

Sustainability Education Is The Key To Proper Water Use And Management

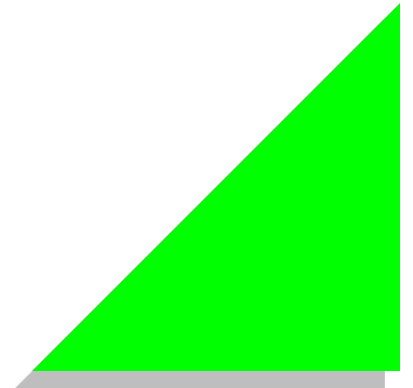
Deiadra D. Swartz, JD
Cottonwood Water & Sanitation District
UCOWR Conference July 2008

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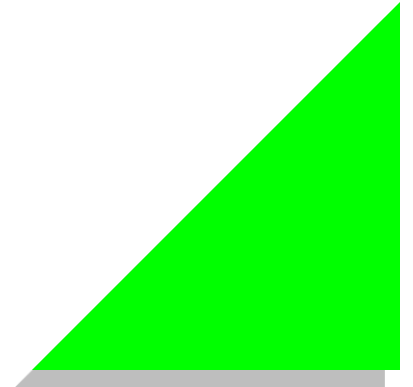
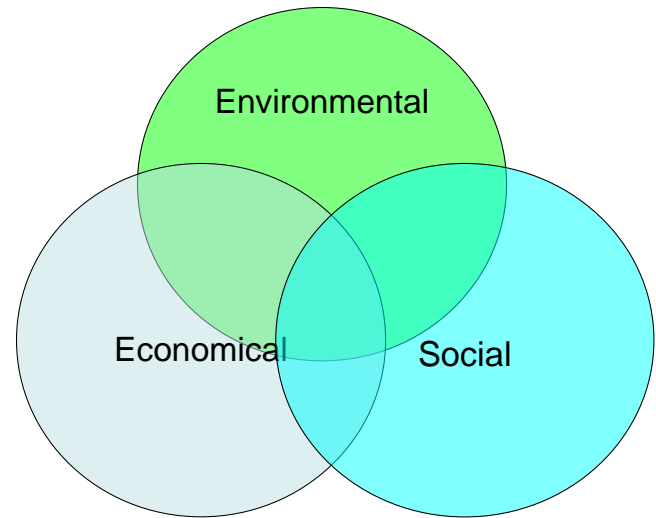
State of Water Education

- Most resources are devoted to reacting to water crises.
- Too little time and attention are used in educating members of the public.
- Work in progress ...



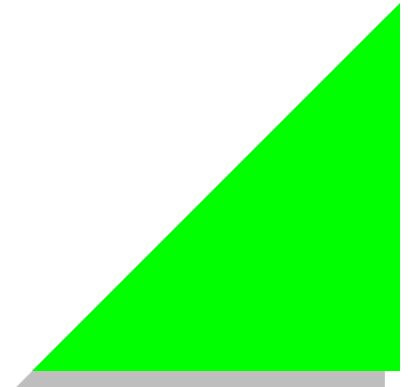
Sustainability Basics

- Definition
- Interactive, dynamic
- Resources and responsibilities
- Power generation: coal vs. wind



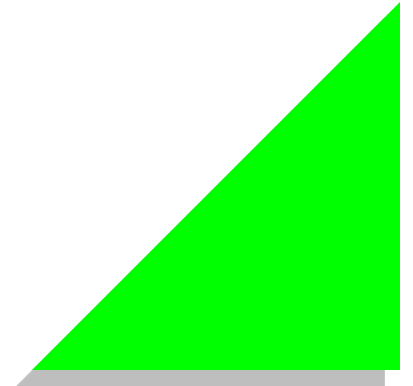
Water for Life

- Global water in all of its forms
- Local water sources
- World's water bucket
- Supply and demand



Sample Slides

- *Examples:* the following 3 slides are from my presentation “[Sustain, Don’t Drain Our Natural Resources](#)” (© Smart Biz 2007)
- *Sources:* South Metro Water Supply Authority (2007); Cottonwood Water & Sanitation District (2007); World Water (www.worldwater.org 2008); World Water Council (2007)



Compare Water Usage

A typical family living in **Africa** uses
5 gallons of water per day.



= the amount needed for human survival

In **Australia**, each person uses **36** gallons of water per day.



Each person in **Parker, CO** uses **175** gallons of water every day.



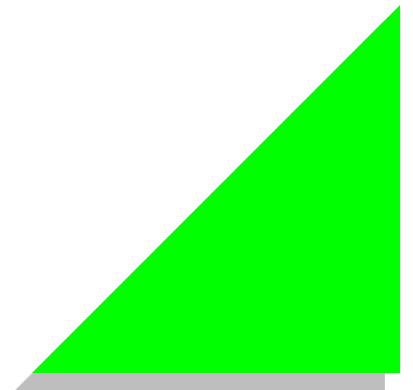
Make it Meaningful

K-12 Education

- Reduce, reuse, recycle, resist harm
- Go Green!
- Interdisciplinary approach
- Promising careers that make a difference
- Water education for teachers

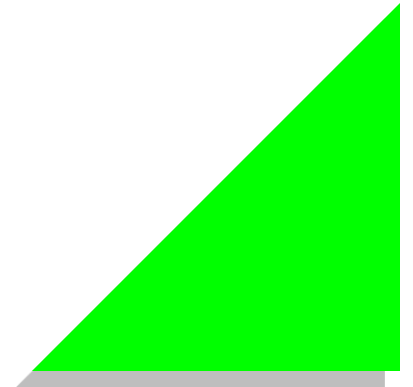
www.projectWET.org

= *Empowerment*



Interdisciplinary Approach

- Current Events
- Literary Science and Writing
- Government, Public Policy, and Social Science
- Career Pathways
- STEM Subjects – science, technology, engineering, and mathematics

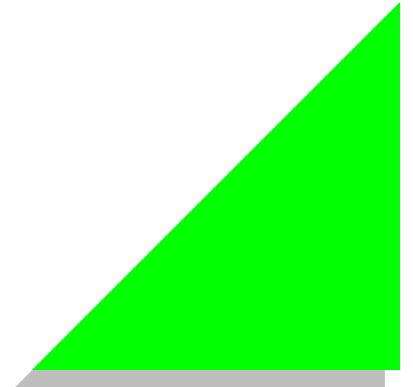


Make it Meaningful

Community

- Neighborhoods, clubs, chambers of commerce, HOAs, community centers, and religious groups
- Ongoing dialogue
- Local issues and local solutions
- Public policy and decision-making

= *Empowerment*

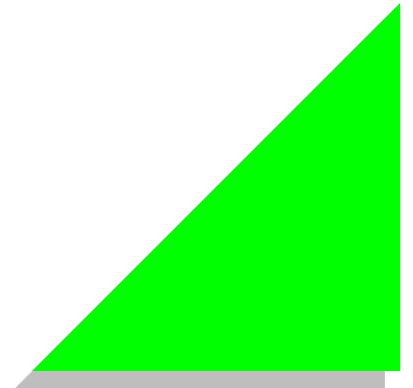


Virtual Water

- To effectively understand water supply and demand, we need to understand how much water it takes to make the things we use, wear, and eat.

www.waterfootprint.org

www.forbes.com



Thank You

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