



High School
Activity Centre Leader

Teacher Information Guide

2015

Thank you for supporting the Peterborough Children's Water Festival!

Thank you for registering your students to fill the exciting role of Activity Centre Leaders at the 2015 Peterborough Children's Water Festival. As Activity Centre Leaders, your students are an integral part of the Festival. With their enthusiasm and effort, they will be the direct link connecting visiting elementary students with important messages about water conservation and protection.

This Teacher Information Guide is designed to:

- Give you an overview of the Festival and its purpose
- Help you and your students get organized for the Festival
- Suggest ways to prepare your students in order to maximize fun and learning

For more information on the Festival, please visit, www.pcwf.net. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact the Coordinator of High School Leaders, at any time. We look forward to working with you and your students at the 2015 Peterborough Children's Water Festival!

Overview of Festival

The Festival's primary objective is to motivate students to become caretakers of water in their homes, classroom and community. Students 'soak up' information on the importance of water through hands-on, interactive activities. With this knowledge, students become aware of the value of conserving and protecting water.

About 800 Grades 2 to 5 students from Peterborough city and county schools attend each day of the Festival. They move through a selection of over 30 Activity Centres during their visit. These Activity Centers provide hands-on activities, discussions, demonstrations, displays, and exhibits that challenge students (and teachers!) to consider the importance of water to human and environmental health, as well as the role of water in economic development.

The Activity Centre themes include:

Water Conservation

- Looking at using water wisely in our homes, schools and communities

Water Attitudes

- Introduction to historical uses of water compared with present uses
- Introduction to current and historical Indigenous peoples relationship with water
- Exploration of common attitudes toward water, and ways to improve these views

Water Technology

- Looking at the role of water in energy production
- Examine how water is treated, stored, and distributed

Water Protection

- Examination of the interdependence of soil, air, water, plants, people and animals

- Consideration given to the positive steps we can take to keep water clean

Water Science

- Introduction to the physical science of surface water and ground water
- Introduction to the hydrological cycle
- Exploration of the role of water quality and quantity to aquatic life

Overall, these themes all convey the message that water is essential to people, to the natural environment, and to the economy – including business, industry, and transportation.

The Festival brings together the expertise of educators, water quality and quantity specialists, community volunteers, conservation groups, industry and government. Your students will be working alongside these professionals to provide the region's elementary students with the opportunity to discover the importance and diversity of water.

Getting Ready for the Festival

Teacher Coordinator

Before Festival:

- Arrange a time for the Coordinator of High School Leaders to visit your class for an Orientation Session. Here, the students will learn how to effectively bring the water messages to the elementary students who visit the festival. Activity Centre Sheets and 'Bring on the Blue' information will be provided
- Help students sign up for Activity Centres on the Sign-Up sheet, and hand in at the Orientation Session or fax/email to the Coordinator prior to the festival
- Complete the Photo Release Form, and hand in at the Orientation Session or fax/email to the Coordinator prior to the festival
- Email any food allergies to the Coordinator before May 1st, so that appropriate meal options can be provided to students
- Encourage and provide students with time to practice delivery of Activity Centre using the Activity Centre Sheets, provided at Orientation, so that they will be able to effectively bring their water message to the students

Day of Festival:

- Have students report to the Registration Tent at 8:00 am to sign-in, meet the team, and collect t-shirt
- Indicate to the Coordinator any students in your group who are not to be photographed or interviewed
- Check-in with students at their centres during morning and afternoon rounds
- Check in with the Activity Centre Coach and High School Leader Coordinator during morning and afternoon rounds
- Have students report to the Registration Tent after cleanup for prizes and festival evaluations

Activity Centre Leaders (students)

Before Festival:

- Participate in Orientation with High School Leader Coordinator
- Read the Activity Sheet provided by the Coordinator at Orientation
- Review key concepts and look up any unfamiliar terms or ideas
- Practice delivery of the activity with your partner(s)
- Think about ways to 'Bring on the BLUE' with energy and enthusiasm

Day of Festival:

