

El Paso Water Wise Badge Program - Guidelines

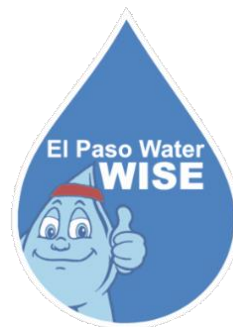
Welcome to the El Paso Water Wise Badge Program!

Earning this special badge will demonstrate your dedication to being water wise and inspiring others to conserve water, our most precious resource. Every drop counts, and we thank you for embarking on the journey to become a Water Wise Conservation Warrior like Willie the Waterdrop. If you have any questions along the way, feel free to connect with EPWater's Conservation team at (915)621-2000 or tech2o@epwater.org. When completed, click [here](#) to fill out the online [submission form](#).

Goals:

While earning this badge you will:

1. Demonstrate the importance of conserving El Paso's water resources.
2. Learn ways to prevent water waste and inspire others in our community to do the same.
3. Explore careers in the water field.



Getting Started:

To earn the El Paso Water Wise badge, you will need to complete merits from the list below. You are free to choose which merits to complete, but the number of merits required to earn a badge is determined by your age.

0-5 years old	must complete 2 of the 8 Merits
6-10 years old	must complete 4 of the 8 Merits
11-15 years old	must complete 6 of the 8 Merits
16-100+ years old	must complete ALL 8 of the 8 Merits

Merits: Detailed instructions for each merit can be found on pages 2-6.

Merit 1: Test your toilet(s) for leaks – Be a responsible toilet owner! Water Conservation Warriors will learn to test toilets for leaks which could save 1,000s of gallons of water a day!

Merit 2: Creative Expression – Indoor & Outdoor Water Conservation Tips. Water Conservation Warriors will learn easy indoor and outdoor tips to conserve water every day. Water Conservation Warriors will identify their favorite way to conserve water and produce a piece of artwork to inspire and teach others.

Merit 3: Passport Program – Visit EPWater's Tech₂O Water Resources Learning Center. Water Conservation Warriors will visit the Tech₂O Center and complete the passport provided free to all visitors.

Merit 4: Informative Interview – Explore El Paso Water Career Pathways. Water Conservation Warriors will conduct an informational interview with an El Paso Water professionals.

Merit 5: Calculation – Understand Your Water Use. Water Conservation Warriors will calculate their water footprint, read a water bill, and estimate their daily water consumption.

Merit 6: Read Aloud – Storytime with Willie the Waterdrop. Water Conservation Warriors will read the storybook, *Water Wise with Willie the Waterdrop: A story in English and Spanish* to a friend or family member.

Merit 7: Education Project – tech2o.org Water Learning Project. Water Conservation Warriors will choose an [El Paso-centric Water Lesson](#) from tech2o.org to complete with the help of an adult.

Merit 8: Water Warrior Productions – Produce a water wise media message. Water Conservation Warriors will produce a water wise media message to inspire others to be water wise. *!ALL on camera talent must have signed release form!*

Merit 1: Test your toilet(s) for leaks – Be a responsible toilet owner!

Water Conservation Warriors will learn to look and test for leaks! A leaking toilet can be silent and waste over 1,000 gallons of water a day.

To achieve this merit:

Step 1: Pick up FREE toilet dye tabs from the Tech₂O Center and follow instructions to test your toilets for leaks.

Step 2: With the support of an adult, use a toilet dye tab (or 3-5 drops of food coloring) to test your toilet tank. Help and inspire others you know who own toilets to test their tanks too.

Step 3: Record how many toilets you checked and if you found any leaks on your submission form.

Merit 2: Creative Expression – Indoors & Outdoors Water Conservation Tips

Water Conservation Warriors will learn easy indoor and outdoor tips to conserve water every day. Water Conservation Warriors will identify their favorite way to conserve water and produce a piece of artwork to inspire and teach others.

To achieve this merit:

Step 1: Visit <https://www.epwater.org/residential/conservation/tips> to learn about easy indoor and outdoor tips for water-conserving strategies.

Step 2: Choose one way to conserve water and create a piece of artwork to demonstrate this tip. Your artwork can be a painting, photo, sculpture, poem, short story, dance choreography, video, or something totally unique, but it must share the conservation message.

Step 3: Record the type and title of your creative expression on the submission form and save a photo or a digital version of your creative expression to accompany your submission form.

Merit 3: Passport Program – Visit EPWater’s Tech₂O Water Resources Learning Center

Water Conservation Warriors will visit EPWater’s Tech₂O Water Resources Learning Center and complete the passport provided free to all visitors.

