

GET WET!

Groundwater Education Through Water Evaluation & Testing

Dear Parents:

Your child has been selected to participate in a school science project: **GET WET!** (Groundwater Education Through Water Evaluation & Testing). This project was designed by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environment and Watershed Research at the University of Maine and works in cooperation with your community to offer students a hands-on learning experience for testing drinking water quality. This amazing opportunity allows students to understand scientific procedures while providing citizens and policy-makers with unbiased and credible information that can enhance efforts to achieve healthy ecosystems, strong communities, and robust economies. The data collected will be used to examine the groundwater chemistry in your community. This is the fourth year that we have been conducting this study. For more information visit the Get Wet! website at

<http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/outreach/getwet/index.htm>

By returning the provided bottle full, *and completing the attached paperwork*, you are permitting your child to participate in this exciting event. Students will learn the standard safety procedures used by scientists to avoid contamination of samples and each student will be provided with safety goggles and gloves to ensure their safety. To further ensure safety of your child, we ask that you provide your child's known allergies.

Allergies: _____

Later in the semester you will be notified of a presentation students will give of their **GET WET!** drinking water results to the community. All are welcome and invited to this event. In order to make this information available to other classrooms and the community at large, both photos and testing information will be available on the **GET WET!** website and in professional publications. Please sign below to allow your child's image and results to be used.

I give permission for my child, (name) _____, to have his/her photo published in all **GET WET!** publications including our web site. All photos will be generic pictures of children participating in GET WET! activities. No names, addresses or other information which would make your child individually identifiable will be included.

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

At no time will names, addresses, or specific locations be divulged. An information database in GIS form will be used without a photo image and mapped at a distance far enough away that it would be impossible to determine the exact location of any sample. Any specific information provided will be kept strictly confidential.

This agreement may be terminated at any time through written request.

Thank you very much for your support! If you have questions about **GET WET!**, please do not hesitate to contact me at: Teresa.Thornton@maine.edu or (207) 266-3682.

I look forward to meeting you!



Teresa E. Thornton
GET WET! Executive Director
The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environment and Watershed Research
University of Maine