



VERMONT DRINKING WATER WEEK

Make Every Week Drinking Water Week

DRINKING WATER WEEK 2022 ARTWORK CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT & FAIR INVITATION

Dear Educator,

The Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee is pleased to launch this year's artwork contest with an exciting and timely theme — **Water to the Rescue!** Please use the attached fact sheet to inspire your students' artwork. Students' artwork may be in their preferred medium and must be created for the sole purpose of this contest, and without collaboration with other students. Please include the participating student's name, grade, teacher's name and email address, and school either on the back of the submission or in the emailed message.

Contest winners will be announced prior to the annual Drinking Water Week Fair and will be presented their award at the Fair on Friday, May 6, 2022, at Norwich University in Northfield. There will be a winner and honorable mention from each grade, 4th, 5th and 6th. In addition to the winner's poster being printed for distribution to our sponsors, prizes for each winner and honorable mention will be awarded. The Committee reserves the right to divide entries into multiple categories and to award more than one winner or honorable mention in each category and grade.

Artwork shall be no larger than 8 ½" x 11". Artwork must be **original** and can be in any medium including hand-drawn, digitally created, photographs, collage; unfortunately, video submissions cannot be accepted at this time. **Spelling counts.** The Committee discourages depicting single-use bottles in a positive light.

Please mail all entries to: **UPDATED MAILING ADDRESS!!!**

Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee
c/o ~~Vermont Bond Bank~~ Vermont Rural Water Association
~~100 Bank St, Suite 401~~ 20 Susie Wilson Rd, Suite B
~~Burlington, VT 05402~~ Essex Junction, VT 05452

Or email scanned images to vermontdrinkingwaterweek@gmail.com

All entries must be mailed or emailed in time to be received by **close-of-business April 19, 2022**. Hand-delivered entries are acceptable. Unfortunately, entries received after that date cannot be considered; the Committee will be judging entries starting at noon on April 20th. Winners and honorable mentions will be notified that day.

By submitting an entry *participants agree to have their artwork used throughout the year in or on non-profit publications, web pages, social media, presentations and special events; please note that names will be withheld on social media posts.* Winners and honorable mentions will also, with parental/guardian permission, be entered into the American Water Works Associations' National Drinking Water Week poster contest. In 2012, 2013 and 2014, one of Vermont's winners was chosen for national publication.

The Committee is excited for the return of an in-person fair this year, barring any significant changes to state-wide health directives or emergency orders, or weather. The committee understands there will be varying degrees of risk tolerance and will respect each school's comfort level with attending the fair. While still too early to finalize fair logistics, please know that committee members take the health and safety of all those in attendance very seriously.

For more information about the Fair, including how to sign-up, please contact Ashley Lucht at 802.861.0074 or email vermontdrinkingwaterweek@gmail.com. *Reservations are required due to site limitations; reservations are due by Monday, April 25, 2022.* Space will be reserved for schools with a winning or honorable mention student, and they will have the right of first refusal. Participation in the contest does not require attendance at the Water Fair; however, winners and honorable mentions are encouraged to attend to receive their award in person.

Please contact me, Ashley Lucht, at 802.861.0074 or e-mail vermontdrinkingwaterweek@gmail.com, with any questions. And please feel free to share this announcement with your colleagues.

Sincerely,



Ashley Lucht
Chair, Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee

and

Sir Hydro Logic



Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee Members

△ Vermont Rural Water Association △ Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation △ Simon Operation Services
△ UVM Extension Watershed Alliance △ Weston & Sampson △ Atlas Environmental Solutions △ Private Citizens △ RCAP
Solutions △ Vermont Bond Bank △ Green Mountain Water Environment Association △ Town of Hartford

Volunteer-run. Donation supported.

vermontdrinkingwaterweek@gmail.com

We're on Facebook- Vermont Drinking Water Week
And Instagram- @VTDWW

<https://vtruralwater.org/drinking-water-week/>



VERMONT DRINKING WATER WEEK

A COMMITMENT TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE QUALITY AND IMPORTANCE OF SAFE DRINKING WATER AND WATER RESOURCES THROUGH EDUCATION

WATER FACT SHEET – 2022 THEME – “WATER TO THE RESCUE!”

WATER TO THE RESCUE!

Water rescues us daily - On average, a person can only survive without water for about 3 days.



- Water. It cleans us and sustains us. Put simply, water is essential for life.
- Each person requires about 8 glasses (or two liters) of water every day.
- Tap water is inexpensive, safe, and good for the environment. It’s a Win-Win-Win!
- The Earth may seem like it has abundant water, but in fact, less than 1 percent is available for human use. The rest is either salt water found in oceans, freshwater frozen in the polar ice caps, or too inaccessible for practical usage.

