



NEWS

93 West Main Street, Clinton, CT 06413

Water Drop Watchers Education and Awareness Program Winners Announced *2000 Students Learn About Water Conservation*

CLINTON, CONNECTICUT, April 11, 2018 – In an effort to help promote water conservation, this year Connecticut Water introduced the *Water Drop Watchers Education and Awareness Program*. The program was offered to third grade classes in schools throughout the company's service area towns, with Connecticut Water employees teaching more than 2,000 students, in 77 classrooms, throughout the school year.

Connecticut Water prides itself on being good stewards of the environment and feels a special obligation to promote water conservation to protect the valuable water resources that supply our customers. "Offering this classroom education program was a great way for our employees to share their passion about water conservation and environmental stewardship with students in our service communities," said Maureen P. Westbrook, Vice President of Customer and Regulatory Affairs.

Students learned about where water is found, the water cycle, how much freshwater is available on Earth, how much water we use for common daily activities and brainstormed ways they can conserve water. Each student was then challenged to complete a water conservation pledge form with their families and return to the school so that their class could be eligible to enter in a contest to win prizes.

After returning the pledges, the winning classrooms were selected. The third grade class of teacher Sandra O'Gara, Stafford Elementary School, Stafford Springs won the first place prize; an all-expenses paid field trip to the Connecticut Science Center.

Second and third place winners include classes at Orchard Hill, South Windsor and Shepard Hill, Plainfield. These classes each received a \$200 gift card for educational and classroom resources and other items to recognize the teachers' and students' participation.

The curriculum for the program was developed in collaboration with the Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition (PRWC). Leendert DeJong, the Executive Director of PRWC, explained that "Developing these educational materials in partnership with Connecticut Water is consistent with our goal to share scientific knowledge and best stewardship practices through a variety of education and outreach programs designed to engage children, residents, groups, businesses, and town officials with their rivers and aquifer."

Feedback on the program has been overwhelmingly positive, with 96% of teachers surveyed indicating that they would be interested in participating again next year if the program is offered. Jen Miller, Principal of Prudence Crandall School in Enfield stated, “Teachers and students thoroughly enjoyed the classroom visits. The students were highly engaged and learned important information about the world around them!”

Water Drop Watchers was a way to educate students and encourage customers to use water wisely. Water conservation tips can be found on our website at www.ctwater.com/conservation.

Connecticut Water serves more than 93,000 customers, or a population of 300,000, in over 59 communities throughout the state of Connecticut. For more information, visit: www.CTWater.com.

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