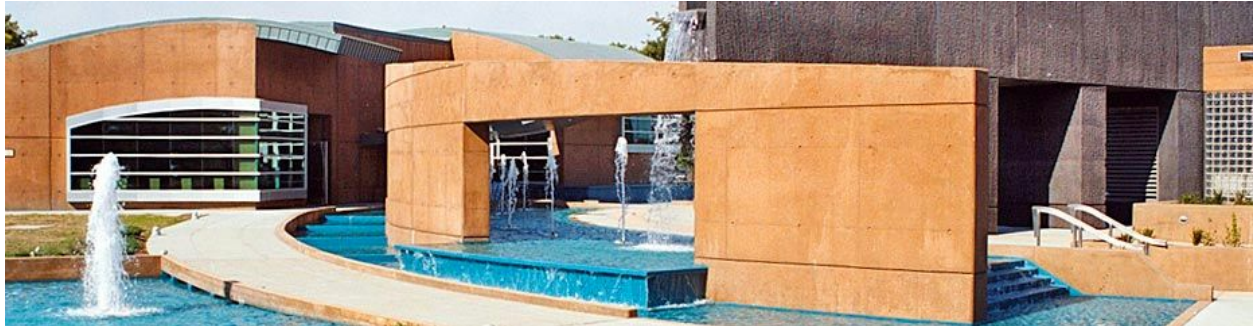


BMP: Education

The WATER Center

Wichita Area Treatment, Education and Remediation Center



The W.A.T.E.R. (Wichita Area Treatment, Education and Remediation) Center in Wichita opened in 2003. The center serves as both a treatment facility for remediation of polluted groundwater, as well as a museum and public education resource.



The remediation system begins with 5.5 miles of conveyance piping and 13 extraction wells, which extract and convey the polluted groundwater under the City of Wichita to the WATER Center treatment facility. Once the groundwater reaches the facility, it is cleaned by a hydraulic-centuri air stripper treatment system.

This remediation system limits the spread of and removes the groundwater contamination; passing the cleaned groundwater through an indoor aquarium display of Kansas fish species, through an 11,000 gallon outdoor aquarium display of additional Kansas fishes, along a meandering stream and riparian habitat interpretive trail, and finally



directly into the Arkansas River at Herman Hill Park.



In addition to the interactive displays, interpretive trail and tours of the remediation system, the WATER center also provides programming on reuse of the treated water, native Kansas fish, aquatic wildlife, pollution prevention, and much more, with programs tailored for pre-k aged children to seniors. Group programs for schools, scouts and adults are scheduled upon request, and the museum is open free to the public on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1-4:30pm.

The WATER Center is located at 101 E. Pawnee, Wichita KS 67211 and is staffed by Kay Drennen and Cindy Le, who can be reached at 316.350.3386.

