

WATER ROCKS! SUMMIT

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Iowa State University Alumni Center
420 Beach Ave., Ames, IA



Wednesday, June 21

1:00pm Registration

1:15pm Pre-Assessments
Participant Introductions
Water Rocks! Program Overview
Course Requirements

1:45pm We All Live in a Watershed
Dive in to the water cycle, watersheds, and water quality with this highly interactive module -- fun for all ages! We all live in a watershed and play an important role there ... how are shared water resources impacted by the cumulative effect of everyone's choices?

2:30pm Water Quality, Soil Health, and Nutrient Transport: An Iowa Perspective
Iowa is one of the most productive landscapes in the world, but we also face numerous water quality challenges. How do different land management choices impact where water is moving, soil erosion, nutrient transport, and other water quality issues? What is the contribution of urban and agricultural landscapes? Dr. Matt Helmers helps us put it in perspective, taking a step back and seeing that we're all in this together.

3:15pm Break

3:30pm Is the World's Climate Really Warming?
Guest speaker Dr. Cinzia Cervato will offer perspectives on the science of climate change and discuss strategies for effectively teaching this topic to students of various age groups.

4:30pm Break

This cooperative project has been funded in part through the Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. Partners of Water Rocks! include: Iowa Department of Natural Resources (United States Environmental Protection Agency), Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Iowa Water Center, Iowa Learning Farms, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, and personal gifts of support.

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- 4:45pm **Breakout Sessions**
Geocaching 101: Join the Treasure Hunt
Pond Study: Diving in to the World of Macroinvertebrates
Rhythm, Rhyme, & Rap
Water Quality Resources for Middle School/High School Teachers
- 5:45pm **Dinner**
- 6:30pm **The Making of a T-Shirt**
Dr. Jacqueline Comito offers perspectives on big picture environmental and social justice issues by following the path of a t-shirt through its complete life cycle.
- 7:00pm **The Wonderful World of Wetlands**
Explore the wonderful world of wetlands and the importance of these vibrant ecosystems and the biodiversity they support! Students are transported to a wetland through audio and visual means, and interactive activities of Habitat Hopscotch and Wetlands BINGO are woven throughout.
- 7:45pm **Teaming Time**
- 8:15pm **Sneak Preview of Water Rocks! School Assembly Program!**
- 9:00pm **Day 1 adjourns**

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Thursday, June 22

8:00am Breakfast

8:30am Bees, Bats, & Bobwhites: Wildlife Conservation on Working Lands
Guest speaker Dr. Adam Janke will offer perspectives on timely wildlife issues in Iowa, discussing a variety of ways to integrate conservation practices on working lands across our state!

9:15am Biodiversity Bonanza
Learn about the importance of biodiversity, niches within ecosystems, the ecological food chain, trophic levels (who's eating who!), and more in this highly interactive unit. Get ready to test your skills in competitive games of Biodiversity JENGA and Creature Cache!

10:00am Break

10:15am Dig Into Soil
What is the importance of Iowa's soil? It's our #1 natural resource, but also the #1 pollutant to Iowa's waters due to erosion. How is soil formed? How do different land management choices impact where water is moving, soil erosion, and water quality? Why is soil so important to us? Regardless if they live in town or out in the country, this module will help students connect with the importance of soil in their everyday lives!

11:00am Rock Your Watershed! Game
Try your hand at the award-winning "Rock Your Watershed!" game, and discover its potential for classroom use with various age groups. The goal is to earn a high score by balancing productivity and environmental impacts, based on land management choices on 10 parcels of land within a watershed. However, precipitation is variable, just like in real life!

11:30am What's In The Kit?/WR! Kit Distribution
Teaming Time
Post-Assessments

12:00pm Lunch

1:00pm Field Tour of Conservation Practices
Participants will experience a guided tour of a saturated buffer, wetlands, and discussion of water quality monitoring equipment and techniques. Field tour is required for those seeking 1 license renewal credit/ optional for others.