

# City of Bellevue - Schools Outreach Program

## Elementary School Resources

### Waste Reduction, Recycling and Composting

**Waste Reduction, Recycling and Composting Assistance** – The City provides help to Bellevue Schools to set up or improve waste reduction, composting and recycling, which can also save money on solid waste management. Through this program, tailored, on-site assistance and outreach, as well as tools to improve the program, are available. Outreach items are tailored for each school, but can include: lunch time staffing and presentations, working with student groups to improve or start composting and recycling in the cafeteria and special event promotional tables during school events or science fairs. Tools that are available to schools include recycling and composting signage and containers (while supplies last), lanyards for student lunch monitor teams and composting posters. The City also has “on loan” materials such as recycled product kits.

For more information or for assistance, contact the City’s recycling specialist: Sam Wilder at 206-763-0739 or [swilder@wilderenvironmental.com](mailto:swilder@wilderenvironmental.com).



**Recycling Workshops and Assembly** – includes the management and oversight of multi-faceted resource conservation assemblies and environmental stewardship in-class workshops provided to the Bellevue School District elementary schools through a cooperative effort with King County for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

**Assembly “Our Planet, R Choices”** – This new assembly for grades K-6 opens on the set of a science-themed talk show where the episode of the day focuses on waste both at school and at home. Students are then transported “on location” where they learn about where waste goes in Bellevue and how throwing things away is a dead end for natural resources. Through the use of fun props, entertaining dialogue, role play, and a game show, students learn how each of us can conserve natural resources though reducing, reusing, and recycling. Students examine real-life situations and learn to navigate their everyday choices in order to step lightly on the planet at home and at school.

In line with the Bellevue School District’s science goals, the classroom workshops emphasize engaging, hands-on learning experiences while aligning directly with Science EALRs. Additionally, the workshops support the second grade social studies curriculum focus on communities and the fourth and fifth grade social studies curriculum emphasis on citizenship. The format of all the workshops includes partner-share, group table work and all-class discussion. This supports the Bellevue School District grade-level goals for communication, including listening, sharing ideas, gaining understanding and working with others.



Fourth and fifth grade workshops are offered in the spring, and second and third grade workshops are offered in the fall.

Workshops include:

**Healthy Habitat**, which emphasizes the basic components of habitat – food, shelter, water and space – through a variety of discussions and examples. Students play a game that introduces them to some northwest native animals, the types of habitat they need, and simple ways to protect their habitat. (2nd/3rd grade)

**Habitat Stewardship**, which introduces students to the concept of “stewardship.” It provides an in-depth look at the necessary components of habitat and the roles each of us plays in keeping it healthy. Students also examine more closely their personal choices and impacts, and are encouraged to become habitat stewards through practicing waste reduction and recycling. (4th/5th grade)

**Recycling Basics and Beyond**, which introduces the concept of waste reduction, reuse and recycling at home and in school. Students are led through an activity of sorting recyclables and learn how contamination and improper sorting can be a problem. By the end of the workshop, students have a clear understanding of what can be recycled in Bellevue and what can't. (2nd-5th grade)

**Rethink and Reuse**, which teaches students how using something again can make a difference for the environment. After a quick-paced activity that provides real-life examples of how to substitute disposable items with reusables, the class engages in a reuse project that demonstrates how reusing can be both functional and fun. Students may create envelopes, magnets, or twig notebook pads. (2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade)

**Garbology**, which teaches students what happens to the things thrown in the trash. Classes learn about the science of decomposition and how landfills work. Students work together in small and large groups to examine their garbage, discuss options for reducing waste and participate in activities that emphasize the importance of the four R's. (4th/5th grade)

**Worm Bins**, which teaches students (and the teacher) everything they need to know about setting up and maintaining a worm bin. Students learn how composting is a big part of the four R's and how worm bins cut down on garbage. The teachers provide a container and bedding and the presenter brings the worms. The Worm Bins workshop was not offered in the spring but was provided by King County Green Teams to those who requested it. (2nd-5th grade)

Contact Triangle Associates at 206-583-0655 or email  
[workshops@triangleassociates.com](mailto:workshops@triangleassociates.com)

# WATER EDUCATION FOR SCHOOLS

Make a *splash in class!* Cascade Water Alliance offers fun and exciting classroom presentations in local schools to help students explore the fascinating world of water. All presentations are tailored to our region and are offered *free of charge* to schools within the water service areas of Cascade members. Feel free to choose from these exciting programs!

## Water Cycle Terrariums [Grades K-3]

Learn about the water cycle and build your very own water cycle terrarium, complete with a "waterhog" to help students learn to use water wisely!

## Drops Cycle Round! [Grades 4-6]

Become a water drop for an hour and go all the places water drops go in the water cycle, including lakes, rivers, streams, mountains, the ocean, plants, animals and you!

## Watch the Flow, Above and Below [Grades 1-6]

People need to use water wisely as it cycles through our human-built environment. Students will learn how water flows from nature through our cities and towns, and back again.

