



# Educating Urban Stewards:

## School Water Audit Projects that Promote Conservation through Community Partnerships



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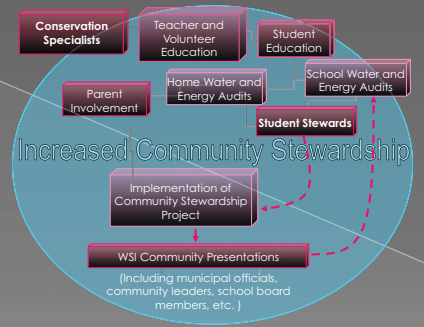
### Summary

Through existing partnerships with water conservation specialists, extension volunteers and teachers in Arizona, we are engaging both children and adults in school and home audits of water and energy use. This program, called Water Scene Investigation (WSI) educates students and parents about water resources and the need for water and energy conservation, by engaging participants in real-world, interdisciplinary projects that result in positive, visible changes at their school and home environments.

### Objectives

- Middle and High School Students will:
  - Be trained as Water Scene Investigators (WSI).
  - Determine school water use through data collection and research.
  - Prepare presentations and proposals to explain water use and recommend water savings.
- Parents will:
  - Experience home water audits and volunteer with school audits.
  - Increase knowledge about water and energy resources and conservation issues.
- Community members will help implement conservation projects at the school.

### Community Involvement



### Evaluation (n=52)

- 85% thought the WSI was "interesting", "very interesting" or "extremely interesting".
- 44% felt the WSI was "one of the best class projects ever". 44% also said it was "a good class project".
- 69% correctly answered that water conservation is "the use of water saving methods including both technology and changing people's actions to reduce the amount of water that is used".
- 94% will save more water due to involvement with WSI.
- 64% want to report WSI findings to other community members.

### Investigators in Action