To achieve this merit:

Step 1: Visit www.tech2o.org to plan your visit to the Tech₂O Center.

Step 2: While visiting the Center stop by the information desk to sign in and receive your passport.

Step 3: Obtain all 9 exhibit stamps and answer the questions in the passport.

Step 4: Take a photo of yourself at the Tech₂O Center in front of your favorite exhibit.

Step 5: Record the date of your visit on your submission form and submit a copy of the photo with final paperwork.

If you are planning to complete Merit 6 you can pick up a free copy of the storybook, [Water Wise with Willie the Waterdrop: A Story In English And Spanish](#).

Merit 4: Informative Interview – Explore El Paso Water career pathways

Water Conservation Warriors will conduct an informational interview with an El Paso Water professional.

To achieve this merit:

Step 1: Review the list of El Paso Water departments (page 4) and select one that interests you most.

Step 2: Prepare 5-6 interview questions (see suggested questions below).

Suggested Questions

- What about the water industry interested you and what led you to this position?
- What do you do every day at work?
- What do you like most about your job? What do you like least about your job?
- If I pursue a career in this field, what do I need to do to prepare for it? Education, Specialized Training, Certifications, Internships, Volunteer Opportunities, City/State Exams?
* Water Conservation Warriors ages 14 years and older are encouraged to become an [El Paso Water Volunteer](#). Visit tech2o.org to learn more and complete an application. *
- *Write 2 more questions you would like to ask a water professional.*

Step 3: Call (915) 621-2000 or email tech2o@epwater.org to schedule an interview time. Please note that interviews must be conducted within the workday: M-F 8am-5pm. An interview should take about 15 minutes and should not exceed 30 minutes. Please offer two dates and times you are available to conduct the interview.

Step 4: Monitor your email for the interview time confirmation and receipt of virtual meeting link. Meeting links will be provided by EPWater.

Step 5: Be on time. Conduct your interview using a phone or computer at your scheduled time.

Step 6: Express your gratitude! Handwritten thank you notes are a great way to express your appreciation. Consider sending one to say, "Thank you for your time and insight. I enjoyed learning _____ about your profession."

Mail thank you notes to:

El Paso Water
Attn: (Employee Name)
1154 HAWKINS BLVD
EL PASO, TX 79925

Step 7: Record the date, name, title, and department/section of your interview on your submission form.

See next page for description of different EPWater departments/sections. Select one that is most interesting to you and call (915) 621-2000 to set up your interview date and time.

Helpful link:

Visit [informational interview](#) to learn more about the interview guidance offered by indeed.com.

El Paso Water Departments/Sections

Legal Services - Provide in-house legal support to the Public Service Board (PSB), the President/CEO, Executive Management, and staff. Manage outside legal counsel's work in a manner that promotes the Utility's strategic goals.

Communication & Government Affairs - Responsible for enhancing the reputation of the utility and building trust with customers, elected officials, employees and other stakeholders. The team develops and implements communications programs and government affairs strategies and tactics to support the utility's strategic objectives.

Human Resource (HR) & Risk Management - Provide administrative support and policy guidance in the areas of recruitment, payroll, organizational development and training, classification and compensation, employee relations and worker's compensation. Administer the Utility's Safety Program.

Water Resources - Design and prepare specifications for water supply projects including desalination, well drilling, well equipping, and water resource investigations. Provide technical and administrative support to EPWater Operations in the Well Maintenance program, Engineering and other sections.

TechH₂O & Water Conservation - Responsible for promoting water conservation among residential and commercial customers and next generation customers. The team develops and implements educational and public information programs to increase awareness of regional water issues and the actions we all can take to conserve water.

Technical Services - Administer all functions within the Technical Services Division, including engineering, planning and development, project management, and construction management for water, wastewater, reclaimed water and stormwater projects.

Planning & Development - Process and collect charges for new service installations (water and/or sewer). Prepare (or review) water and sewer design plans for new developments. Perform water and sewer planning analysis and hydraulic modeling analysis to determine the size of facilities and/or required facilities upgrades.

Environmental Compliance & Industrial Pretreatment - Permit, investigate, monitor, and regulate wastewater generated by industrial and commercial customers that may enter the wastewater collection and treatment system. Ensure compliance with the requirements of the Clean Water Act and conduct related special assignments.

Environmental & Code Compliance – Provide accurate, precise, and timely analytical laboratory data to the Water Division, Wastewater Division, Environmental Compliance, Reclaimed Water Division and Stormwater. Furnish data and support for treatment plant operations and process controls.

