



## Project WET Festivals

For years, Arizona Water Company (AWC) has partnered with Project WET, a cooperative extension of the University of Arizona, to host water festivals. These festivals aim to educate fourth-grade students about groundwater and the importance of water conservation. Alongside Project WET staff, AWC hosts these events for students in Apache Junction, Superior, Miami, Casa Grande, Coolidge, Sierra Vista, Winkelman, and Bisbee.

The water festivals are a collaborative effort involving Project WET, school districts, water utilities, and various other partners. Before the festival, fourth-grade teachers implement a curriculum focused on groundwater and water conservation, allowing students to showcase their new knowledge through engaging activities. Each festival features four unique stations where AWC staff and partners teach students about different aspects of water conservation.

1. **Water Conservation Technology:** This station engages students with hands-on activities demonstrating how technology helps save water.
2. **The Water Cycle:** Students learn about the water cycle through interactive activities.
3. **Groundwater:** Staff demonstrate how water is pumped from the ground and showcase the connection between surface water and groundwater using various models. Students can interact with the models and 'pump' water from the ground, with colored dye added to highlight how pollutants affect groundwater quality.
4. **Watersheds:** This station defines watersheds and explores how water is collected and transferred to communities through dams and pipes using a watershed model.

By the end of the festival, students are happily exhausted from the fun activities and enriched by the knowledge they've gained. Water festivals have become a staple in many of the communities AWC serves, with volunteers often recalling their own experiences as students learning these same lessons years ago. This tradition underscores the long-lasting impact of the festivals in fostering a culture of water conservation throughout the communities served by AWC.

Interested in learning more about what Arizona Water Company does to conserve water? Visit our website [here](http://www.azwater.com/conservation) at [www.azwater.com/conservation](http://www.azwater.com/conservation), or contact us at [savewater@azwater.com](mailto:savewater@azwater.com) to gain insight into the numerous conservation programs that have been launched in collaboration with the communities we serve.



*Casa Grande's Mayor McFarland joining the water festival in 2024.*