Work in Water Program

WEFMAX 2021
27 MAY 2021
Agenda

- About NYWEA
- Current Workforce Situation
- WEF Pilot Grants in 2019 & 2020
- Work in Water Program
- Making the Connection with Students that result in paid internships
- End Result = Water Careers!
About NYWEA

- Non-profit educational organization that serves public interest by promoting sustainable clean water quality management through science, education and training
- Founded in 1929
- 7 Geographic chapters, 25 committees
- 2,500 members employed within the clean water sector
- Our members protect public health and the water environment with their work everyday!
- Publish Quarterly Magazine: Clear Waters
- 4 Full Time Staff; 300+ Volunteers
NYWEA awards approximately $50,000 annually to students pursuing environmental degree programs. Granted $531,750 to 215 students since 1998

Expanded program to Operators (To those pursuing their pre-certification, as well as certified operators)
Setting the Stage
Looking to Turn the Situation Around!
TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM

2019

WORK IN WATER PROGRAM

2020

- Applied for and received WEF pilot grants in 2019 & 2020
- 2019 - Provided operators with the skillset to train new operators both in the plant and for pre-certification training programs
- 2020 – Engage directly with students & match them up with municipalities for paid internships

NYWEA.ORG
The Genesis of the Work in Water program
The Work in Water program, as developed by the Wichita EFC, includes the following components:

**Engaging Schools**
- Work in Water Logo
- Work in Water Publicity Toolkit
- Email Templates
- Poster/Flyer
- Facebook Post Picture
- Instagram Picture
- Newspaper Ad
- School Broadcast Script

**Classroom Experience**
- Build A Watershed Activity
- PowerPoint Template - KS Version
- PowerPoint Template - MO Version
- PowerPoint Template - NE Version
- PowerPoint Template - IA Version
- Slide on Regulations
- Activated Sludge at Work Video
- Flint Michigan Video
- Classroom Script - KS
- Classroom Script - MO
- Classroom Script - IA
- Classroom Script - NE
- Example Schedule
- Supplies List

**Internship**
- Sample Application
- Interview Questions
- Internship Schedule
- Internship Guidelines
- Sample Photo Release Form
- Capstone Guidelines
- Capstone Examples

**Teacher Resources**
- Water and Wastewater Lesson Plans
- Student Research, Career Sites and Scholarships
How do we engage with students?
What they have to say!

https://www.youtube.com/embed/_N2uHwrARs
What is NYWEA Doing?

- Interface with CITI: Exposing Water careers to middle and high school students
- Career Fairs/Science Teachers Association: Attending high school and college career fairs
- InFlow Program: Exposure to minority students
- Civil Service: Working with the State Civil Service Agency to eliminate w/w duplicative testing
- Veterans: Getting Veterans to Fill Jobs
- Diversity & Inclusion: Committee Formed
How do we connect with students & ultimately the community?

- Educating yourself first
- Then educate others
- Messaging
- Meetings
How Do We Get Others Excited About Water?
We need water to live
In-school activities

Plant Tours

Ad Campaigns

Job Fairs/events

YOU NEED WATER. WATER NEEDS YOU.

Fecal coliform bacteria machine

Scoop it, bag it, and put it in the trash

101 reasons to pick up pet waste: Number 7
But, sometimes that is not enough!
What We Know

Communities prosper when all people have access to clean water, good jobs and access to viable, economic opportunities.
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NYWEA
Associate Director, Syracuse University
Environmental Finance Center

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Thank you!