



YES! Update 3.16.2020

## Program Update

In light of the most recent recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) on COVID-19, YES! is postponing all scheduled winter workshops and events until schools are back in session (tentatively March 30th). We will plan on rescheduling all cancelled events once classes resume.

As you are planning your online lessons, be sure to check out our Students and Coaches Corner on our [website](#) (passcode: sayyes!) for resources. This may be an opportunity for hands-on learning at home. Resources include: climate change, environmental education, land restoration & gardening, living green, local foods, renewable energy, transportation, waste reduction, and water quality & conservation. YES! staff are available via phone and email to support student learning during this time.

As of right now Regional Judging will take place as scheduled, so please take this time to work on your YES! final reports. Major League Baseball has decided to delay the start of the 2020 regular season by at least two weeks due to the coronavirus pandemic, but as of right now plans are still on for the YES! State Championship Award Ceremony at the Twin's game on May 10th. We will keep you posted if anything changes.

~Shelli-Kae Foster, Program Director

## Regional Highlights

**Northeast (Laurentian Environmental Center)** – The Harbor City YES! team is working on an event that they will be hosting to help raise awareness about problems facing Minnesota waterways. More details are soon to follow. ~Sam Horner

**West Central (Prairie Woods ELC)** – The Minnewaska YES! team met with Rural Renewable Energy Alliance (RREAL) to explore getting solar on their school. ~Taylor Templer

**Southern (Ney Nature Center)** – Ney Nature Center is hosting a Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) teacher workshop on April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Minnesota Project WET trains educators in hands-on, interactive lessons that are focused on water and encourage critical thinking. The workshop is \$55/person and includes brand new climate change lessons from Project WET, Project WET 2.0 curriculum guide, educator training, extension lessons, and certificate of completion (6 hours). Register [here](#) by April 11<sup>th</sup>! ~Deb Groebner

**Metro** – The Pollinator Garden and Waste Recycling/Composting workshops have been postponed to Mid-April. I will be in touch on some new dates soon. DON'T FORGET that Project Earth/YES!, the environmental club of Edina High School invites you to the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Climate Summit on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. given we have an all clear on our social distancing requirements. Please let me know if your team is interested in attending. ~Tom McDougall

**Northwest** – The Discovery Woods YES! team brought their message to “Reduce Single Use Plastics” to the entire school on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students read the book “If Everyone Did” to Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> graders and they showed a video by “Half Asleep Chris” about reducing single use plastics to the 2-6 graders. The students also put together a flyer and sent a reusable plastic bag home to each family. ~Shelli-Kae Foster

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[Harbor City International YES! Team Visits Western Lake Sanitary District](#)