

## Team WET Schools

**Origin:** Council for Environmental Education (CEE), Houston, Texas  
<http://www.c-e-e.org/>, WET in the City - <http://www.wetcity.org/> and Team WET Schools – <http://www.wetcity.org/TeamWETSchools/index.htm>.

**Description:** Team WET Schools is a companion program to WET in the City, bringing urban water issues to the forefront of environmental education in school buildings. A network of community and corporate partners grows around each Team WET School supporting teachers to advance water education while encouraging students to participate in active water stewardship and community improvement. Team WET Schools are currently located in San Antonio and Houston, Texas, as well as Indianapolis, Indiana. CEE develops curriculum content like WET in the City and then looks for corporate/agency sponsors to help fund the cost of materials and training plus teach the program. The materials include a curriculum guide of activities, student handouts (available in both English and Spanish) and field lab equipment – everything needed to teach WET in the City.

**Potential Corps Involvement:** As a water resources agency, Corps involvement in Team WET Schools/WET in the City provides a great mechanism for fostering water stewardship in youth to help address the Nation's water challenges. CEE is looking for Corps projects (reservoirs, etc.) who are interested in adopting a Team WET middle school. With 80 percent of Corps projects located within 50 miles of a major metropolitan area, the Corps is uniquely suited for this partnership. In addition, CEE partners with the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation (NEETF) with whom the Corps has a Memorandum of Understanding <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/cecwon/pdfs/mou/03-neetf.pdf>. At this time, a trial Team WET School in the Galveston District is being pursued. Other Corps projects who would like to become involved with Team WET Schools would:

- Notify Julie Marcy, CEERD-EE-E, [Julie.B.Marcy@erdc.usace.army.mil](mailto:Julie.B.Marcy@erdc.usace.army.mil), of their interest, location, and the name of the interested middle school.
- CEE would then seek a corporate sponsor such as a local water utility to cover the cost of the curriculum materials and training for that school.
- Help plan the Team WET School Designation Ceremony – a great opportunity for the Corps to gain visibility in the community.
- Attend Team WET training. If the Corps has 10-15 interested interpreters, CEE will do a special training session for us at a central location. Otherwise, a training session in one of the existing cities could be attended.
- Attend the Team WET training with the teachers from their adopted school. This would include providing insight to the teachers in how the WET in the City concepts apply locally. – Water issues at the forefront of your city/region.
- Be a technical liaison for the school and provide additional technical experts as needed. The trained teachers are responsible for teaching each module, but may request technical assistance for certain subjects.
- Assist the school in developing an environmental stewardship project such as a Water Fair, constructed wetland, a school water audit, etc. at the conclusion of their training.