

Southwest Manitoba Water Festival

To Educate And Engage Youth In The Importance Of Healthy Watersheds!



The 2nd Annual Southwest Manitoba Water Festival was held September 20, 2006 in Victoria Park at Souris, Manitoba. Its part of an ongoing joint effort between four Conservation Districts from Southwest Manitoba (Mid-Assiniboine River, Tiger Hills, Turtle Mountain, and West Souris River). Participants were Grade 5 & 6 students from Alexander, Baldur, Boissevain, Deloraine, Forest, Melita, Newdale, Reston, SandyBank, Shamrock, Waskada and Wawanesa schools.

There were over 300 students who visited 14 activity stations orientated around the Grade 5 & 6 curriculums. All activities were related to water conservation, quality and ecosystems. These activities included a stream table, water cycle, runoff & recharge, groundwater model, properly sealed abandoned wells, sources and sinks in a water system, cultivation in riparian areas, harnessing the power of water, critter dipping, food chain, aeration model and water conservation in the household. All activities were operated by staff or volunteers, roughly 50 in total, from various organizations such as Critical Wildlife Habitat Program, EMCO Ltd., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, Manitoba Hydro, Oak Hammock Marsh, Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration and the four Conservation Districts. Students from the Land & Water Management program at Assiniboine Community College were also volunteering for the day.



Media coverage was well received with stories in local and provincial newspapers including the Brandon Sun and the MCDA magazine. Coverage also included interviews on television (CKX) and radio (CBC, 94.7 and CKLQ) by the coordinator, students and CD managers.

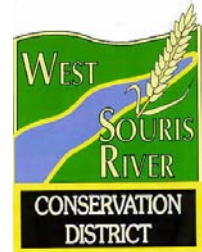
This event would not have been possible without the numerous sponsors. A list of the sponsoring organizations can be found on the back of this brochure. This years event was a huge success with all visitors leaving with increased knowledge in the area of healthy watersheds. Plans for the 2007 event are underway and will expand to host 400 students.



2006 Event Sponsored by:



**Turtle Mountain
Conservation District**



Gold Sponsors:

**Water
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Environment
Foundation**

Fisheries Enhancement Initiative

Manitoba Water Stewardship Fund

Bronze Sponsors:



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If you or your organization would like to become a sponsor for the 2007 Southwest Manitoba Water Festival please contact any one of the four Conservation Districts below to find out more information on the Gold, Silver and Bronze sponsorship packages which are available.

Conservation District contact information:

Mid-Assiniboine River CD

Phone: (204) 752-2163

www.marcd.mb.ca

Tiger Hills CD

Phone: (204) 535-2139

www.tigerhillscd.ca

Turtle Mountain CD

Phone: (204) 747-2530

www.tmcd.ca

West Souris River CD

Phone: (204) 877-3020

www.wsrcd.ca