



We invite you to:

Explore the education center, its exhibits, art, and grounds.

Learn about water and its many roles, and the human impact on our watershed.

Commit to doing your part to protect our water for the future.

Mission

The Boise WaterShed promotes water stewardship by teaching people of all ages how to protect and conserve our precious resources for future generations.

Get involved!

- Education Programs
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Donation Opportunities

Call (208) 489-1284 or visit www.BoiseEnvironmentalEducation.org for more information.

LEED Designed Green Building

The Boise WaterShed was designed and constructed using green building practices and serves as a teaching tool about sustainability. The U.S. Green Building Council established the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program as a nationally accepted rating system for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. The Boise WaterShed has met performance benchmarks in energy efficiency, water savings, site development, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality, achieving Gold-level LEED Certification.



Visitor Guide



(208) 489-1284
www.BoiseEnvironmentalEducation.org
 11818 W. Joplin Rd, Boise, ID 83714

HOURS:
Monday – Friday
9:30 am – 4:30 pm
3rd Saturdays
10 am – 2 pm
Closed holidays



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BOISE WATERSHED ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER



Please enjoy food and drinks outside. Crumbs and spills can attract bugs and pests that can harm our exhibits.

We hope you enjoy your visit!

LOBBY

1 "H₂O from Zero to 1 Million"

By Diane Ronayne

Displayed on an LCD screen at the entrance to the Boise WaterShed lobby, these photographic images and words convey the artist's response to our impact on the water cycle and to the population growth in the Treasure Valley — expected to reach 1 million in 2030 — that has generated the need for water treatment.

2 WELCOME BASIN AND CANOPY —

Peer into the circular basin and reflect upon the importance of water and our Boise River. Overhead, see how water touches our everyday lives and follow the role it plays in the human condition.

3 SUSTAINABLE LEED BUILDING —

The Boise WaterShed was designed and constructed using 'green' building practices to serve as a teaching tool about sustainability. Explore the features of our green building.

THEATER

THEATER/COMMUNITY ROOM — Watch video presentations that explore the messages in our exhibits and provide an introduction to the wonders of our watershed. The room is also available for presentations, workshops and meetings.

LIBRARY

LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTER — Drop in to the Library Resource Center! Extend your educational experience by checking out a book or video, test your knowledge with a water game, or gather water conservation tips.

EXHIBIT HALL

Water, Water Cycle, & Watershed

Find where you live in the watershed while learning fun facts about the Boise drainage basin at the wall mural. Use the hands-on exhibits and display to explore water anatomy, test your water knowledge, and review the water cycle. Explore a historical timeline of water use around the world and in Idaho! Discover where our drinking water comes from and how we treat it.

4 WATERSHED MURAL — Find your place in the watershed while learning about the Boise drainage basin.

5 BOISE WATER CYCLE — Water just goes round and round. How do we fit into the Boise water cycle?

6 ANATOMY OF WATER — Get to know H₂O in this panel that explains water molecules and their properties.

7 AQUA VENTURER — Explore a timeline of water around the world and close to home.

8 OUR DRINKING WATER — Find out where your drinking water comes from and how it's treated in this panel.

9 FARM PUMP PEDESTAL — Show some muscle! Understand how groundwater is pumped from its source to the surface.

Water — We Treat It Right!

Delve into the ins and outs of the wastewater treatment process. Discover the microorganisms in water, run the treatment facility, and map a flush from anywhere in Boise to the facility. Walk through a wastewater pipe and turn the SludgeMaster wheel to watch "sludge" move to the digester!

10 FLUSH MAPPER — When you flush, where does it go? How does it get there? Pick a location, then flush.

11 WATER DROP DETECTIVE — It might look pure, but what's in that drop? Learn about the microscopic living things in different water sources.

12 SLUDGEMASTER — Turn the SludgeMaster wheel and watch how "sludge" moves to a digester!

13 TREATMENT EXPLORER — Explore the treatment processes used at the West Boise Wastewater Treatment Facility. Follow the flow through the facility and beyond!

14 WASTEWATER PIPE — Walk through an actual wastewater pipe that was used in the Boise sewage system!

15 RUN THE WORKS — Be a "Bug Manager." Run a simulated wastewater treatment facility. Help those good bugs clean up the wastewater. See if you can run the works!

Stewardship & Sustainability

Explore our watershed landscape and find places where urban pollution can be reduced through best practices. Discover how we impact water quality and learn how to conserve water in your home. Test your knowledge with quiz show host Eddy Trout, who will lead you through the

Watershed Challenge. And finally, watch the Waterfall of Heroes to discover who had the vision to protect our water and who plays a vital role in the health of our watershed.

16 HOME WATER SAVER — Whether you're a home owner or apartment dweller, there are many ways to save water and money!

17 WATERSHED STEWARDS — How can we take better care of our watershed? Spot good and bad behaviors to become a watershed steward!

18 WATERSHED CHALLENGE — How much have you learned about the Boise watershed? Test your knowledge against Eddy Trout — or your friends.

19 "Waterfall of Heroes"

by Chris Schofield

Who plays a vital role in the health of our watershed? The waterfall shows who, from visionary donors to you!

GALLERY

20 "Meander" Gallery Floor

By Amy Westover

Made from a recycled rubber tire product the floor design metaphorically shows the Boise River flowing out of Lucky Peak reservoir and dissecting the landscape. The river portion also acts as a path leading visitors through the Gallery and into the exhibit hall.

21 "Waters Past" Exterior/Gallery Walls

By Amy Westover

The exterior concrete wall along the building becomes a receptive surface, simulating the lines or rings left around a reservoir as water is systematically released. This draws our attention to the presence or absence of water.

22 "Confluence" Pipes as Drinking Fountains and Sinks

By Amy Westover

The use of old pipes from the wastewater treatment facility junkyard take on a new life by delivering water for drinking and washing. They stand as a reminder to the vast infrastructure of pipes that connect our city while shedding light on the importance of recycling and reuse.

23 "Wind Translator"

by Patrick Zentz

Three exterior windmill sculptures read and translate wind direction into electronic data. The data is then used to activate acoustic instruments that are hanging as a chandelier in the Gallery.

24 "Windows into Wet Land"

By Amy Westover

The Gallery glass windows look at our watershed through satellite infrared photography that maps how water is used on the land. Changing the colors and depicting neighborhoods, farmland and the Boise River, visitors get a sense of how water intersects with the landscape and our lives.

PLAZA

25 Donor Wall

Survey the water drops on the cascading surface of this recognition piece. Each drop honors an individual, business, or foundation that contributed to the Boise WaterShed through visionary action and generous donation to fund the exhibits.

26 Brick Pavers

Stroll the Plaza and search for the names of people you know who bought a brick to support the Boise WaterShed effort. You can buy one too!

27 EnviroGuard "Pipe Tree"

By Irene Deeley

The Pipe Tree honors past and future recipients of the EnviroGuard Environmental Protection Award. The branches of this 14-foot tall pipe tree terminate with water faucets to represent our individual responsibility for conservation.

28 Waterwise Garden

Stroll through the waterwise landscape garden to view examples of native and non-native plants that thrive in Idaho's dry climate.

