

Make a splash as a Community Science Blue Team!

For students in grades 6-8!

YOU can create a youth-powered **Community Science Blue Team** to help care for one of our most precious natural resources – **WATER!**

Blue Teams carry out a water quality action project that promotes **sustainability** and **stewardship** in your community.

This project is possible with generous funding from:



King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division



WHAT IS A BLUE TEAM?

- A **Blue Team** is a group of students (a classroom, school club, or a home school group) who commit to taking on and completing a water stewardship project in their community. The students can create their own project or use one listed here.
- **Blue Teams** will receive **8-10 hours** or more of expert help from a Nature Vision educator — help in planning, preparing for, and executing their project. Blue Team participants also receive recognition upon completion of the project.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY SCIENCE?

- After learning all about plants, animals, and water in their area, students will help collect and analyze real-world data from one of their local waterways
- This data will be used by local scientists to better understand the health of these bodies of water

All programs can now be taught in small groups in person, remotely via video call, or in hybrid format with a shortened lesson and supplemental materials.



Actual Blue Team project!

HOW TO REGISTER: Fill out and fax or e-mail the registration form below. Questions: contact info@naturevision.org. Within one week of submitting your registration form, you will be contacted by a Nature Vision educator to talk about your programs, set dates and jump-start your project!

Nature Vision is a non-profit Environmental Education organization in King County.

Now offering pre-made Community Science modules!

Program 1: Watershed Ecosystems

Explore our local watershed to understand how water and pollution move through the landscape, from storm drains to wastewater treatment plants to our local waterways. Students will identify the watershed they belong to by labelling a map of significant waterways that make up their watershed. They will also interact with a watershed model to observe the impact of pollution to our water quality.

Program 2: Wetland Filters

Students will be introduced to wetlands and what is necessary for an area of land to be classified as a wetland. As there is a wetland on campus, students will be able to make a direct connection to the many functions of wetlands and their importance to our watersheds. They will build model wetlands to understand the filtering properties of the three layers in a wetland: plants, their roots, and the soil.

Program 3: Healthy Water, Healthy Soil

Students will learn about how soil is formed and how it interacts with water. They will be asked to collect soil samples near their home and conduct simple experiments in order to learn more about the health of their local ecosystem.

Program 4: Salmon Cycles

Students will learn these iconic Puget Sound fish and their role as a keystone species to our local ecosystem. The program will emphasize the salmon's life cycle and their need for healthy riparian zones. Students will understand salmon as not only a food source to a variety of animals in our watershed but also as a necessary fertilizer to ensure healthy forests. Students will gain insight that our local salmon population are endangered and due to heavy amounts of stormwater runoff pollution in our waterways.

Don't have time to plan your own, customized Blue Team? Register for this 8 program series made up of some of our most popular offerings!

Program 5: Restoration Activity

Students will have the opportunity to complete a restoration activity that will promote environmental stewardship in their local area. Activities can include sign making in their neighborhood, invasive plant removal at a nearby site with parent/caregiver supervision, or any additional activity that helps care for the environment.

Program 6: Intro to Community Science

Students will be introduced to the concept of community science, how it can advance scientific research, and how they can get involved. Students will learn about their local watershed and see how potential sources of pollution can disrupt the chemical balance in the water. They will learn about some of the ways that scientists can test the quality of our local waterways.

Program 7: Data Collection and Reporting

Students will observe the Nature Vision educator collecting water quality data from a local body of water. They will then create posters or slideshow presentations that highlight the data and observations from the water quality testing.

Program 8: Presentations and Reflections

Students will present their poster or slideshow about their interpretation of the water quality testing data. Students will additionally participate in a reflection and complete post-surveys.

Nature Vision

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www.naturevision.org

COMMUNITY SCIENCE BLUE TEAM

King County WaterWorks Registration Form

To become a **COMMUNITY SCIENCE BLUE TEAM**, please complete this page (please print) and FAX to **425-460-9126**, or scan and email to info@naturevision.org.

Contact Name _____

Grade Level(s) _____ # Students in Group _____ School District _____

School or Group Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone(_____) _____ Alternate/Cell Phone(_____) _____

Would you like to sign up for the pre-made Blue Team Module exactly as listed (no changes to program list)?

Optional: If you answered 'No,' are there any specific changes you had in mind?

What date and time might work to meet with you (about 45 minutes) to plan your project?

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY. THE ABOVE NAMED SCHOOL RELEASES AND HOLDS NATURE VISION, ITS OWNERS, EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS AND DIRECTORS HARMLESS TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, FROM AND AGAINST ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS, SUITS, PENALTIES, LOSSES, DAMAGES, JUDGMENTS AND COSTS OF ANY KIND ARISING OUT OF OR IN ANY WAY RESULTING FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF STUDENTS, TEACHERS, VOLUNTEERS, PARENTS OR OTHER DISTRICT OR SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS IN NATURE VISION ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM NATURE VISION ACTIVITIES.

THE ABOVE NAMED SCHOOL RELEASES AND AGREES TO INDEMNIFY NATURE VISION, ITS OWNERS, EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS AND DIRECTORS FOR ALL LOSSES, DAMAGES, JUDGMENTS, COSTS AND EXPENSES OF ANY KIND ARISING OUT OF OR IN ANY WAY RESULTING FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF STUDENTS, TEACHERS, VOLUNTEERS, PARENTS OR OTHER DISTRICT OR SCHOOL PARTICIPANT IN NATURE VISION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS, COURT JUDGMENTS AND REASONABLE LEGAL DEFENSE FEES.

Signature: _____ Date _____