

From the Tap: The Safe Drinking Water Foundation Newsletter

#1-912 Idylwyld Dr. N Saskatoon, SK S7L 0Z6 Canada Ph:306-934-0389
info@safewater.org www.safewater.org

From the Executive Director's Desk...

I really hope that everyone who is reading this is feeling healthy and is physically distancing!

We are living in unprecedented times; we are living in times that students will study hundreds of years from now, and we want them to learn that we were people who cared for each other.



Speaking of studying... this outbreak makes me realize how important our work is in schools. We all must educate students about science and medicine. The students of today will be the doctors and the scientific researchers of tomorrow. However, even more than that, having an educated population stops nonsense disinformation, half-truths, and conspiracy theories from spreading. These damage society in a variety of ways, including people performing medical treatments on themselves that are often unproven and dangerous, and people not socially distancing appropriately.

It is important to question sources of information; to find and read reliable, peer-reviewed research papers; to not spread disinformation; and to ask others to stop spreading disinformation.

Our educational programs, events, and presentations encourage students to learn important scientific information, to perform their own hands-on experiments, and to question what they hear.

We are working from home; please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about our educational programs or other resources or if you would like us to give an online presentation to your students.

Take care!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicole M. Hancock".

Nicole M. Hancock

Thank You So Much Pembina!

Pembina donated \$26,180 for sponsored kits to be sent to schools in Alberta that were on the waiting list for sponsored kits and are located in areas where Pembina operates.

Calgary-based Pembina Pipeline Corporation is a leading transportation and midstream service provider that has been serving North America's energy industry for 65 years. Communities throughout their operations put their trust in Pembina and permit them to operate in their backyards. Through their community investment program, Pembina honours this relationship and gives back to the communities where they live, work and play. Giving back to the community is one of Pembina's fundamental values.



Thank You So Much to The W. Garfield Weston Foundation!

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation donated \$20,000 for sponsored kits to be sent to schools across Canada and for us to hold our next Student Action on Canadian Water Attitudes Competition. The competition was scheduled to take place this spring but, due to the pandemic, we have had to postpone it to at least the fall.

The Foundation was first established in the 1950s with a donation of shares from the family company, George Weston Limited. Today this business has grown into Canada's largest private sector employer with over 200,000 employees and a group of food retailing and baking companies including the Real Canadian Superstore, Loblaw Companies and Shoppers Drug Mart. Thank you so much The W. Garfield Weston Foundation!

THE W. GARFIELD WESTON

 F O U N D A T I O N 

Thank You So Much Mosaic!

Mosaic has provided us with a grant of \$20,000 and is still committed to providing us with another \$20,000 in 2021! All of this funding will be used to send water testing kits to Saskatchewan schools – making Saskatchewan schools the luckiest schools in the country!

About Mosaic:

As the world's leading producer and marketer of concentrated phosphate and potash, Mosaic's mission is to help grow the food the world needs. We understand that the sustainability of our business and our communities are indelibly linked. Our communities are also our home – where we live, work and raise children. Mosaic strives to be a thoughtful and engaged neighbor who invests carefully and generously and seeks partnerships with organizations that are making a difference. That is why we support Safe Drinking Water Foundation.



Join Our Facebook Group, Like Our Facebook Page, Follow Us On Twitter, and Subscribe to Our Channel on YouTube!

We have been sharing many educational resources via our Facebook Group and our Facebook Page for students who are learning from home!

Visit: www.facebook.com/groups/safedrinkingwaterfoundation/ to join our group on Facebook!

Visit: www.facebook.com/safedrinkingwaterfoundation/ to like our Facebook Page!

Follow us on Twitter [@SafeDrinkingWa1](https://twitter.com/SafeDrinkingWa1)!

Subscribe to our channel on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/c/SafeDrinkingWaterFoundation

If You Have At-Home Students Why Don't You...

