



Earth and sky, woods and fields, lakes and rivers... are excellent schoolmasters, and teach... us more than we can ever learn from books.

- John Lubbock -

**A Partnership Between the
Louis Riel School Division and
Save Our Seine**



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The mission of the Louis Riel School Division is to develop responsible global citizens through respectful partnerships between home, school and community. Save Our Seine is dedicated to protecting, improving and restoring the Seine River and its natural and historic landscape. Together, the two organisations have a common purpose to support the education of young people as they work to understand how to protect the riparian environment of the Seine River, as it winds its way through the school division.

All **grades 6—8 teachers** and their students are invited to participate in an exciting partnership between the Louis Riel School Division and Save Our Seine called **WATERWAYS**.

The main goals of the partnership are:

- To promote hands-on learning in Middle Years classrooms;
- To raise awareness about the Seine River water basin and the efforts to improve the quality of the water and riparian habitats of the river;
- To connect Manitoba Science curriculum outcomes to the “environmental protection” pillar of Education for Sustainable Development;
- To offer opportunities for students to engage actively as citizens in the community.

There are three ways to get involved in **WATERWAYS**. You can choose the involvement that works best for you. Consider each of the following:

Tier 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Interested classes/schools will have access to a kit containing lessons, resources and equipment with “water” as the general theme; ⇒ In reference to outcomes in the grade 6 cluster Diversity of Living Things, the grade 7 cluster Interactions with Ecosystems or the grade 8 cluster Water Systems, classes will explore various water tests to determine the quality of water that exists in the school setting (classroom, aquarium, puddle etc.); ⇒ Classes/schools will access assistance from the LRSD Instructional Support team AND the Coordinator from Save Our Seine to plan and implement any aspects of the WATERWAYS resources.
Tier 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Same involvement as in Tier 1 except that there will be excursions outdoors (e.g. a walk along the river path to record and classify vegetation etc.); ⇒ Water samples from the Seine River will be transported to classrooms for comparative testing between school water and river water and to classify macro-invertebrates; ⇒ Classes/schools will continue to access support from the LRSD Instructional Support team AND the Coordinator from Save Our Seine.
Tier 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Same involvement as in Tier 2 except that there will be an/some excursion/s to the Seine River to complete full water tests and vegetation and macro-invertebrate inventories of the riparian habitat; ⇒ Large kits containing all the necessary equipment (e.g. nets, hip waders, measuring tools, water test kits etc.) will be available on loan to classes/schools; ⇒ Main resource will be activities/procedures from “Adopt a River” program; ⇒ Paperwork will be required for this tier as there is direct access to water; ⇒ A member of the LRSD Instructional Support team and/or the Coordinator from Save Our Seine will accompany classes to the river.

Expressing Interest in *Waterways*...

Step 1: Ponder your individual interest in the Waterways programming.

Step 2: If you think this will “work” for you, discuss the Waterways programming with other grades 6, 7 and 8 teachers in your school.

Step 3: Discuss the Waterways programming with your school administration.

Step 4: Decide on which “Tier” of commitment works for you in the 2014—2015 school year.

Step 5: Communicate your interest with your name, school and grade level to Harry Bell at harry.bell@lrsd.net .

Please note: Participating teachers will be invited to attend a 1/2 day Waterways workshop in late September, date and time to be announced.

We call upon the waters that rim the earth, horizon to horizon, that flow in our rivers and streams, that fall in our gardens and fields, and we ask that they teach us and show us the way.

-Chinook blessing-