- Dress for the weather – Rain or Shine
- Wear closed-toed, comfortable shoes for your safety
- Bring on the BLUE!!! – Wear as much blue clothing and accessories as possible (please note you will be given a Festival t-shirt to wear) - Prizes given for enthusiasm and spirit.
- Bring a reusable water bottle and/or mug – We will have refills! Lunch and nutritious snacks are provided- however, if you are a 'big eater' we do encourage you to bring additional snacks.
- Report to the Registration Tent at 8:00 am to sign-in, meet the team and collect your t-shirt.
- Encourage active participation and safe behavior by all students
- Report to Registration Tent after cleanup for prizes and evaluation

A Day at the Festival for an Activity Centre Leader

8:00am	<i>Report to Registration Tent for sign-in and orientation</i>
8:30am	<i>Set up activity centre and practice delivery with coach</i>
9:00am	<i>Elementary Schools arrive</i>
9:30am – 11:30am	<i>Deliver activity to elementary students</i>
11:30am – Noon	<i>Lunch break at your activity centre</i>
Noon – 2:00pm	<i>Deliver activity to elementary students</i>
2:00pm	<i>Clean up activity centre. Report to Registration Tent for prizes and evaluations</i>

Useful Water-Facts and Websites

General

Water covers 75% of the planet, and also makes up about 75% of a person's body weight. Water is essential for all life on Earth. Without it, nothing lives.

Civilization depends on the availability of clean freshwater – for growing food, drinking, washing, traveling and playing. All cultures and faiths around the world recognize the sanctity of water. Throughout history, water has turned mill wheels, carried ships, provided steam and produced electrical power. Today, water continues to be essential to the health of human beings and the natural environment, as well as our economies.

In Ontario, we enjoy what appears to be a super-abundance of water. The word 'Ontario' is actually from a Haudonasonee (Iroquoian) language and means 'beautiful water' or 'sparkling water'. There are about 250 000 lakes in Ontario, and water covers about one sixth of our province. Nearly 17 per cent of Ontario's land area consists of lakes and rivers, many of which form the province's boundaries, like the Great Lakes and the Ottawa River.

Ontario residents and businesses draw 58% of their water supply from lakes and rivers (surface water), and 42% from ground water. However, human activities can negatively affect water sources, sometimes with irreversible outcomes. People are beginning to realize much of our water supply is becoming contaminated and over utilized. This in turn can endanger the health of people, plants and wildlife. In order to keep water sources clean and plentiful, human behaviour must change.

Some other interesting water facts include:

- Water Consumption usually drops 18-25% after a water meter is installed
- One Litre of oil can contaminate up to 2 million Litres of water
- Many homes lose more water from leaky taps and toilets than they use for cooking and drinking
- A five minute shower with a standard shower head uses 100 L of water, while the same length of shower with a low flow shower head uses only 35 L
- A single lawn sprinkler spraying 19 L per minute uses 50% more water in just one hour than a combination of ten toilet flushes, two five minute showers, two dishwasher loads, and a full load of clothes.

These and other water facts can be found on Environment Canada's Freshwater Website: <http://www.ec.gc.ca/eau-water/>

Water and the City and County of Peterborough

Maintaining a clean water supply is key to the economic, environmental and human wellbeing in the Peterborough region. Below are characteristics of the Peterborough Region that reinforces the importance of having a community that cares for this valuable resource.

- The Peterborough region has 134 lakes
- The City of Peterborough is located in the Otonabee Region Watershed
- Residents and businesses rely on piped, municipally treated Otonabee River water in urban areas, and ground water in rural areas (for private or communal wells).
- During the summer months the Peterborough region is visited by over 30,000 tourists and cottagers, looking to enjoy the regions natural characteristics suitable for outdoor recreation (waterways, forests, caves etc.), festivals and tourist attractions.

- Environmental features in Peterborough are also recognized as a significant resource for recreational and leisure activities. The Trent- Severn Waterway, waterfront parks, conservation areas, and provincial parks offer both passive and active recreational opportunities. Activities such as hiking in Petroglyphs Provincial Park and Warsaw Caves Conservation Area, or fishing in the Otonabee River contribute to the quality of life experienced by Peterborough residents.

Websites of Interest

[Peterborough Children's Water Festival](#) The Peterborough Children's Water Festival (PCWF) is a community event that provides students with the opportunity to discover the importance and diversity of water.

[Environment Canada](#) Learn more about Environment Canada's role in water management.

