



# Earth Day is Every Day!

**O**n April 22, 1970, the first Earth Day was held in the United States, and 20 million Americans took to the streets and parks to celebrate the Earth and its fragile environment. U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson, an environmental activist, took a leading role in organizing the celebration and show popular political support for the environment.



Thirty seven years later, Earth Day is the largest secular (non-religious) holiday in the world, and now over 500 million people and national governments in 175 countries around the world take part in the celebration each year.

How does the Earth Day holiday tie into the EnviroKids' Club subjects - air, water, plants & animals, you & your environment, garbage? In many ways!

Many of us get our water from the Rathdrum Spokane Aquifer. An aquifer (pronounced aw- kwi- fur) is a layer of rocks that can hold enough water for wells and springs. Wells are drilled into aquifers and water is pumped out to our houses for many uses including drinking, bathing, and watering plants.

The water in an aquifer is called groundwater. Water from lakes, rivers, and precipitation (rain, snow) can seep down through the soil until it reaches an aquifer. Pollution like gasoline or too much fertilizer and pesticides can also

seep down through the soil to an aquifer. This could contaminate an aquifer so it can no longer be used for drinking water. Some of the pollution that contaminates the water can pollute our air as well. And weather (wind, rain) can transport the air and water pollution to affect other communities. Pollution not only hurts humans, but it hurts plants and animals too.

The good news is there are lots of things you and your family can do to help protect your drinking water and the Earth!

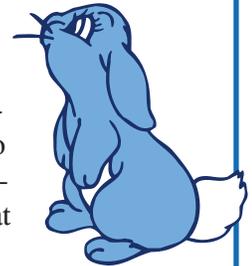
Reduce the amount of water you use. Be careful what we put on the ground. Make your own compost and use it on yards and gardens. Don't pour waste such as household cleaners, paints, oil or anti-freeze on the ground -- take them to the

Household Hazardous Waste station at Solid

Waste System sites. When you or your parents clean, use Earth -friendly cleaners (see recipes on back.)



This year, an Earth Day celebration will be held in Spokane's Riverfront Park on Saturday, April 21, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. EnviroKids' Club members who participate in the club activities at the event will earn points towards a cool prize! And don't forget to bring an animal mask or costume to participate in the Procession of the Species at noon.



EnviroKids' Club is a way for you to team up with other kids in Spokane County -- exploring all aspects of the environment: air, water, weather, garbage & recycling, plants & animals, and you & your environment.

EnviroKids' Club members will receive an activity in the mail four times a year. Complete the activity, and return it to the Club Headquarters (address and form below) and you will earn points towards a special prize. Information about the new point system and the prizes will be sent soon. The EnviroKids' Club is for children in grades K-6, who live in Spokane County. EnviroKids' Club is an expansion of SCAPCA's former Clean Air Kids' Club.

**MAIL COMPLETED ACTIVITY BY JULY 1, 2007 TO: Spokane County Air Pollution Control Authority, 1101 W. College, #403, Spokane, WA 99201.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

My child has permission to participate in EnviroKids' Club activities and to have name/picture used in ads/website.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature and Date

# The Aquifer

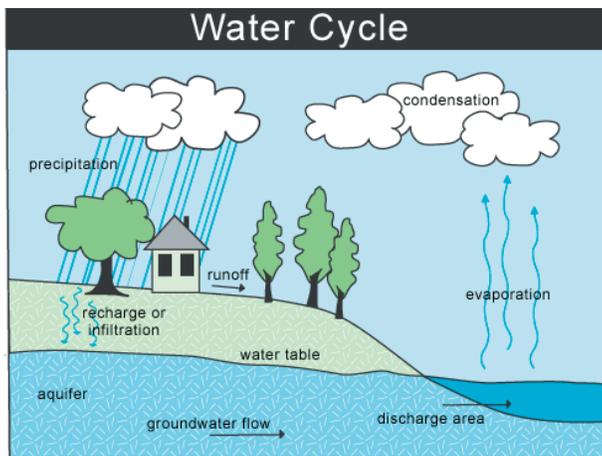
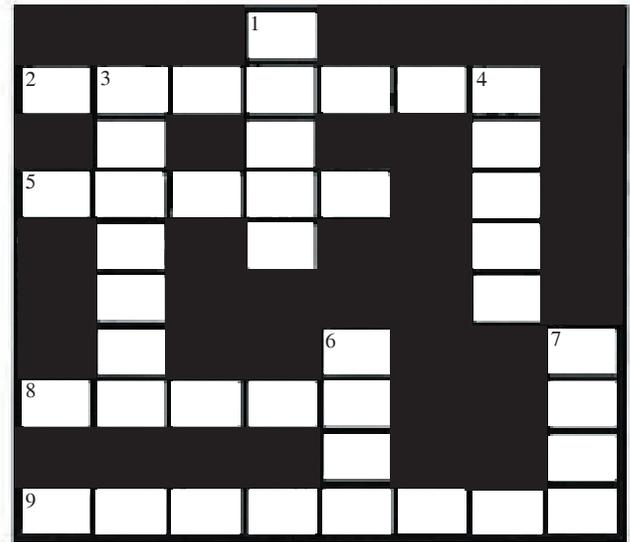
Many of us get our water from the Rathdrum Spokane Aquifer. We are all responsible for protecting the aquifer to make sure we have clean drinking water. Test your water quality knowledge by completing the crossword puzzle. Hint - the underlined words on the front are clues for the crossword puzzle.

## Across

- A layer of rocks that holds water
- In my home I use     to drink, wash dishes, and do laundry.
- Groundwater is an important part of the water    .
- Fill up your car, but don't spill this on the ground or it could become pollution and harm our drinking water.

## Down

- This body of water can be affected by over pumping an aquifer
- We protect the     of drinking water by being careful about what we put on the ground.
- An aquifer isn't actually water, but a layer of     that holds water under ground
- These are drilled into the ground to provide water
- You can     water to protect an aquifer.



## Green Spring Cleaning

Cleaners can sometimes be dangerous to the environment and to humans. Here are some environmentally friendly cleaning recipes to help you have some good, clean fun! **Try these out with your parents help:**

### Tub and Sink Cleaner:

Sprinkle baking soda on porcelain fixtures and rub with a wet rag. Rinse well.

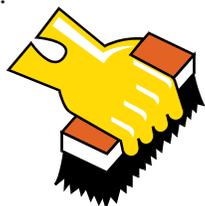
### Window and Mirror Cleaner:

Put ¼ cup of vinegar in a 16 oz spray bottle and fill to the top with water. Spray on surfaces, rub clean with newspaper or rag.

### Linoleum Floor Cleaner

Mop with a mixture of vinegar in a bucket of warm water.

The vinegar odor will go away shortly after the floor dries.



## Healthy Lungs, Healthy You

Do you know how our respiratory system works (how we breathe)? Air comes in through your mouth and nose and then moves down your windpipe to two bronchioles. The bronchioles then branch off into alveoli. When you breathe in, or inhale, you are bringing oxygen to your lungs. When you breathe out, or exhale, you are getting rid of carbon dioxide.

It's important that we keep our lungs healthy and strong. We can do this by making sure their air we breathe, both inside and outside is pollution free! Test your respiratory system knowledge by finding the underlined words in the word search!