Have them watch our World Rivers Day webinar recording (www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUMnjUsofOc) and then use the Teacher Resource that was developed to accompany it (www.safewater.org/s/Live-Learning-World-Rivers-Day-Teacher-Resource.pdf)?

2020 WaterToday Scholarship Challenge!

This challenge is for students ages 15-35. The theme for 2020 is Bottled Water – Solving the Problems (www.watertoday.ca/ts-wt-evolution-scholarship-challenge-report.asp). One Grand Prize Winner will win a scholarship of \$25,000 and two Runners-up will receive a scholarship of \$5,000 each. The submission deadline is June 15, 2020.

Stuck At Home? You Might Want to Watch...

On Netflix:

There's Something in the Water - This documentary spotlights the struggle of minority communities in Nova Scotia as they fight officials over the lethal effects of industrial waste. Then, why don't you read the news article we shared about Ellen Page buying a well for Shelburne? (www.safewater.org/news/2020/2/11/ellen-page-digs-deeper-to-buy-a-well-for-shelburne)

Waterschool - Six young women, who each live near one of Earth's major rivers, share how the waterschool environmental education program has impacted their lives.

The Devil We Know – This documentary details DuPont's alleged decades-long cover-up of the potential harm caused (including the pollution of the public water supply of more than 70,000 people) by chemicals used to make popular Teflon products.

NOVA: Poisoned Water – This documentary details how the water disaster in Flint, Michigan happened, its lasting effects, and the lengthy efforts it took to correct it.

On CBC Gem:

Watermark – A documentary on how water shapes humanity (<https://gem.cbc.ca/media/films/watermark/38e815a-010cd7fe762>)

The Nature of Things: Chasing Snowflakes - Snowflakes have a huge impact on our world but we actually don't know much about snow. Scientists are working to change that as they look inside avalanches and snowstorms. (<https://gem.cbc.ca/media/the-nature-of-things/season-54/episode-6/38e815a-009189f9a4d>)

CBC DOCS POV: The Mill - Indigenous and non-Indigenous fishers say "No Pipe;" the pulp mill says "No Pipe, No Mill." Now a 50-year environmental controversy has come to a boiling point in Pictou County, Nova Scotia. Then, why don't you read the most recent news article we shared about the mill? (www.safewater.org/news/2020/2/3/a-mikmaq-communitys-fears-of-toxic-water-recede-as-northern-pulp-mill-winds-down)

State of Drinking Water Quality in Canada

According to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1506514143353/1533317130660) as of February 15, 2020 there were 61 long-term (meaning the advisory has been in place for more than a year) drinking water advisories in effect in First Nations communities. In addition, according to Health Canada (www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1562856509704/1562856530304) as of April 19, 2020, there were 22 short-term Drinking Water Advisories in place in First Nations communities. These numbers include public water systems financially supported by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) but not systems in British Columbia, in the territories, and within the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

Obviously, a large part of the federal government's focus has shifted to the pandemic. Minister of Indigenous Services, Marc Miller, said that it is unclear how COVID-19 will affect the March 2021 deadline to lift long-term boil water advisories in First Nations communities.

(www.cbc.ca/news/politics/stefanovich-miller-indigenous-funding-update-covid19-1.5505025)

Unfortunately, the conditions present in many First Nations communities in terms of lack of access to safe drinking water, the housing situation, and other issues, are making it difficult for the communities to fight COVID-19.

In total, across Canada, according to watertoday.ca (www.watertoday.ca) as of April 20, 2020 there were 676 Boil Water Advisories and 38 Do Not Consume Orders.

Sign Up to Receive Drinking Water Quality News from Safe Drinking Water Team (SDWT)

SDWT emails information about drinking water quality issues and solutions once a month. To receive this valuable information please visit www.safedrinkingwaterteam.org and enter your name and email address at the bottom of the homepage to subscribe to their mailing list or send an email with the subject "Subscribe" to safedrinkingwaterteam@gmail.com.

Do You Hear Those Kids Yelling that They're Bored Again?

Here are some more resources to keep them busy...

