

From the Tap: The Safe Drinking Water Foundation Newsletter

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From the Executive Director's Desk...

It has been a very busy start to the 2018-2019 school year! We are excited to launch the Student Action on Saskatchewan Water Attitudes Competition! We are also very happy that hundreds of water testing kits are being sent to schools this fall (usually spring is our busy kit season). It already looks like we are going to easily surpass our goal of sending 700 sponsored kits to schools across Canada and educating 30,000 Canadian students in a hands-on manner!



Hundreds of teachers have requested sponsored kits.

Teachers have also been entering their students' Operation Water Drop test results into our Operation Water Drop Test Results Submission Website and evaluating our educational programs – we greatly appreciate it when teachers take these further steps after using our kits in their classrooms!

I am looking forward to travelling to Regina to meet with representatives of Affinity Credit Union and assist students at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate to use our water testing kits. From there, I will travel to Moose Jaw and help two francophone teachers to use our French water testing kits with their students, at École St. Margaret and École Ducharme. Then, a couple of weeks after that, I will be travelling to La Ronge to present at the Northern Saskatchewan Student Eco-Conference at Churchill Community High School!

If you are a teacher in or near Saskatoon, please feel free to contact me to request that I visit your classroom and help your students to use the water testing kits and/or give a presentation. If you are a teacher who is farther away, please feel free to contact me to request that I use technology (Skype, Google Hangouts, webinar) to give a presentation to your students.

I hope that the school year is going well for you so far and that you are settling into the routine of it all!

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

Nicole M. Hancock

Thank You So Much to RBC!

RBC has provided us with \$13,000 to make it possible for us to hold the Student Action on Saskatchewan Water Attitudes Competition.

This competition is open to all schools in Saskatchewan and will have two categories: Kindergarten to grade 8 and grade 9 to grade 12. The winning school from each category will receive a prize worth \$3,000. This will include a commemorative plaque, at least one water bottle filling station, and (if there are funds remaining) reusable water bottles and/or SDWF water testing kits.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.safewater.org/student-action-competition/>

Thank you RBC!



Thank You to Affinity Credit Union

The South District of Affinity Credit Union provided us with \$3,000 to send sponsored water testing kits to schools in their area and the North East District provided us with \$170 to send one sponsored water testing kit to a school in their area. Thank you Affinity Credit Union!



Thank You to Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation

Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation has provided us with \$3,145 to send sponsored water testing kits to schools in their catchment area. Thank you Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation!



Thank You to S. M. Blair Family Foundation

S. M. Blair Family Foundation provided us with \$3,000 to support the redevelopment of our Operation Water Spirit program. Thank you S. M. Blair Family Foundation!

We Are Launching the Student Action on Saskatchewan Water Attitudes Competition!

We are excited to be holding a Student Action on Saskatchewan Water Attitudes Competition this school year! This competition is open to all Saskatchewan schools.

This year's competition will have two categories: Kindergarten to grade 8 and grade 9 to grade 12. This competition will require that students investigate water issues in their community including surveying their community to get an understanding of knowledge and attitudes on a topic related to water. They will learn about the source of their drinking water, teach others about the source of their drinking water, conserve water, and encourage others to conserve water.

The winning schools from each category will receive a prize package worth \$3,000. Each prize package includes a commemorative plaque, one water bottle filling station, and (if there are funds remaining) reusable water bottles and/or SDWF water testing kits.

Visit <https://www.safewater.org/student-action-competition/> to learn more about the competition and/or to sign up today!

We Had a Summer Student, and Now She's Our Assistant!

This summer, we were very happy to receive funding from the federal government through the Canada Summer Jobs program and welcome a summer student, Ashleigh Arcand, into our office for eight weeks. Now, she is continuing to work with us on a part-time basis as the Education Programs Assistant. She is a student at the University of Saskatchewan working towards earning her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. She has helped with keeping the links on our website updated, with writing fact sheets, and with various other office duties. She will also be involved in running the Student Action on Saskatchewan Water Attitudes Competition.



There is Not Much Time Left to Take Us Up On Our Offer!

2018 is SDWF's 20th anniversary year! We still have the offer of one sponsored High School Operation Water Drop kit or two sponsored Elementary Operation Water Drop kits available for any school that sends us 10 pieces of artwork (paintings, drawings, photographs, etc.) related to water that their students created. The teacher will also need to send us completed Release Forms, so please contact us if you are interested in this opportunity and we will email you the form.

