your neighbors, members of the Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee, work to provide you with interesting and thought provoking concepts and activities for your students and 2010 is no exception. This year's poster and photo contest launches a challenging theme—Nurture Nature- Clean Water for All. May our enclosures assist you in enticing your students in grades 4-6 to participate.

Contest winners will be announced prior to the Fair and will be presented their award at the Fair on Friday, May 7, 2010 at the Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences (VINS) at Quechee Gorge. There will be a winner in each category, Photo and Poster, and each grade, 4th- 6th, who will receive a \$200 U.S. Savings Bond. Honorable Mention award winners will receive a family pass to an area museum.

Students are being asked to photograph or draw a scene that reflects this year's theme—'Nurture Nature- Clean Water for All'. Photos are required to have a title and a 25-word or fewer caption illuminating the connection between the photo and this year's theme. Posters can be of any color or style, but must be 8½" x 11", and **spelling counts**. Formal contest rules are included in this packet. Please be aware that by submitting an entry or attending the Drinking Water Week Fair, participants agree to have their picture taken and used throughout the year for non-profit publications, web pages, presentations and special events.

The quality and quantity of our water supplies like Lake Champlain and underground aquifers are greatly affected by Vermonters and their habits. Curbing our generation's activities will have a direct impact on water supplies of today and the future.

Behaviors that have changed recently include:

- ◆ Littering
- ◆ Applying fertilizers and pesticides
- ◆ Picking up after pets

◆ Installing high-efficiency plumbing fixtures

Can your students think of others? The Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee hopes that students participating in the **Poster and Photo Contest** and attending the Fair will appreciate their evolving role in maintaining safe and reliable water supplies. They are environmental stewards for their own lives and future generations. Your unique role as their teacher can inform and motivate them to embrace measures that will soon carve out what Vermont will become in the next few decades.

We hope you will encourage students to participate in either the poster or photo contest. We also hope you will consider attending the Fair. For more information, including how to sign-up for the Fair or are interested in having the National Theatre for Children come to your school, please contact Ashley Lucht at 802 241 3424 or e-mail vermontdrinkingwaterweek@gmail.com by April 14, 2010. Reservations are required due to site limitations. Please share this invitation with your colleagues and let me know if you would like to receive information via email. Participation in the poster contest does not require attendance at the Water Fair; however, winners will be encouraged to attend to receive their award in person.

Sincerely,

Ashley Lucht
Chair, Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee

Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee Members

◆ Green Mountain Water Environment Association ◆ Town of Hartford ◆ Northeast Rural Community Assistance Program ◆ Vermont Rural Water Association ◆ Vermont Department of Education ◆ Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation ◆ Vermont Department of Public Service ◆ Vermont League of Cities and Towns ◆ Weston & Sampson ◆ US Environmental Protection Agency ◆ Downs, Rachlin & Martin ◆ Sugarbush Resort ◆ ECS Consulting ◆ Private Citizens ◆

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