Here is a list of ideas of activities related to water: www.watertoday.ca/ts-teachers-hub-k-12.asp

Have them calculate how much water is being used in their home and how they might use less: www.cbc.ca/pei/features/watercalculator/

If they are between the ages of six and eleven, make sure they don't miss the opportunity to participate in Planet Protector Academy's *H2Whoa!* program from home April 27-30. Find more information here:

<https://planetprotectoracademy.com/for/parents-he/>



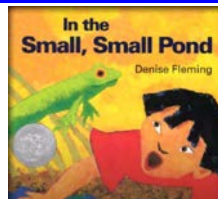
Get them some great story books about water (maybe your library has an app where you can download eBooks?):

Rachel Carson: Preserving a Sense of Wonder by Thomas Locker and Joseph Bruchac

The Water Hole by Graeme Base

I Am Water by Jean Marzollo

In the Small, Small Pond by Denise Fleming (children can watch this book be read here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiAG62sE5eo)



We Participated in the USask Graduate Student Work-Study Partnership




We were fortunate to be chosen as one of the participant organizations in the pilot of the USask Graduate Student Work-Study Partnership. A Master's student worked part-time for our charity for eight weeks and she succeeded in updating the curriculum connections for our Operation Water Drop, Operation Water Pollution, Operation Water Biology, Operation Water Health, Operation Water Flow, and Operation Community Water Footprint programs!

Help Us to Come Back from this Stronger – We Need to Educate Students About Science!

You can make it possible for us to educate the doctors, nurses, and scientific researchers of today and tomorrow through hands-on science activities by making a donation. Donors can choose to make one-time, monthly or annual donations. If organizations donate \$1,000 or more they will receive recognition in SDWF's quarterly newsletters twice, and if they donate \$10,000 or more they will also receive recognition on SDWF's website for one year (the SDWF website receives over 542,000 unique visitors per year) and their logo will include a hyperlink to their website. All donors are also thanked on our Facebook page and in our Facebook group. For more information, please visit: www.safewater.org/donate

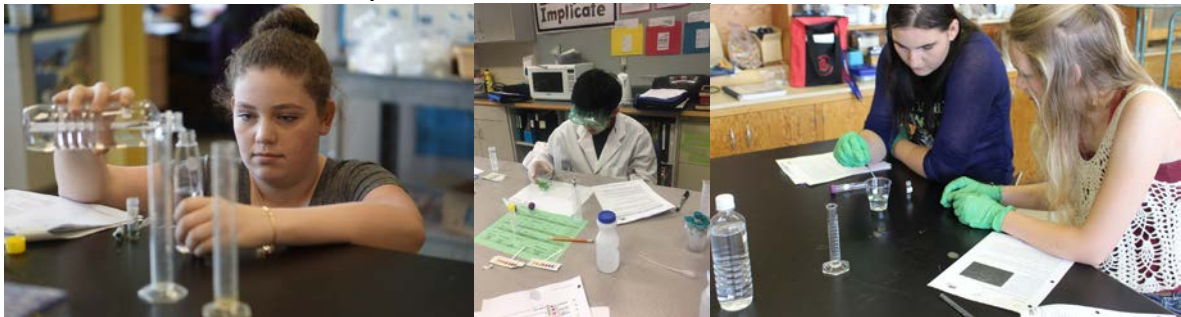
Thanks to everyone who has made a donation!

Donations can be made:

-  On our website (www.safewater.org/donate)
-  By phoning us at 1-306-934-0389 with your Visa or MasterCard information.
-  By mailing a cheque payable to Safe Drinking Water Foundation to #1-912 Idylwyld Drive North, Saskatoon, SK S7L 0Z6.

Receipts for income tax purposes are issued for all donations of \$20 or more. We also gratefully accept and acknowledge legacy gifts.

If you have any questions or would like to simply phone us and make a donation with a Visa or MasterCard please do not hesitate to call us at 1-306-934-0389. Thank you!



Contact us:



info@safewater.org

OR



(306) 934-0389