

Water Education

for Kirkland Middle & High Schools

The Surface Water Division of Kirkland Public Works offers several enriching science programs in local schools to help students explore the fascinating world of water. All programs are tailored to our region and are offered free of charge (sponsored by the City of Kirkland).

Each program is taught by an experienced educator from Nature Vision, a non-profit environmental education organization. These programs support the Washington State K-12 Learning Standards and STEM Education.

Public schools, private schools and youth organizations within the Kirkland Surface Water service area are eligible to participate. Choose from the many exciting options!



Programs Offered

Watershed Dynamics (Enviroscape) (Grades 6-12)

Students will interact with a tabletop model of a typical community to learn how their everyday choices affect the water quality in our watershed. Alternative choices to prevent watershed pollution are discussed.

Watershed Ecosystems (Grades 6-8)

We all live in a watershed, and it is up to us to keep the water that flows through it clean and plentiful. This program introduces students to their own local watershed and to the plants and animals that share this important ecosystem. Students will also learn how a healthy environment cleans water naturally, and gain insight on the impact of humans on this system. Positive human actions on the combined natural and human-built environments are discussed.

Salmon Cycle (Grades 6-12)

Discover the connection between Pacific salmon, people, and the water we share. The salmon life cycle and what this keystone species requires from its ecosystem is discussed. Students will explore water quality issues and understand why healthy salmon habitat is good for Northwest ecosystems, and people, too.



Register for a Program: <https://naturevision.org/program-registration>

Questions: info@naturevision.org or 425-836-2607

Healthy Water, Healthy Soil (Grades 6-8)

Through this hands-on lesson, students will gain an understanding of soil function and physical properties. Students will observe soil texture, structure, color, and infiltration; test for key nutrients; and analyze soil pollution. Students will connect soil composition with the impact of our daily water-related choices on the natural environment. ***This is a 2-part class. Please allow for two 50 minute sessions or one block period.*

Healthy Water, Healthy Ecosystems (Grades 9-12)

Experiment with soils from different watershed ecosystems in Washington, and develop an understanding of what each ecosystem needs to be healthy and sustainable. Conduct an analysis of plant needs and create a restoration plan that matches an appropriate soil within an ecosystem. Determine how water pollution creates disruptions within these ecosystems. ***This is a 2-part class. Please allow for two 50 minute sessions or one block period.*

Water Connections Field Trip (Grades 6-12)

Students will visit Juanita Bay Park, or a local lake, wetland or pond near their school and explore it with an educator. Students will observe plants and animals in this environment, examine and identify local freshwater invertebrates, and learn about the health of our greater watershed systems. Older students may also participate in water quality tests for oxygen, pH, temperature and more.



If you have any questions regarding environmental community service or stewardship opportunities, please contact your Kirkland Surface Water Utility representative, Betsy Adams, at badams@kirklandwa.gov or (425) 587-3858.

Additional Resources

PugetSoundStartsHere.org
- Learn how you can help heal Puget Sound

KingCounty.gov/Salmon
- Find information about local salmon populations

Kirklandwa.gov/Stormwater
- Learn about the protection of local creeks and watersheds

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