This offer will end on December 31, 2018 – as we will then be entering our 21st year!

New On Our Website

We added two new fact sheets to our website over the summer along with their French translations. One is titled Solar Water Distillation and the other is titled Water Temperature. Solar water distillation is the process of using energy from the sun to separate freshwater from salts or other contaminants. The Water Temperature fact sheet provides information about how water temperature affects the water treatment process and the effects that climate change has on water temperature. You can find these new fact sheets here:

Solar Water Distillation fact sheet - <https://www.safewater.org/fact-sheets-1/2016/12/8/solar-water-distillation>

Feuille des faits Distillation de l'eau solaire - <https://www.safewater.org/french-fact-sheets/2018/8/21/distillation-de-leau-solaire>

Water Temperature Fact Sheet - <https://www.safewater.org/fact-sheets-1/2018/8/15/water-temperature-fact-sheet>

Feuille des faits La température de l'eau - <https://www.safewater.org/french-fact-sheets/2017/2/9/la-temperature-de-leau>

We also expanded and updated the Pesticides and Water Pollution fact sheet. You can find it here:

Pesticides and Water Pollution fact sheet - <https://www.safewater.org/fact-sheets-1/2017/1/23/pesticides>

Feuille des faits Les pesticides et la pollution de l'eau - <https://www.safewater.org/french-fact-sheets/2017/2/18/pesticides-pollution-eau>

Have You Created Resources to Expand On Our Educational Programs?

If you are a teacher who has created resources to use in your classroom when you teach any of the SDWF programs, please send them to us at info@safewater.org so we can share them on our website. We will send you a token of our appreciation.

Reminder to Teachers: Please Don't Forget to Submit Your Students' Results to the Operation Water Drop Test Results Submission Website!

Please submit your students' Operation Water Drop (OWD) test results! Not only will you be involving your students in citizen science, but you will also receive a token of our appreciation! If you have used one or more OWD kits with your students, please go to <https://testresults.safewater.org> in order to enter their results. If you have lost your code(s) click on the Lost your code? link, enter your e-mail address, and your code(s) will be e-mailed to you.

If you received a sponsored kit thanks to Lush, then you agreed to submit your students' OWD results after having used the kit; this was a condition of receiving a sponsored kit thanks to this funding.

The screenshot shows the SDWF Operation Water Drop Test Results Submission Website. At the top, there is a header with the SDWF logo and the text 'Operation Water Drop Test Results SUBMISSION WEBSITE'. Below this, there is a 'Welcome to Safe Drinking Water Foundation's Water Test Results Submission Website' section. To the right, there is a 'Already submitted your results? Interested in seeing them?' section with a 'VIEW RESULTS MAP' button. The main content area is titled 'Submit your results' and features a large '1' in a circle, indicating the first step. Below this, there is a text input field labeled 'Enter your code' and a 'Next >>' button. At the bottom, there is a 'FAQs | Contact Us' link and a copyright notice for 2013 Safe Drinking Water Foundation.

Request Sponsored Kits for This School Year!

Teachers, it only takes about three minutes to request sponsored kits for your students for this school year! The sooner you request sponsored kits, the greater your chance of receiving sponsored kits if your school fits the criteria of one of our funders. We currently have sponsored Operation Water Drop kits available for rural and First Nations schools across the country, provided the teacher agrees to enter his or her students' results into the Operation Water Drop Test Results Submission Website. We also currently have sponsored kits (all three types) available for First Nations schools across Canada, and sponsored kits (all three types) available for First Nations and rural high schools in Manitoba, so make sure you get your name on the waiting list ASAP! Even if your school does not meet any of the criteria of schools for which we currently have sponsored kits available, it is still a very good idea to request sponsored kits as early as possible!

Please visit www.safewater.org/sponsored-kit-request-form to request sponsored kits today!

Purchase Hands-On Water Testing Kits to Engage Your Students in Active Learning!

Do you need a water testing kit right now? Purchase a kit rather than waiting for a sponsored kit (which there is no guarantee you will receive) and you will receive it quite quickly.

Purchasing a kit is the only way to guarantee receiving a kit. An Elementary Operation Water Drop kit can be used with an entire classroom of eager learners and only costs \$85. High School Operation Water Drop kits cost \$170 each. An Operation Water Pollution kit costs \$170 and is guaranteed to be reusable for at least two years – so all of the students in your school can use it! Operation Water Biology kits cost \$170 each.

