



GEORGIA
project WET
WATER EDUCATION TODAY

Anchors Aweigh!

Learning the ropes for Project WET Facilitation



Welcome Aboard

Congratulations on becoming a Project WET Facilitator! You are the cornerstone of the Georgia Project WET Program. Your efforts and workshops will ensure a strong and diverse state program and will enhance the greater goals of the Project WET USA Program.

A little Project WET History

Phase I: 1984 — 1989. Project WET created (one state)

The Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) program was established in 1984 by the North Dakota State Water Commission in the agency's planning division to educate the public about water resources and its management. Based on significant interest from teachers and young adults, the commission focused part of its education efforts on reaching children through teachers and informal educators. Project WET's mission, goal, core beliefs and first activities were created in North Dakota.

Phase II: 1989 — 2005. Research and development, publishing and Project WET network expansion (all 50 states, plus Washington, D.C., 19 countries)

In 1989, the director of Project WET North Dakota was invited by Montana State University, using funding from the United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), to pilot the Project WET program in Montana, Idaho and later Arizona. The success of this multi-state pilot initiative led to a decision by the BOR to fund the development and publication of the **Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide** (1995) and establishment of the Project WET USA network in all 50 states and Washington D.C. Project WET published over 50 water education guides and books for children and teachers between 1995 and 2005 and launched and expanded the Project WET international network to include 19 countries. Project WET left Montana State University June 30, 2005 to form an independent foundation.

Phase III: 2005. Project WET Foundation

The Project WET Foundation was established on July 1, 2005 as a 501(c)(3) organization. The Foundation will continue to develop and implement Project WET worldwide. The Project WET Foundation is located in Bozeman, Montana, USA. Project WET is supported annually by the thousands of individuals and organizations who purchase Project WET materials, grants and contracts from public and private sector donors.

Phase IV: In 2011 the new edition guide, Project WET 2.0, was printed after 4 years of development. The 65 activities consist of the revised and updated original activities, 16 "*Best of the Best*" from all the other WET publications, and 6 newly written activities. The new activities were rigorously reviewed and field-tested, just as the original activities were. To enhance each activity, a Portal was created to house student copy pages, videos, images, links and more (portal.projectwet.org). In addition, Project WET teamed with Nestle Waters to produce an online learning module entitled "Discover Water: the role of water in our lives" for ages 8-12, found at discoverwater.org.

Phase V: In 2020 the Project WET logo was updated and the Foundation introduced a new tag line: Water Education Today. The Project WET Foundation continues to envision a world in which action-oriented education enables every child to understand and value water, ensuring a sustainable future.

Some fundamentals you should know:

Project WET (Water Education Today) is a worldwide nonprofit water education foundation that produces educational material for formal and non-formal educators and students in grades K-12.

Mission

To advance water education to understand global challenges and inspire local solutions. The Project WET Foundation envisions a world in which action-oriented education enables every child to understand and value water, ensuring a sustainable future.

Goal

Project WET facilitates and promotes awareness, appreciation, knowledge, and stewardship of water resources through the dissemination of these classroom-ready materials and the through the establishment of internationally sponsored Project WET programs.

Beliefs

Project WET believes that:

- Water moves through living and nonliving systems and binds them together in a complex web of life.
- Water of sufficient quality and quantity is important for all water users (energy producers, farmers, and ranchers, fish and wildlife, manufacturers, recreationists, rural and urban dwellers).
- Wise water management is crucial for providing tomorrow's children with social and economic stability in a healthy environment.
- Awareness of and respect for water resources can encourage a personal, lifelong commitment of responsibility and positive community participation.

Project WET is guided by:

- **Research:** To stay abreast of emerging state, national, and international water education trends and standards, and to stay in touch with the educational needs of citizens.
- **Publications:** To produce and publish creative and informative materials to meet the needs identified through research.
- **Instruction and Training:** To provide leadership training and grass-roots instruction that ensures that materials and services are fully utilized, and to foster the participant's capacity to educate others.
- **Networking and Partnerships:** to form partnerships with organizations to enhance awareness, distribution, and use of materials and services.
- **Evaluation:** To improve the program and its delivery through aggressive, ongoing, and multifaceted evaluation.
- **Recognition:** To seek ways to acknowledge and recognize people and organizations for their contributions to water education.