Wastewater Division - Manage the overall operation and maintenance of all wastewater treatment, reclamation plants, lift stations, storm water pump stations, and the sewer collection system.

Information Technology (IT) - Provide implementation, maintenance, and support of all Utility technology systems. Also supports computer applications associated with instrumentation control, plant operations and other related areas.

Merit 5: Calculation – Understand your water use

Water Conservation Warriors will test and calculate the gpm (gallons per minute) and the gpf (gallons per flush) of their home water fixtures to estimate their daily water consumption.

To achieve this merit:

Step 1: Ever wonder how much water you use? Download [English](#) [Spanish](#) the home calculator sheet to calculate how much water you use for every day routine activities in your home.

Step 2: With the support of an adult, follow the instructions on the sheet to test your home water fixtures of a facet, a showerhead and a toilet.

Step 3: Record your calculated totals on your submission form for: gpm of faucet, gpm of showerhead, gpf for toilet.

Merit 6: Read Aloud – Storytime with Willie the Waterdrop

Water Conservation Warriors will read the storybook, [Water Wise with Willie the Waterdrop: A story in English and Spanish](#) to a friend or family member. The storybook is written for younger students. Completing this merit is a great opportunity for older students to read to a younger sibling or an early elementary class at school.

To achieve this merit:

Step 1: Obtain a copy of *Water Wise with Willie the Waterdrop: A story in English and Spanish* by [downloading the storybook](#) from [tech2o.org](#) or visiting EPWater's TechH₂O Center to pick up a free copy while supplies last.

Step 2: Find a friend, family member, or pet to read the story to. Reading in either English or Spanish will achieve this merit, but try both if you can.

Step 3: Record the date, person/pet you read to and what language you read the story in on your submission form.

Merit 7: Learn – tech2o.org El Paso-centric water lesson

Water Conservation Warriors will choose an El Paso-centric [Water Lesson](#) from [tech2o.org](#) to complete with the help of an adult.

To achieve this merit:

Step 1: Visit [www.tech2o.org](#) and complete 1 lesson from the choices listed on the “Learn” tab.

Step 2: Record the name of the lesson you selected and the date you completed it on your submission form.

Step 3: Record the most fascinating thing you learned from this lesson on your submission form.

Merit 8: Water Warrior Productions – Produce a water wise media message

Water Conservation Warriors will produce a water wise media message to inspire others to be water wise. Please make sure to review this merit's rules, guidelines, and privacy notice.

To achieve this merit:

Step 1: Select the most important water conservation lesson you learned while completing the El Paso Water Wise badge program and develop a 1-2 minute video commercial to teach others about the importance of conserving water

If filming with a smartphone, please film horizontally  (long-ways)  rather than vertically (up & down).

Step 2: Record the title of your media message on your submission form. Submit an link to view the video, using an online source such as: [YouTube](#) or [Vimeo](#).

Helpful link:

[What Is a Public Service Announcement? \(And How To Write It\) | Indeed.com](#)

Rules and Guidelines:

1. Your submission must be original content. Do not submit artwork or video that has been submitted by you elsewhere, or that was created by another person.
2. El Paso Water Utilities-Public Service Board (also referred to as “EPWater”) owns the commercial rights to their logos and trademarks. All participants agree not to make any commercial use of those portions of their submissions which use EPWater (including TechH₂O) trademarks without prior written approval from EPWater.
3. No copyrighted music, video, or images may be used in your submission.
4. No violating copyright laws or using brand names or logos other than El Paso Water or TechH₂O in your video.
BY SIGNING THE SUBMISSION FORM, YOU AGREE TO INDEMNIFY EPWATER FOR ANY CLAIM, DEMAND, JUDGMENT, OR OTHER ALLEGATION ARISING FROM YOUR POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF SOMEONE'S TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT, OR OTHER LEGALLY PROTECTED INTEREST IN ANY WAY IN YOUR ARTWORK OR VIDEO.
5. Your submission may not contain any endorsement, solicitation, commercial, or similar content advocating for or against candidates for office, political issues, or commercial products.
6. Obtain signed **PERSONAL APPEARANCE CONSENT AND RELEASE** forms (last page of this packet) from all people featured in your artwork/video. Submissions without proper documentation will NOT be accepted.
7. Use only material appropriate for a children's museum and family friendly content.