To purchase kits:

- 💧 Phone us at 1-306-934-0389 and provide us with your Visa or MasterCard information.
- 💧 Or purchase kits on our website (www.safewater.org/order-kits)
- 💧 Or mail a cheque payable to Safe Drinking Water Foundation to #1-912 Idylwyld Drive North, Saskatoon, SK S7L 0Z6. We accept purchase orders too.

Join Our Facebook Group!

Join us on Facebook to hear all of our news as it happens! Along with our news and water news, we also post Water Facts of the Week on Mondays, Talk Back Tuesdays (feedback about our educational programs), Watch It Wednesdays (videos about anything related to water), Thank You Thursdays, and Funny Fridays!

Visit: www.facebook.com/groups/safedrinkingwaterfoundation/

We Hope You Had a Great World Rivers Day!

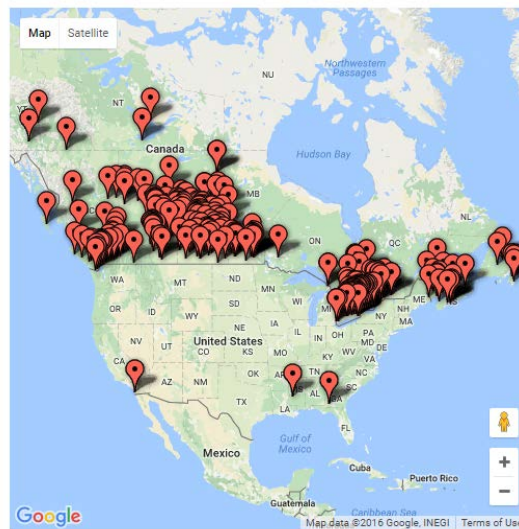
World Rivers Day was on Sunday, September 30. We hope that you had a great one!



As Little as \$85 Can Put Authentic Water Testing Materials in the Hands of 30 Elementary Students in Your Community!

There are hundreds of Canadian schools on the waiting list for sponsored kits - we are certain that at least one of the schools is near you! You can make it possible for a classroom of students to learn about water quality issues and solutions, be supported and encouraged in sharing knowledge with others and in taking action to alleviate drinking water quality issues, to participate in citizen science, and to test the water they drink every day, for as little as \$85.

Please phone us at 1-306-934-0389 to find out more about how you can sponsor a kit for a school near you, or visit our homepage (www.safewater.org) where you will find an interactive map of all of the Canadian schools that are waiting for sponsored kits. Click on the school for which you would like to buy a kit and use our easy, online system to sponsor a kit for that school! You can make a difference in the lives of students!



State of Drinking Water Quality in Canada

According to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (<http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1506514143353/1506514230742>) as of September 18, 2018 there were 70 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 (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/topics/health-environment/water-quality-health/drinking-water/advisories-first-nations-south-60.html>) as of September 27, 2018, there were 38 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 and within the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

In total, across Canada, according to watertoday.ca (<http://www.watertoday.ca>) as of September 28, 2018 there were 1,251 Boil Water Advisories and 52 Do Not Consume Orders.

Sign Up to Receive Drinking Water Quality News from Safe Drinking Water Team

The goal of Safe Drinking Water Team is safe drinking water from every tap. Safe Drinking Water Team (SDWT) is a group of First Nations water treatment plant operators and scientific advisors who help other First Nations water treatment plant operators and rural water treatment plant operators with their water treatment challenges. SDWT also promotes the best available technology for water treatment and advocates for stricter guidelines and regulations for drinking water.

SDWT sends out information about drinking water quality issues and solutions in First Nations and rural communities approximately once a month. To receive this valuable information please visit <https://www.safedrinkingwaterteam.org> and enter your name and e-mail address at the bottom of the homepage to subscribe to their mailing list or send an e-mail with the subject "Subscribe" to safedrinkingwaterteam@gmail.com.

**Please Do One of the Smartest Things You Can Do to Improve the
Drinking Water Quality Situation in Canada: Donate to Safe Drinking
Water Foundation**

You can make it possible for us to educate the leaders of tomorrow about drinking water quality issues and solutions 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 currently receives over 327,000 unique visitors per year and is on track to receive over 426,000 unique visitors next year) and their logo will include a hyperlink to their website. 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. 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