

PROGRAM FEATURES

- Providing innovative, hands-on watershed education for K-12 students in Vermont
- Connecting students to their community through service-learning
- Offering unique internships for undergraduates
- Building capacity through teacher trainings



The Watershed Alliance

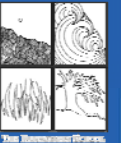
EXTENSION
ENVIRONMENT

The Watershed Alliance



In partnership with:

Logo Champion
Sea Grant
The National Program
for Ocean Education



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About Us

The Watershed Alliance (WA) provides and supports innovative, hands-on watershed education and water quality monitoring programs that integrate classroom instruction, hands-on field science, and community outreach and service for K-12 students in Vermont. The WA supplies curriculum, monitoring equipment, and instructors to schools and youth groups participating in our programs, as well as support and guidance to teachers who wish to integrate watershed education into their current curriculum. Our award-winning program strives to engage Vermont youth in their community as informed watershed citizens.

Our Model

Interactive classroom instruction.

The WA has the knowledge and tools to engage students in the scientific process, whether in the classroom or in UVM's Rubenstein Ecosystem Science Laboratory located on the waterfront in Burlington. Our three dimensional watershed model, which helps students visualize a

watershed and understand how humans impact water quality, is just one of the many resources available.

Hands-on field science.

Students become "citizen scientists" as they learn about the scientific method and put it into practice in their own stream or lake study. Students gain a better understanding of aquatic ecosystems by testing chemical, biological, and physical parameters of a local stream using kick nets, identification keys, chemical test kits, and probes.

Aboard the *Melosira*, UVM's state-of-the-art research vessel, students learn about lake ecology and the scientific research conducted on Lake Champlain while collecting their own data.

Community outreach and service.

Learning in a real-world context with the WA empowers students to take action. Students extend what they learned to the community through presentations and written materials, and contribute to watershed health through on-the-ground conservation service projects.



Internship and Service Learning Opportunities

The WA offers unique internship and service learning opportunities to undergraduates studying water resources and environmental education. Our interns are an integral component of the program. They serve as instructors and as role models, working directly with student groups and gaining valuable teaching experience as they facilitate classroom activities and water quality monitoring, and assist with the development of outreach and service projects.

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