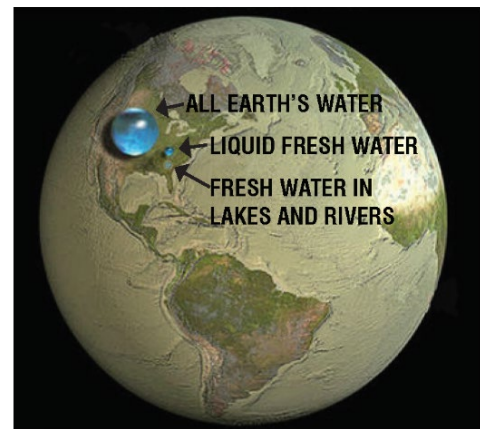
<https://www.epa.gov/watersense/how-we-use-water>

- According to USGS* the human body is 60% water, and the skin is 64% water (*the percentage of water also varies by age*). <https://water.usgs.gov/edu/propertyyou.html>
- As people, we lose water, which is normal, when we breathe, sweat, cry, and use the restroom.
- Did you know that water helps carry nutrients to our cells, lubricates our joints, removes body waste, protects our organs, **and** regulates our bodies at 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit? Fascinating, right?

WHERE DOES WATER COME FROM?

- Cool fact. Most of the water on earth is unchanged over time. Water constantly recycles through the water cycle on the earth and in the atmosphere. Check it out in the graphic to the right.
- If your water does not come from a town or city water system, then it comes from a private drinking water source. There are three main sources of private drinking water: drilled wells, dug wells, and springs.
- A community’s water facility that purifies river, surface, and/or groundwater to make it safe for drinking is called a Water Treatment Plant.
- Water treatment plants typically use chlorine, monochloramine, ultraviolet (UV) light, and/or ozone to kill harmful microorganisms.
- Water Treatment Plants repeat this process continuously: Pump, Treat, Store & Distribute, to get safe water to the tap.
- A “watershed” is an area of land that water flows across or under on its way to a larger body of water.

ALL THE EARTH’S WATER



<https://www.usgs.gov/special-topic/water-science-school/science/how-much-water-there-earth> - arrow explanations added separately

HOW MUCH WATER IS USED TO SUPPORT DAILY TASKS & AGRICULTURE?

- The largest household use of water is to flush the toilet, after that, showers, and baths. Just imagine not having water to do those things! <https://water.usgs.gov/edu/qa-home-percapita.html>
- How many gallons does the average person use daily? Each person uses about 80-100 gallons of water per day. Is that more than you would’ve guessed? <https://water.usgs.gov/edu/qa-home-percapita.html>

- Agriculture is a thirsty and very important business! A hefty 80% of consumptive water in the U.S. goes towards agriculture <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/farm-practices-management/irrigation-water-use/>

DID YOU KNOW?

- Approximately 785 million people worldwide lack access to safe water* (yikes!) - but that could be solved. “The world has the money to make it happen. It would take 1/3 what the world spends on bottled water in one year to pay for projects providing water to everyone in need.” *CBS News, FLOW the movie*
- The chemical formula for water is H₂O - which is two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom
- Natural water has a Ph level of about 7, and a gallon weighs 8.35lbs (pounds)*
- A natural or man-made body of water whose purpose is to collect & store water is called a reservoir.
- A river may be dammed to create a reservoir for irrigation, flood control, recreation, drinking water source, and hydropower.
- When rain soaks through garbage at landfills, it can pick up harmful substances and is then called leachate. Landfills are now designed to protect groundwater from leachate.
- Did you know that sand and gravel are nature’s filters – they help remove dirt and contaminants from river water as it filters through it?
- Water is considered the “universal solvent,” it dissolves more substances than **any** other liquid.
- Dollars at work: Water infrastructure investment in 2018 was almost \$26 million for drinking water, wastewater & stormwater project costs including pipes, tanks & engineering. (VT's State Revolving Funds)
- According to VRWA (Vermont Rural Water Association), there are currently about 1,178 certified drinking water operators and 515 licensed wastewater operators in VT, and altogether these operators have received a total of 7,550 hours of training in 2018. That’s a lot of training!



HOW CAN I HELP PROTECT & CONSERVE DRINKING WATER?



- **Using reusable water bottles** reduces pollution and saves money!
- Do you get your water from a private well? It’s smart to **test your private drinking water source** regularly. In VT, you can get help to test your water at the Health Dept. Laboratory. You can call 802-338-4736 or 800-660-9997 (toll-free VT) for information. Check out: www.healthvermont.gov/water
- **Consider a career** as a civil engineer, water or wastewater pro!
- When brushing your teeth, **don’t let the water run** – and save a gallon.
- Older showerheads use up to 5 gallons of water per minute. Water-saving showerheads* only use 2 gallons per minute. (<https://water.usgs.gov/edu/activity-percapita.php>) **Challenge yourself** by timing your showers!
- Using a dishwasher only uses 4 to 7 gallons of water, while hand washing dishes may use around 20!
- When your family replaces plumbing fixtures, shop for EPA “WaterSense” labeled items.
- Water for People is a group helping to get clean water to those 785 million people who need it – Check out waterforpeople.org to learn more about what you can do to help too!
- **Water comes to our rescue every day!** Share what you learn with your family & friends!

*USGS – United States Geological Survey serves the Nation by providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life.

*Weight of a gallon of water: If using the correct significant figures, 8.35lbs (62.43/7.48)

*When shopping for water dispensing fixtures, look for EPA’s “Water Sense” on the label, indicating that the product has met EPA’s water efficiency standards.

* Approximately 785 million people lack safe water. Water.org