



Project WET Virginia

Updates & Inspiration- Summer 2026

Hello, everyone. You are receiving this because you signed up for the Project WET Virginia mailing list. This is an infrequent and casual communication. If you change your mind and don't want to hear from me, let me know. If you have any questions about how to enhance water outreach in your community, don't hesitate to reach out.

Looking for a Class?

We've got about 15 Facilitators throughout Virginia now trained on the new guides. These are the people who offer classes to other educators. While many of them are offering classes for a private audience, more workshops are being offered that are open for public registration. As classes get scheduled, they will be posted on the [Project WET training directory](#). Here are a few coming up that might not be posted yet. Please reach out to Robin Didlake at robin.didlake@riverfriends.org for registration for the ones below.



Project WET (Climate, Water, & Resilience) & Project Learning Tree (Forest, Water, and People)

This dual-curriculum workshop integrates Project WET's Climate, Water, and Resilience and Project Learning Tree's (PLT) Forest, Water, and People. Participants will explore the vital connections between healthy forest ecosystems, water security, and climate adaptation. By the end of the session, you will be equipped with field-tested activities and local data-driven strategies to engage students in meaningful environmental action.

- 6/3/26 Milford, VA
Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR)
- 7/16/26, 9-4, Westmoreland, VA
Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR) and the Northern Neck Soil and Water Conservation District (NNSWCD)

Exploring Trees, Wildlife, and Water with our Youngest Learners

This session brings together the "Early Childhood Trilogy" of environmental education: Project Learning Tree's Trees & Me, Project WILD's Growing Up WILD, and Project WET's Getting Little Feet Wet to ignite a sense of wonder and discovery in children ages 3-7.

- 7/21/2026, 9-4, Warsaw, VA
Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR) and the Northern Neck Soil and Water Conservation District (NNSWCD)

Free Resources- Favorite Lessons

Two of Project WET's most loved lessons are now available *FREE* to download from the store. If you're looking to share your excitement for Project WET lessons with fellow educators, these lessons highlight the hands-on, investigative learning and connection to math and science concepts that you count on for quality instruction. These lessons include everything you would find in a guide: lesson plan, materials list, copy pages, adaptations for grade levels, vocabulary, correlations to standards, links to digital resources, and ideas for "Making it Local" and "Taking it Outside". **Click the image above to go to the FREE store downloads!**





What About the New Guides?

Many of you have a much-loved, old, big, Project WET book on your shelf. Those lessons have been updated and bound into smaller collections with enhanced content and organizational features. Training is required for access to these guides, and we will be ramping up our in-person classes this year.

The *People and Water Guide*, focusing on the urban water cycle, should be out any day now!

WET Academy- Take a Deep Dive or Splash Around?

The WET Academy can be used two different ways.

- If there is a guide you want to explore and nobody is holding a class near you, you can take the online training for \$100. This is a sequential training – each class has about 7 hours of content. You will receive a physical book in the mail and a certificate of completion. Learn more at: <https://store.projectwet.org/collections/online-trainings>.
- If you’ve already taken an in-person training in one of the new guides and want to explore some other lessons that were not demonstrated in your class, I can open a “workshop” version of the online class for you. You will be able to skip around and just review the material you are most interested in seeing. This is a free supplement available to classroom attendees who have had recent instruction in one of the new guides. *There is no cost, but also no certificate.*
- A *Getting Little Feet WET* class will be available in WET Academy soon!



100 More Progress on the Virginia Standards of Learning Correlations

	Activities	K	1	2	3
H2O Olympics		○			
Molecules in Motion		●*		●	●*
Hangin' Together					
What's the Solution?					●
Is There Water on Zork?					
Adventures in Density					
Blue Planet		●	○		

Both the Project WET *Foundations* and *Water in Earth Systems* guides have been mapped to the VASOLs. Some facilitators are also working on correlations for the HS Environmental Standards. For those of you gearing up for summer fun, we’ve included a quick-view chart for identifying table-top and outdoor activities. Learn more on

the Facilitator Resource Page. <https://vaawwa.org/page/resources-project-wet-facilitator-resource-page>

Hey, do you have *Sampler* books to use up?

While the Samplers have been around a long time, they do contain many of the favorite lessons that have since been revised, updated, and enhanced. Though the layout and content pale in comparison to the new guides, this book can still serve as a general introduction to what Project WET has to offer. If you are thinking about doing something with your stash, let me know. I’ve been working on an interactive, virtual workshop featuring this book and I’m happy to share my lesson plans.

Links

- Trying to explain Project WET to someone? Here's the [official video](#).
- Supplement your lessons with free, fun, activities at discoverwater.org.

🍎 Facilitators – 2026 Updates!

You may have noticed some changes on the [Facilitator's Resource Page](#), here are the big ones:

- The Water Educators Learning Library (WELL) has moved to a new platform and is now available for a “lifetime” subscription of \$10. If this is a resource you used and miss, get with me for next steps.
- The Evaluation form has gone ALL DIGITAL. You will now schedule a new class and set up the evaluations for your group using the Workshop Creation Form. Please get with me for a quick training before you schedule your first 2026 class. So far, it has been EASY and GREAT!
- Under the Lesson Planning Tools, the *PWET Virginia Teacher Introduction Slides* have been updated with the changes noted above. Feel free to copy these slides for your own decks as needed.
- I anticipate more action on the SOL mapping in the next few months. If you're looking for something, let me know, there may be a draft I can share.
- I've posted some “Getting Little Feet Wet” resources. If you are interested in working with other people on GLFW, let me know, we may do a study circle that leads to hosting a training. There should also be a WET Academy version this summer.

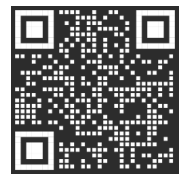
🤖 About Me



My name is Cynthia Barnes and I'm your Project WET State Coordinator. I work for the Virginia Section of the American Water Works Association. VA AWWA is a large and dedicated association of people who make sure you have safe drinking water when you turn on the tap. **My objective is to help you build a strong network of Project WET educators throughout our state.** We want to get kids excited about water careers and we want everyone to understand the value of this resource! **Thank you for the warm welcome at the VAAE Conference!**

👉 Staying Connected

- Find me by email at Cynthia.barnes@vaawwa.org
- Forward this newsletter to any colleagues who might be interested!
- Visit <https://vaawwa.org/page/project-wet-in-virginia> to join the mailing list access other resources.



☀️ What runs, but never walks?

Water!