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ADEQ, Prescott Creeks Plan Water Quality Testing Event for Students at La Tierra Community School on Friday, Feb. 17

PHOENIX (Feb. 10, 2012) – The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Prescott Creeks announced today that they will co-sponsor a Prescott water quality testing event on Feb. 17 from 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m. for 16 fourth- and fifth-grade students of La Tierra Community School in a tributary of Granite Creek near the school, 124 N. Virginia Street.

Students will be divided into groups and given kits to test for pH balance, temperature, dissolved oxygen and turbidity in the water. The event will be conducted on the shores of the water body, located east of downtown Prescott. The event is part of Prescott Creeks' local outreach program and ADEQ's water education efforts around the state through the agency's Children's Environmental Health program.

"These are great events that help students foster a love of the environment and are very instrumental in helping children excel in the sciences and pointing them in that direction toward a career," said Ann-Marie Benz, outreach and communications director for Prescott Creeks.

"Water testing events like this for the Prescott students and throughout the state increase environmental awareness and help students of all ages protect public health year-round," ADEQ Director Henry Darwin said.

In addition, the event is being held in observance of World Water Monitoring Day, which was held on Sept. 18 last year and was celebrated by more than 212,000 people on six continents monitoring their local waterways during 2010. The La Tierra school students will be preparing a report for the WWMD website about their water sampling experiences.

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