Project WET Network

The Project WET USA network consists of coordinators located in each state at Host Institutions. These coordinators recruit and train facilitators in their own states; provide state specific training and materials; participate on national committees and councils; and provide the administration of the program locally. Currently there are over 80 coordinators in the USA network working with nearly 2000 active facilitators. The Project WET Foundation works with institutions worldwide to set up water education programs that work with local water issues and customs.

Project WET Publications

Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide 2.0	Discover a Watershed Series
Climate, Water and Resilience	KIDS Discover Magazine series
Getting Little Feet Wet Early Education Guide	Portal.ProjectWET.org
WOW! The Wonders of Wetlands	DiscoverWater.org
Healthy Water, Healthy People	The Urban Watershed (Georgia only)
Conserve Water	



Crew Training

An Educator Workshop is for those participants who want the Project WET curriculum for the purpose of teaching students but they will not be certified to teach other adults. **Facilitators (like you) conduct most of the Educator Workshops.**

A Facilitator Workshop is for those individuals who want to train other adults and are committed to teamwork with the State and National Project WET Programs. A facilitator is required to conduct or assist with 1 six-hour workshop yearly. **Only State Coordinators can conduct facilitator trainings.**

There are many ways to present Project WET, depending on the audience and the time allowed.

Basic types of workshop formats:

Basic Educator Workshop - 6-10 hours (these workshops can be held in person or using a hybrid face to face and virtual option)

Combined Educator Workshop using Two Projects (with WILD or PLT) – 12-16 hours (with coordinator approval)

Demonstration/Presentation workshops - 1-4 hours (no certification, no curriculum given out)

Advanced workshops

An Advanced Project WET workshop is usually 10 hours or more and provides an in-depth look at a particular water topic providing teachers and professionals in the field with resources and more focused information on a water topic such as STEM Connections, Literature Connections, Urban Stormwater or Climate Change, for example.

Special curriculum workshops train educators and facilitators with other Project WET curriculum from the Project WET Foundation and Georgia Project WET. These include but are not limited to:

Project WET/Getting Little Feet Wet Workshops

Project WET/Climate Change Workshop

Healthy Water, Healthy People Workshops

Wonders of Wetlands Workshops

Project WET/Conserve Water Workshops

Project WET/Urban Watershed – Stormwater Workshops

Project WET/River of Words Workshops





Getting Ready for the Voyage

Commitment is very important:

1. Teach or assist with at least **one educator workshop annually** as part of the State goals.
2. **Report your workshops**, sending us information and statistics regarding the educators trained.
3. Participate in the **State Facilitator's Council** each year at the EEA Conference.

Setting your course

1. **Decide on the WORKSHOP you will offer your audience.** Just remember:
 - a. It must be a minimum of **six hours and/or include six activities** in order for the participants to receive the Curriculum and Activity Guide and Educator Certification.
 - b. We recommend a **minimum of 12 participants** in each workshop.
 - c. Your **agenda should contain at least 6 activities**.

There are many ways to present Project WET other than 6 hours in one setting. Here are some ideas for you:

- Demo--School Staff, PTA, School Board, or Potential Sponsor (20-60 min.), no guides are given out at this kind of event, however actually doing an activity or two with a group of adults can be enlightening and will help them realize just how much learning can take place through Project WET. This is a great first step to establishing support for holding Project WET workshops.
- Two Evenings, Saturday or Hybrid Workshop (6-8 hr.):
Contact school principal or Nature Center director to hold a two evening or a Saturday Project WET workshop. An alternative option is to hold a hybrid workshop in which some of the training is held in person and the remainder is held using an online platform such as Zoom or Microsoft Teams.
- Weekend Workshop (10-16 hr., 2-3 days):
Contact local government offices, Conservation Districts and Conservation Organizations to sponsor a Project WET workshop. Your potential audience can include both formal and non-formal educators from your regional area. Advertise on social media, in school district newsletters, and with local museums, zoos and parks from around your region. With at least 12 hours, you can combine WET with Project WILD or Project Learning Tree with coordinators' approval.
- Weeklong Workshops or Institutes (5-7 days):
Contact a state Science or Environmental Education Center that can provide the facility and the advertising you'll need. Search for a state government agency or private non-profit organization to assist with the sponsorship. This could be a special opportunity, with coordinators' approval, to team with other Facilitators to provide a very concentrated EE experience with WET and other curricula or to present a special topic such as Wetlands, using STEM or exploring Literature Connections.

