

TRWD Education Trailer Use Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your interest! There are no full-time staff assigned to these resources: they are offered to the community on a first come, first served basis as staff time allows.

*ST= Stream Trailer; RT= Reservoir Trailer.

What is the maximum number of people that can be taught with the stream trailer at a time?

- a. ST/RT: Class size should be 15-20 attendees, depending on size/age
- b. Participants are requested <u>not</u> to touch the experiment/lesson inside the trailers.

2. What is the best age group to be taught by the trailers?

a. First grade through any adult professional level

3. Can my child's school/church group use the stream trailer?

- a. Education Trailers must be requested through the application process: https://www.trwd.com/trailer
- b. If TRWD (Tarrant Regional Water District) staff are not available, consider other local partners who can facilitate or transport the stream trailer.
- c. In certain circumstances, trailers may be checked out via a rental agreement.

4. Does booking the stream trailer also mean I am booking a facilitator to teach it?

- a. **It does not.** If you want a trained TRWD facilitator to teach the trailer, you must request it through the application process: https://www.trwd.com/trailer/
- b. You can teach with the trailers yourself! See next question.

5. How do I learn how to use and teach with the education trailers?

- a. A video of a short lesson can be found here.
- b. TEKS aligned lesson plans are available here.
- c. Education Trailer Facilitator Classes are hosted by the Watershed Program and open to TRWD, cities, counties, ISDs, agencies, non-profits, and the public.
 - i. To add your name to the list for future participants, email watersheds@trwd.com.
 - ii. The mechanics of how to set up and run the trailer are shown at these classes.

6. How far in advance should I book the stream trailers or the Watershed Experience Trailer?

- a. A minimum of one month before the event. The busiest months are April, May, and October.
 - i. Most events during the busiest months are booked a year in advance.



7. What are some lessons the stream trailer can teach?

- a. ST Courses are unlimited! Some examples: What are Watersheds?, River Shapes (landforms), components and processes of a river system, landscape level BMPs (Best Management Practices), the water cycle, land management and changes, stormwater, Nature-based Solutions (NbS), water resource conservation and protection.
- b. Lessons can range in length from a minimum of 20 minutes to a maximum of one hour, depending on the audience and facilitator needs.
- c. Former Watershed Experience Trailer exhibits (4): Point Source vs. Non-Point Source; Enviroscape; Rainfall Simulator; Water Reuse and Conservation. <u>Click for</u> Watershed Experience Trailer lessons with photos. English and Spanish still available.

8. Can I pull the trailer with my personal truck?

- a. **You cannot.** The Stream Trailers have the Tarrant Regional Water District's tax-exempt license plates and must be towed with a tax-exempt vehicle.
 - i. A City, Independent School District, County, or state & federal agencies are examples of local tax-exempt partners you can ask to collaborate with for your event.
- b. A (free) Rental Agreement also needs to be completed and signed, which includes verification for proof of insurance.

9. Can my event be canceled by the weather?

a. Yes. These education trailers require appropriate and safe weather conditions for traveling and facilitating, as well as the student learning experience.

The weather must be above 45° with wind-chill, no heavy rain, no lightning, and no strong winds. Trailers are usually drained and stored in the winter. Time of day is also important, as this outdoor activity needs sunlight. We work with every event organizer to create the best experience possible.

10. What are the logistical needs for the trailer at the event site?

- a. All trailers need to be parked on level ground to function correctly.
- b. The ST and RT will need a minimum of 5 parking spaces reserved for their use.
- c. The ST and RT will need access to a potable water spigot and hose to fill the water tank before an event. **They cannot be transported with water in the tank.**

What is the difference between the Stream Trailer (ST) and the Reservoir Trailer (RT)?

a. The Reservoir Trailer (RT) includes a metal reservoir at the top of the trailer, whereas the stream trailer has 2 PVC pipes pumping water directly into the stream. Please see pictures on the last pages.



Stream Trailer (ST)



Reservoir Trailer (RT)

