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Pope and Stevens County Water Fest Held for Area 6th graders

The Pope and Stevens SWCDs worked together to host the 19th Annual Water Fest event on September 22nd for 6th grade students from 7 school districts. The purpose of the water festival is to teach sixth grade students about water: 1) what it is and how it fits into the hydrologic cycle; 2) its importance to all life; 3) how it relates to other natural resources; and 4) how human activities affect water quality and quantity. Students were able to attend 8 learning stations during the day. They played games, interacted with hands-on activities, made giant bubbles, and participated in many other fun events, all while learning about our most valuable resource – water!

The schools that attended included: Minnewaska, Belgrade Brooten Elrosa, Glacial Hills, Morris, St. Mary's, Hancock, and Chokio-Alberta. The event is held at the Pope County Fairgrounds each year. There were 350 students, volunteers, and presenters that make this event successful.

A big thank you to: Pope, Stevens, Grant, and Douglas SWCDs; Federated Telephone Coop, Pope Douglas Solid Waste Management, Pope County Ag Society, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Sauk River Watershed District, North Fork Crow River Watershed District, Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District, Stevens County Medical Center, University of Minnesota Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Stevens County Environmental Services, Fluegel, Anderson, McLaughlin, & Brutalg, Chartered, Pope County Mothers & Others, Judi and John Dahlseng, Cory & Marybeth Walker, Dental Depot, Lowry Manufacturing Co, Eco Water Systems of West Central Minnesota Lakes Area, Strecker Agency Inc., Affordable Floor Covering, Mohr Plumbing and Heating, West Central Sanitation, Mark and Kay Blauert, Agralite, Department of Natural Resources, Minnewaska Lake Association, and the Science Museum of Minnesota.