2. Order Your Books

Complete your **Workshop Proposal online at projectwetusa.org*** (or use the Proposal Form in your facilitator's handbook or from the ProjectWET.Georgia.gov/facilitator website) to let us know your workshop plans. If you use projectwetusa.org, you will be sent a code that will allow your participants to complete evaluations electronically and you may customize workshop evaluations for your specific facility/organization. **tutorial available ProjectWET.Georgia.gov/facilitator*

Please allow 4 weeks' notice so that we have time to process the information and send the curriculum guides to you. We will send you the Project WET Curriculum Guides, certificates and an invoice. It will be your responsibility to fill out the certificates for your workshop.

*If you have left-over curriculum after your workshop, **return the guides to the State office** (we will issue an updated invoice if necessary).*

3. Advertise / Make a Workshop Flyer

We are happy to help advertise your workshop on www.EEInGEORGIA.org and ProjectWET.Georgia.gov if you would like help recruiting participants. Putting flyers or advertisements together for workshops can be very simple. Things to include in your flyer:

- workshop title
- date
- time
- location
- sponsors
- facilitator names
- purpose
- lunch/snack plan
- registration deadline and contact information
- cost
- target audience

4. Find Potential WET Workshop Sponsors

- * School Districts - Contact Principals, In-service Training Coordinators, District Superintendents
- * County Conservation Districts
- * County Resource & Conservation Districts
- * Local Irrigation Districts
- * Local Agriculture Groups
- * Local Environmental Groups
- * County Extension Service (A-H)
- * Regional Offices of the Departments of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC)
- * Local Service Clubs (Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, Elks)
- * Local Banks & Businesses
- * Municipal Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities
- * Electric Utility Companies

5. Work out the Logistics

Some of the basics to consider when planning the workshop include finding a suitable location with running water, outdoor area, available tables and chairs, electricity and internet access. Consider your plans for providing food and beverages, as well as what you will need for basic materials.

Supply Checklist for Workshops

- Scratch paper
- Set of Markers, Crayons
- Scissors
- Rulers
- Stapler and Staples
- Tape - Masking and Scotch,
- Glue
- Paper Clips
- Post-it Notes
- Snacks, water
- Cups, napkins, plates
- Camera

- Pencils or Pens
- Calculators
- Flip Chart or Chart Paper
- String, yarn
- Construction Paper
- Activity cones
- Index Cards
- Rubber bands
- First aid kit
- Brochures for other programs
- Freebie Materials/door prizes

PLEASE DON'T FORGET!

- Nametags
- Agendas
- WET Guides
- Sign-in Sheets
- Evaluations
- Splash through the Guide
- Activity materials/boxes
- PowerPoint introduction



Hit the Deck!

The Workshop

This is a *certification course* and requires training in order to receive the curriculum. Participants must complete the workshop in order to be certified as a Project WET educator and receive the Curriculum.

*Please have participants sign in daily. A **sign-in sheet** has been provided for you in your facilitator's handbook and on our website. This information is used to verify certification. Please make sure that you can read their names, email, addresses, phone numbers and the grade level they teach.*

Every workshop must include:

- Program Goals and Objectives
- Splash Through the Guide
- State and Local Sponsors
- Copyright Restrictions
- At least **6 Project WET** Lessons
- Georgia River of Words
- Resources such as Project WET Foundation (Portal, DiscoverWater.org, other curricula) and Classroom Tools Available from EPD (EnviroScape, ROW display)
- Georgia Standards Correlations
- Evaluation (code will be sent to you for use with projectwetusa.org online submission)

You might also want to add:

Nonpoint Source Pollution Information and Activities

Objectives: Participants will be introduced to the concept of nonpoint source pollution, identify the factors that affect their water supplies, and discover potential teaching opportunities:

Sum of the Parts: Demonstrate how non-point source pollutants are added to a water source and identify BMP's that can be used to reduce potential NPS pollution.