PRIVACY NOTICE:

By entering the El Paso Water Wise Badge Program, you grant EPWater perpetual, royalty-free license to use your artwork, photo or video, in any media format for commercial purposes. You grant this entity permission to edit, modify, format, or adapt your artwork/photo/video for its purposes and at its discretion. Except for the El Paso Water Wise badge awarded to program participants, no other compensation will be paid to any participant for the submission or for future use of the submission in any manner. The personal information you submit will only be used to contact you if there is a question or issue regarding your submission or its content. We will not disclose, give, sell, or transfer any personal information about you, unless required by applicable law. As your submission may be made available to the public, you should not include personal information about yourself or anyone else.

[Submission Form](#)

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HOW TO SUBMIT FINAL FORMS

Prefer to submit a hard copy? Please email this submission form and all supporting materials to tech2o@epwater.org or deliver them to EPWater's Tech₂O Water Resources Learning Center (10751 Montana Ave, El Paso, TX 79935).

OR Click [here](#) to submit online – Easier and Faster 😊.

Participant Information:

Name: _____ Age: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Merits Completed (Please check box and date completed for all that apply)

- ☐ **Merit 1: Test your toilet(s) for leaks – Be a responsible toilet owner!**
How many toilets did you check? _____
Did you find a leak? _____
- ☐ **Merit 2: Creative Expression – Indoor & Outdoor Water Conservation Tips**
Type of creative expression: _____
Title of creative expression: _____
Attach photo or digital version of your artwork with final submission.
- ☐ **Merit 3: Passport Program – Visit EPWater's Tech₂O Water Resources Learning Center**
Date of visit: _____
What is the most fascinating thing you learned at the Tech₂O Center? _____
- ☐ **Merit 4: Informative Interview – Explore El Paso Water Career Pathways**
Date of interview: _____ Name of professional: _____
Title of professional: _____ Department/Section: _____
What is the most fascinating thing you learned from the interview? _____
- ☐ **Merit 5: Calculation – Understand Your Water Use**
What is the gpm (gallons per minute) of your faucet? _____
What is the gpm (gallons per minute) of your showerhead? _____
What is the gpf (gallons per flush) of your toilet? _____
- ☐ **Merit 6: Read Aloud – Storytime with Willie the Waterdrop**
Date completed: _____
How many people did you read aloud to? _____
What language(s) did you read aloud it in? _____
- ☐ **Merit 7: Learn – tech2o.org Water Lessons**
Date completed: _____
Name of project: _____
What is the most fascinating thing you learned from this lesson? _____
- ☐ **Merit 8: Water Warrior Productions – Produce a Water Wise media message**
Title of media message: _____
Description/Summary: _____
Link or method of digital file submission: _____

El Paso Water Wise Badge Program

PERSONAL APPEARANCE CONSENT AND RELEASE

Each person appearing in a photo or video **MUST** fill out, sign, and date this form.

Production Date: (Date or Range of Dates Filmed) _____

Person Appearing: (Please Print) _____

Production Entity: (Name of Student[s] Making Video) _____

Production Location(s): _____

I grant El Paso Water, their nominees, designees, successors and assigns or those for whom they are acting, the right and permission to use, publish, record and/or edit into any program and related materials associated with the El Paso Water Wise Badge Program my name, school, biographical information, likeness, image, voice, quotes, and interviews ("recordings"). El Paso Water shall own all right, title and interest, including copyright, in and to the badge program, including the recordings and any program produced in association, to be used and disposed of without limitation. Any materials may be edited and otherwise altered at the sole discretion of El Paso Water and used worldwide in whole or in part for any and all broadcasting, audio/visual, and/or exhibition purposes in any manner or media, in perpetuity.

I understand that I have no rights to any badge program materials that may be produced or any benefits derived there from.

I waive any right that I may have to inspect and approve the finished product or the advertising copy that may be used in connection with the finished program or any component of the badge program, or the use to which it may be applied.

I release, discharge and agree to hold harmless El Paso Water, their nominees, designees, successors and assigns, or others for whom El Paso Water is acting, from any liability by virtue of any use whatsoever, whether intentional or otherwise, or from any change that may occur or be produced in the taking of the above described images or recordings, or in any processing rendering towards the completion of the finished product, unless it can be shown that the reproduction was maliciously caused, produced, and published solely for the purpose of subjecting me to conspicuous ridicule, scandal, reproach, scorn, and indignity.

Signature of Person Appearing: _____ Date _____
(If under 18 years of age, the parent or legal guardian of the above named person must sign below.)

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian: _____ Date _____

Parent or Legal Guardian (Please Print Name): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Phone: _____