

# Happenings H<sub>2</sub>O Observations

A Quarterly Publication of the WATER Center

The WATER Center is a project of the City of Wichita's Department of Environmental Services

## Trail Guide to be Released in July

In late 2006, the Department of Environmental Services' WATER Center was awarded a \$10,000 Recreational Trails Grant from the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks.

interpretive nature trail and corresponding trail guide. The grant funding offset the materials and printing costs of the trail markers and nature guide.

The WATER Center partnered with Eagle Scout candidate, Nathan Fisher, to design and install an

The free Trail Guide will be available beginning July 28, 2008 in boxes along the trail as well as inside the WATER Center.

## Senior Wednesdays

First Wednesdays—1:30 PM  
Active Adults - No registration needed

- **July 2: A Rose is a Rose?** Discover the new drought tolerant rose varieties that work well in Kansas gardens.
- **August 6: Water is Life and Infrastructure Makes it Happen!**, by Don Kirkland. Don will give an overview of the Utilities and show what is done in the course of a year.
- **September 3: Sinkholes in Kansas**, by Rex Buchanan. Discover why sinkholes occur in Kansas.

## Meetings & Events

Visitors are welcome to attend any of the following public meetings held each month at the WATER Center.

### July

- 2nd **District III Advisory Board**  
6:30-9:30 PM
- 7th **Wichita Area Paddlers**  
6:30-9:00 PM
- 14th **Arkansas River Coalition**  
7:00 PM

### August

- 4th **Wichita Area Paddlers**  
6:30-9:00 PM
- 6th **District III Advisory Board**  
6:30-9:30 PM

### September

- 3rd **District III Advisory Board**  
6:30-9:30 PM
- 8th **Wichita Area Paddlers**  
6:30-9:00 PM
- 14th **Arkansas River Coalition**  
7:00 PM

## FISH FEEDINGS

Every Monday and Friday  
3:00 PM

Open 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on  
Mondays, Wednesdays  
& Fridays  
Closed Holidays

**The WATER Center**  
**101 E. Pawnee**  
**is located in**  
**Herman Hill Park**

Open daily sunrise to sunset  
18-hole disc golf course  
Accessible trails  
Playground equipment  
Picnic areas

**Skateboarding, swimming and fishing  
are prohibited**



101 E. Pawnee  
Wichita, KS 67211

Phone: 316-337-9262  
Fax: 316-268-8960  
www.wichita.gov

# Summer Programs



**Droplets** 0-6 years old

**FISH TALES** **FREE**  
**Second Tuesdays of every month**  
**10:00 AM**

**No registration needed**  
 Join the WATER Center staff for story time and a nature surprise! This program is designed for Pre-K aged children, but all are welcome to attend.

**July 8**  
Little Beaver and the Echo by Amy MacDonald  
 Activity: Make a track print of a critter from today's story.

**August 12**  
Trout, Trout, Trout by April Pulley Sayre  
 Activity: make a fish print using the Japanese technique called "gyotaku."

**Minnows** 6-8 years old

**CREEK PEEKIN'** **Fee: \$5.00**  
**Thursday, June 19th, 10-11 AM** *Pre-registration required—Class limit 10*

Strange creatures lurk under the surface of the water. What lives under a rock? A leaf? A log? We'll build a pond scope to peek into the creek. Please wear old clothing and shoes that can get wet.

**STREAM SENSE** **Fee: \$5.00**

**Tuesday, July 22nd, 2-3 PM or Thursday, August 7th, 2-3 PM**  
*Pre-registration required—Class limit 15*  
 What do your nose and ears tell you about a stream? Discover the sounds, textures and smells of the creek at the WATER Center. Make a Sensory Journal of your experience. Please wear old clothing and shoes that can get wet.

**COLORS OF NATURE** **Fee: \$3.00**

**Thursday, July 10th, 2-3 PM or Tuesday, August 5th, 10-11 AM**  
*Pre-registration required—Class limit 15*  
 How many colors can you find in the park? Enough to color a picture? We'll collect several items—even mud—to color in a special piece of artwork for you to take home. Please wear old clothing and shoes that can get wet.

**Water Rangers** 9-12 years old

The *Water Rangers* program introduces youth to many aspects of the WATER Center—nature, art, pollution prevention, and community service. All participants in the *Water Rangers* program will receive a nature journal at the first *Water Rangers* program they attend.

**SANDBAR SLEUTH** **Fee \$5.00**  
**Thursday, July 24th, 10-11:30 AM**  
*Pre-registration required—Class limit 10*

The history of the river can be read in items on a sandbar. We will explore the sandbars adjacent to Herman Hill Park. (This program will be cancelled if the water level is too high.)

**NATURE JOURNALING** **Fee \$5.00**  
**Tuesday, July 29th, 10-11 AM**  
*Pre-registration required—Class limit 15*

Use your Water Ranger Journal to record the sights, smells, and sounds of nature.

**RIVER RESCUERS** **Fee \$3.00**  
**Thursday, July 31st, 10-11 AM**  
*Pre-registration required—Class limit 10*

Can you make a difference? We'll look at the river bank and see what we can do to help clean it up.

**FILTER IT!** **Fee \$5.00**  
**Friday, August 8th, 10-11 AM**  
*Pre-registration required—Class limit 15*

We'll pollute some tap water with soil, oil, and other things—can you build a water filter to clean it up?

**Aquatic Interns** 13-18 years old

The *Aquatic Intern Program* provides teenagers with real-life experience working with WATER Center Staff. Interns will learn about the care of the museum displays and aquariums, management of the park amenities, and development of publications.


Participants in the *Aquatic Intern Programs* will receive one journal and bag for use throughout the *Aquatic Intern* series of programs.

**DISPLAY IT!** **Fee \$10.00**  
**Thursday, July 3rd, 10 AM-12 PM**  
*Pre-registration required—Class limit 6*

Make your own mark on the WATER Center—help build a display or design a bulletin board for all the visitors to see.

**AQUARIUM BIOLOGY** **Fee \$10.00**  
**Thursday, August 7th, 10 AM-12 PM**  
*Pre-registration required—Class limit 6*

What does it take to keep the WATER Center's aquarium creatures healthy? We will work with the aquariums—including collecting food and feeding the animals.

 **PROGRAM REGISTRATION**  
**Registration Will Close**  
**3 Days Before the Program Date**

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 If Under 18, what age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**I PLAN TO ATTEND**

<b>Minnow Programs:</b>		
___ July 10	Colors of Nature	\$ 3
___ July 15	Creek Peekin'	\$ 5
___ July 22	Stream Sense	\$ 5
___ August 5	Colors of Nature	\$ 3
___ August 7	Stream Sense	\$ 5
<b>Water Ranger Programs:</b>		
___ July 24	Sandbar Sleuth	\$ 5
___ July 29	Nature Journaling	\$ 5
___ July 31	River Rescuers	\$ 3
___ August 8	Filter It!	\$ 5
<b>Aquatic Intern Programs:</b>		
___ July 3	Display It!	\$ 10
___ August 7	Aquarium Biology	\$ 10

Program Fee Totals \_\_\_\_\_  
 Make check payable to the WATER Center.  
**Mail Registration and Fees to:**  
**PROGRAMS, WATER Center,**  
**101 E. Pawnee, Wichita, KS 67211**