

Institute Sponsorship Request

Your (tax deductible) sponsorship support will be greatly appreciated. The Institute provides a wealth of background information about Southern California's water resources issues and empowers educators to effectively incorporate ground water issues in their teaching. There will be long-term educational dividends from your investment.

Ground Water Institutes – Why do we need them?

Many decision makers, whose actions impact ground water resources, did not grow up understanding the “cause and effect” science basics of water management and protection. An appreciation of the role of ground water in our environment and economy should now be part of the learning heritage of every adult and child. To be effective stewards of our ground water resources, there must be greater awareness and understanding of the science behind the resource. Dinosaurs and volcanoes are exciting topics for children, but basic awareness about the more practical earth science topic of local water resources is often neglected.

Ground Water Institutes – What do the Teachers and Educators say?

Thanks so much for a wonderful project. I saw so many connections to other things I teach, and am sharing with my colleagues. I'll urge others to attend the next time a Trust Institute is offered in the area

Patricia Beal, Vista Murrieta High School, Murrieta, CA

Students need to be aware of water issues for their future. I was taught a lot about ground water and now I can relay the information to my students

Melissa Olivier, Rubidoux High School, Riverside, CA

I am excited to share with my students the dynamics of inflow/ outflow of storage and the balance of ground/ surface water

Adrienne Sandstedt, Sutter Academy, Long Beach, CA

Great program, professionally done. Great for teachers but also good for people in the water industry

Rob Whipple, Conservation Specialist, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, Lake Elsinore, CA

Every student educated can inform/ teach others to conserve water, respect our resources and recognize the cost involved in water management

“Cook” Barela, Riverside Community College, Riverside, CA



A demonstration of how to use a sand-tank aquifer model at the 2006 Riverside, CA Ground Water Institute for Teachers program.

Aquifer models are a great instructional tool for showing how ground water moves in response to recharge and pumping.

Education Administrator Endorsement

The Trust's Ground Water Institute for Teachers would be at the top of my rating system, and I don't give out A's easily. What makes this number one on my list is the fact that they have people teaching it who are knowledgeable in their related fields. They understand first hand what the classroom teacher is facing on a day-to-day basis. They're motivating, they're inspiring. I would highly recommend the Ground Water Institute for Teachers because it is so professional, so relevant and so timely.

Dr. Peter G. Mehas, State of California, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Ground Water Institutes – What do the Teachers and Educators Learn?

- Global, national and state economic realities of competing water demands
- Geology fundamentals (rock types/ geologic structure/ aquifer geometry)
- Significance of ground water in sustaining aquatic ecosystems
- Concept of water balance (hydrologic accounting at local & regional scales)
- Perceptions of water as a shared resource (who owns it?) - Engineering solutions to water supply
- How data sets can be used to infer hydrogeologic conditions and how aquifer potential is assessed
- Sources of Groundwater Contamination
- A day in the life of Joe/ Josephine Consultant - Case Studies of the applications of science and technology
- How water wells are drilled, designed and constructed
- State Education Standards where there is (or should be) teaching related to water and water issues
- Resources for teachers (tools, quizzes & lesson plans)
- High school and college subjects that lead to careers in hydrology & water resources

American Ground Water Trust Ground Water Institutes are organized in partnership with the US Geological Survey