[Otonabee Region Conservation Authority](#) The Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA/Otonabee Conservation) is a community-based environmental agency that protects, restores and manages the natural resources within the Otonabee Region watershed

[Watershed Science Centre](#) Information about watershed research at Trent University

[Peterborough Utilities Commission](#) (PUC) is responsible for supplying all of Peterborough residents and businesses with safe, clean water.

[Water Science for Schools](#) General information for kids and teachers, as well as online activities.

[Project Wet](#) A Canadian program to promote the appreciation and knowledge of water resources in the classroom.

[Water - Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change](#) Information on various water-related issues, including wells, conservation, drinking water monitoring, the Great Lakes, and more.

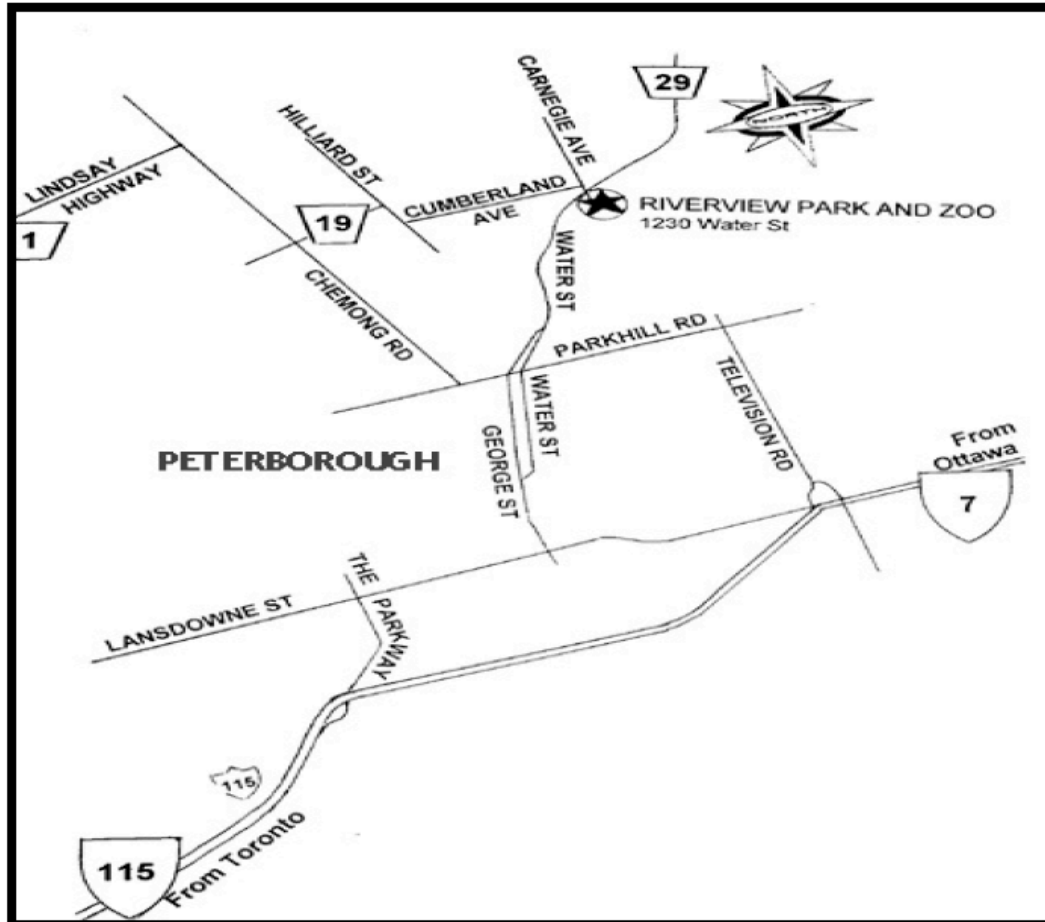
[Ontario Clean Water Agency](#) As a Crown Agency of the Province of Ontario, OCWA has been providing safe, reliable, and cost-effective clean water services across the province for over 20 years.

[Great Lakes Information Network](#)

Information about life in and around the Great Lakes. Teacher resources provide quizzes, mini lessons on Great Lakes topics. U.S. and Canadian partnership.

Directions to Peterborough Children's Water Festival

The festival is held at Riverview Park and Zoo, located on Water Street North in Peterborough, Ontario. Bus entrance to the parking lot is located at the lights by Carnegie Avenue.



Contact Information

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Peterborough Children's Water Festival

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