Enviroscape: A watershed model demonstrating point and non-point source pollution and solutions.

Introduction to Local Resources

Objectives: Participants will interact with local water resource management personnel who will provide content information about the local resources and identify ways teachers might use these in their classrooms.

Overview of Activities

Objectives: Participants will gain a new/renewed approach to the Project WET activities through facilitator's presentations of innovative approaches to teaching Project WET activities in workshops and discussion of the Georgia Standards.

Ice Breakers

Many examples are found on the Facilitator page on ProjectWET.Georgia.gov. The Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide also has some activities adaptable for ice breakers like Super Sleuths and Raining Cats and Dogs.

Specific Topics or Themes

One way to ensure audiences for years to come is to plan *topic specific workshops*. Utilizing the Charts found in the back the Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide you can cross reference activities relating to the Water Cycle, Health, Weather, Conservation and more.



Your Destination → A Better Planet

Evaluation

Use your workshop evaluation code to allow your participants to complete evaluations online at projectwetusa.org* before they leave. Alternatively, they may use the pdf form provided in your facilitator's handbook/website.

*tutorial available ProjectWET.Georgia.gov/documents/facilitator

Encourage participants to provide constructive criticism. Look at these evaluations as *WIND FOR YOUR SAILS!* You are working with a quality curriculum and Georgia teachers have had overwhelmingly positive comments since it was first introduced.

You are the Captain of the Ship

Use the **facilitator reporting form** in your facilitator's handbook/website.

This is a form for the facilitator to complete at the end of the workshop. This report covers things like location, type of workshop, participant make-up (which is very important for our reporting to Project WET USA) and any interesting information, highlights, exciting lesson adaptations, or problems that you would like to share.

We will share your adaptations, resources and information in the Georgia Project WET Educator e-newsletter, "The Dragonfly Gazette". Please encourage your teachers in workshops to submit articles for the "Dragonfly Gazette". We also appreciate any photographs of your workshops for the e-newsletter.



Journey's End

At the completion of your workshop, please send copies of the following information to the state office for our records.

- **Sign-in Sheets and volunteer waivers from your workshop**
- **Participant Evaluation Forms (if not submitted on projectwetusa.org)**
- **Facilitator Reporting Form**
- Complete **payment** for the Project WET Guides ([made out to EEA/Project WET](#))
- Any unused **Guides**

Send all of these forms and payment to:

GA Project WET
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Suite 1462
Atlanta, GA 30334

You may send your forms electronically to [monica.kilpatrick @dnr.ga.gov](mailto:monica.kilpatrick@dnr.ga.gov)



The Treasure Chest

All checks should be made out to **EEA* /Project WET (credit card payment can also be arranged)**.

Project WET Guides currently cost \$30.00 each. No one may receive a guide unless they have completed a Georgia Project WET Educator or Facilitator training. Other foundation titles have different prices; email us for your Facilitator discount.

Facilitators may charge participants up to an additional \$20.00 per person to be used for lunch, snacks, materials, etc. *Workshop fees are NOT intended to pay salaries.* Facilitators should collect the workshop fees and **send one payment** to the Georgia Project WET office for the curriculum.

***EEA- The Environmental Education Alliance** (our statewide non-profit environmental education organization) serves as the fiscal partner for Georgia Project WET and supports the projects and programs of Georgia Project WET.

The Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, Nonpoint Source Program is the Host Institution in Georgia for Project WET and must purchase the guides from the National office.

If someone loses a guide and has had training, they may contact the state office and upon verification of certification, receive another guide for \$30.00.

Happy Sailing!

Keep it fun and full of active learning.

Please call or email us at any time for guidance and support.

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GEORGIA

project **WET**

WATER EDUCATION TODAY

URL for Facilitator documents:
ProjectWET.Georgia.gov/facilitator

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