

H₂O Observations

January—March 2008

Volume 3, Issue 1

A Quarterly Publication of the WATER Center

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

A Vision for Learning

The City of Wichita, overseen by the Kansas Department of Health & Environment, began work on the Gilbert-Mosley groundwater pollution site in the early 1990's.

Thank You!

The WATER Center's exhibits are funded through grants, donations and special funds.

Thank you to the Forrest C. Lattner Foundation for its 2008 donation of \$5000 to support the WATER Center's vision for water education.

In 1994, the KDHE issued a Corrective Action Decision stating: "A public education program should be initiated to discourage the use of groundwater contaminated above the Maximum Contaminant Levels within the Gilbert-Mosley Site."

...and the WATER Center was born.

Today visitors can tour the groundwater clean-up facility, view the aquariums, hike the nature trail, and even check out an "adventure pack" during their visit.

In the future, over a dozen water learning exhibits will fill the WATER Center's hands-on museum. Four have already been installed!

Programs for January—March

Fish Tales

Ages 2-6, Free
Second Tuesdays—10:00 AM

- January 8
- February 12
- March 11

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.

Youth Volunteer Days

Ages 8-15, Free
Pre-registration Required:
Call 337-9262 to register

- January 17th: 2-4 PM
- February 15th: 2-4 PM
- March 20th: 2-4 PM
- March 21st : 2-4 PM

Youth volunteers should wear clothes that can get dirty!

Wichita Garden Show

Show Dates:
March 5 through 9, 2008
Century II

The Show Theme is
"Green Living For Life"
For times and admission fees see
www.wichitagardenshow.com

Wednesday, March 5th
Kid's Night – Kids Get In FREE
Ages 3 through 15
See our presentation at 5 PM:
Backyard Safari

Meetings & Events

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

January

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

February

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

March

- 3rd **Wichita Area Paddlers**
6:30-9:00 PM
- 5th **District III Advisory Board**
6:30-9:30 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

Senior Wednesdays

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

- January 2: **Bald Eagles: A National Success Story**, by Ken Lockwood. Find out more about this majestic group of birds that returns to the Wichita area each winter.
- February 6: **The Mammoth Site**, DVD Presentation
- March 5: **Seasons in the Sun**, by David Neff (a Senior Wed. Participant!) Shadows from the trees cast patterns in the snow, The beaver dams the stream, A turtle on a log, Water lilies in the spring, Cattails by the bridge, Summer damselflies zing. Rustic colors in the fall, The soaring raptor's scream, A picturesque presentation of the habitat on the Arkansas.

The WATER Center

Field Trips

Teachers! Looking for a new destination that will also meet State Standards and Indicators? Try the WATER Center!

Our field trips incorporate:

- Science as Inquiry
- Investigative learning
- Life Science
- History and Nature of Science
- Science in Personal and Environmental Perspectives

Customize your field trip to include activities that meet your classroom goals. Some options include:

- Tour of the remediation plant
- Water sampling of the creek and river
- Macro-invertebrate investigation
- Build a watershed
- Conservation activities
- Journey through the water cycle

Call today to book your trip!



WATER CENTER

101 E. Pawnee
Wichita, KS 67211

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www.wichita.gov

«FirstName» «LastName»
«St#» «Dir» «Street» «Ste»
«City», «State» «Zip»

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Spring Break Events

March 17-21, 2008

Pre-Registration Required

BUILD A FISH

Monday, March 17th, 10-11 AM
Grades: K-2, Fee: \$2.00

Learn about fish anatomy as we recycle some common household items to create some colorful fish.

MUD MASTERPIECES

Tuesday, March 18th, 2-4 PM
Grades: 4-12, Fee: \$4.00

Soil is a rainbow of colors. We will explore why and create a painting on canvas using Kansas' mud.

WATER CSI

Wednesday, March 19th
3:00—5:00 PM

Ages 8-15, \$4.00

Investigate a "water crime scene" to solve the mystery in an imaginary community.

YOUTH VOLUNTEER DAYS

Thursday, March 20th &
Friday, March 21st

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Ages 8-15, Free

Help the museum staff with WATER Center projects. Wear clothes that can get muddy.



PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Registration Will Close
5 Days Before the Program Date

Participant Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: Day: _____
Evening: _____
E-mail: _____
If Under 18, what age: _____
Parent/Leader Name: _____

I PLAN TO ATTEND:

<input type="checkbox"/>	March 17	Build a Fish	\$ 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	March 18	Mud Master	\$ 4
<input type="checkbox"/>	March 19	Water CSI	\$ 4
<input type="checkbox"/>	March 20	YVD	Free
<input type="checkbox"/>	March 20	YVD	Free

Program Fee Totals _____
Make check payable to the WATER Center. Mail Registration and Fees to:

**PROGRAMS, WATER Center,
101 E. Pawnee, Wichita, KS 67211**