

Best Education Practices (BEPs) for Water Outreach Professionals
Defining BEPs, Refining New Resources and Recommending Future Actions

POSTER PRESENTATION

Presenter(s): Amy Rager, University of Minnesota Extension Service

Title: Best Practices For Environmental Field Days

Abstract: Over 75 % of Minnesota counties report environmental field-day programs, involving thousands of 4th – 6th grade youth. The investment of time and money by state and federal governments, agencies, and non-profit organizations to support these programs for k – 12 schools is significant. To be more effective, these programs require expensive planning and partnerships as outlined in the best practices for environmental field days researched by the environmental science education working group at the University of Minnesota. We have identified a list of best practices, from both literature and practical experiences, for the organizers and presenters at these events resulting in guidelines for improving the impact these programs can have on young people.

The intent of the Best Practices for Environmental Field Days program is to provide organizers, presenters, participants, and volunteers of environmental field day events with practical research-based information to increase the success of their events, improve student learning and retention, and make meaningful strides in the development of an environmentally literate citizenry.

This presentation will highlight the best practices program for planning and delivering effective environmental field day programs.

This is a spotlight program for the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

Target Audience(s): The target audience for the BMP program is Agency Partners and Environmental/Conservation Non Government Organization. Those natural resource professionals who organize and present at environmental field days (e.g. school-based Water Festivals) for k – 12 school children

Educational Purpose: Information

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