## Natural Filters [Grades 2-6]

We will conduct this class in your schoolyard. Learn how nature filters the water that flows through our ecosystem. Students will participate in a demonstration of how wetlands clean water.



## Water Conservation [Grades 5-9]

Did you know that our area receives less rainfall than Miami? Join us for an interactive lesson that will explore what our community can do to conserve our water. Students will learn why we need to save water and what every person can do to use water wisely.

## Water Supply [Grades 5-9]

Do you know where your water comes from? Discover where your local water comes from and the path it takes to your faucet! Students will explore the human and natural factors that affect our water supply.



### **Blue Team Stewardship Project** [Grades K-9]

This is a special assistance program where kid-powered projects connected to watershed protection are completed by a "Blue Team". A Blue Team is a group of kids, such as a classroom, a club, a neighborhood group, or a scout or camp group, who commit to taking on and completing a water-action project in the Puget Sound watershed. The group can choose their own project or use one we suggest. Blue Teams will be provided with up to 4 hours of expert help from a Water Specialist.

### **"Toadally" Amphibians** [Grades K-4]

Students study these fascinating creatures who are dependent upon healthy water sources. Discussion about how human influences affect amphibian populations is Part of the program.

### **Aquatic Bugs Dip Field Experience** [Grades 2-12, Field]

Students visit a local water site (pond, lake, or stream) that is accessible and are guided to dip and sort aquatic bugs based on which are water quality indicator species. Students may also participate in water quality tests for oxygen, pH, and temperature.

### **Salmon Cycle** [Grades 3-12]

Discover the connection between salmon, people and the water we share. Students will explore water quality issues and why healthy salmon habitat is good for people, too!

### **All About Groundwater** [Grades 2-8]

Did you know that groundwater is an important water source for our local community? By using a watershed model, students will explore how groundwater is connected within our larger watershed systems, how our communities access groundwater, and what we can do to protect groundwater within the watershed.

### **Watershed Field Experience** [Grades 2-8, Field]

Pre-requisite: All About Groundwater classroom presentations.

Students will visit a local lake, wetland or pond near their school and explore it with a naturalist. Students will observe plants and animals in this environment and dip for freshwater invertebrates, and will learn about the health of our greater watershed systems.



All programs are conducted by the experienced naturalists at **Nature Vision**, an award winning non-profit program.

## Waterwise Gardening [Grades 3-5]

Explore how water can be used efficiently in gardens and yards through hands-on activities and an interactive game. Students will discover how their actions at home and school can have a positive impact on the health of their watershed.



All programs meet WA State Essential Academic Learning Requirements and are adapted to each grade level.

**To schedule programs or field trips, visit <http://www.naturevision.org/program-registration/>. Register online or print out the registration form and fax it in per the instructions.**

To register for a Blue team, visit <http://www.naturevision.org/blue-teams-service-projects/>, fill out the registration form and send in via fax or scan and email.

Please contact Nature Vision with questions at [info@naturevision.org](mailto:info@naturevision.org) or (425) 836-2697.

If you have any questions regarding the services offered by Cascade Water Alliance, please contact Mike Brent, Water Resources Manager, (425) 453-1810.

**Programs are generously provided by:**



## Pollution Prevention

**Stream Team Outreach** – includes booths at science fairs (with video microscope focusing on macroinvertebrates in local streams).

Contact Laurie Devereaux, Stream Team Coordinator,  
425-452-5200 or [ldevereaux@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ldevereaux@bellevuewa.gov).

### ***Pollution Prevention Workshop***

“The Solution to Poo-llution” Student Pet Waste Action Campaign. Space is limited, free to Bellevue Elementary 3-5 classrooms.

#### ***“The Solution to Poo-llution” Student Pet Waste Action Campaign***

##### **Grades 3-5 campaign, 60 minute kick-off classroom presentation provided**

The City of Bellevue is offering a student water quality action campaign for 3rd-5th grade classes and/or student Green Teams to take action and help solve the problem of pet waste bacteria in our local surface water and to spread the word to others. Why is the city doing this? Fecal coliform bacteria is in our waterways and DNA testing discovered it's partially from dog waste- people aren't picking up after their pets! A campaign packet with background information, fun facts, and activity ideas is provided. Students can make posters for around the school, write a blurb for the school newsletter, present information to other classes, etc. about the importance of picking up after our pets and what happens to our water if we don't. A presenter is available to provide a one-hour classroom presentation to help students with completing campaign activities. This is a great leadership opportunity for students and they will have a blast promoting solutions to a local water quality issue!

Contact Triangle Associates at 206-583-0655 or email  
[workshops@triangleassociates.com](mailto:workshops@triangleassociates.com)



## Reducing Your Carbon Footprint

**Carbon Yeti Program** – includes a display, pledge books, and giveaways that promote reducing your carbon footprint. Available for science fairs. Become a Fan on Facebook!

Contact: Jennifer Goodhart, Conservation & Outreach Program Administrator,  
425-452-6197 or [jgoodhart@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jgoodhart@bellevuewa.gov).

