

2023 'Harold Hungerford Conservation Kits' Equipment Grant Application

The Kankakee County Soil & Water Conservation District is currently accepting applications for the 'Harold Hungerford Conservation Kit' equipment grant! All educators that teach within Kankakee County are eligible to apply to receive one of the following kits of their choice: soil health kit, water quality and bioindicators kit, native plants and herbarium kit, insect collection kit, or nature journaling and illustration kit. The equipment included in each 'Conservation Kit' is listed on pages 2 and 3. Once awarded, equipment becomes the property of the teacher to use for educational purposes. *Only those who have not been awarded a Conservation Kit the previous year may apply.*

Applications for all grade levels will be accepted for review. Educators teaching at public schools, private schools, or for homeschool co-ops within Kankakee County are encouraged to apply.

In addition to being awarded a 'Harold Hungerford Conservation Kit' of their choice, the educator(s) will receive hands-on training and resources to effectively utilize the equipment inside the classroom and out in the field. The District's Resource Conservationist will work with the educator(s) to create a conservation-related activity that utilizes the equipment and fits within the teacher's curriculum. The Resource Conservationist will travel to the classroom during the 2023-2024 school year to perform the classroom activity with the students. It is also an option for the educator to "opt outdoors" for an additional hands-on workshop outside of the classroom.

To apply, complete application on the following pages. Up to five Conservation Kits will be awarded in 2020.

- Applications are due on Wednesday, May 31, 2023. Email completed applications to Crystal.Sauder@kankakeecountyswcd.org
- Applications will be reviewed by the Kankakee County SWCD Board in June.
- Recipients will be announced the middle of June 2023.
- Kits will be delivered at the beginning of the school year, with hands-on training scheduled for the summer/fall of 2023.
- Classroom activity and/or outdoor workshop to be determined based on educator's schedule.

For any questions, please contact Crystal Sauder, Resource Conservationist, at (815) 937-8940 ext. 3. To learn more about the Kankakee County Soil & Water District and our mission, please visit us at www.kankakeecountyswcd.org or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/K3SWCD.

To learn more about Harold Hungerford, local conservation education pioneer, visit our website!

Conservation Kits Descriptions

Soil Health Kit

Includes the following equipment:

1. A **basic soil kit** to test for nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, and pH.
2. A **soil texture kit** to determine the percentage of sand, silt, and clay in soil samples.
3. Student **macro lenses** to view components of soil and soil biota.
4. **Soil corer** and **hand shovels** to gather soil core samples for soil profiling and investigation.
5. **Petri dishes, tweezers, and plastic transfer pipettes** for viewing soil and biota.
6. **Soil thermometer.**
7. **Clipboards** for on-the-go data collection.
8. An **educational resource binder** full of soil health resources, activities, and more!
9. Plastic **storage containers** with lids.



Native Plant and Herbarium Kit

Native Plants & Herbarium Kit

Includes the following equipment:

1. **4 student herbarium presses** and **herbarium paper** for plant pressing.
2. **Herbarium glue, scissors, paint brushes, mounting paper, and labels** for botanical curation.
3. **Pruning shears** and **bags** for floral collection.
4. **Field guides** for identifying native trees and wildflowers.
5. **Clipboards** for on-the-go data collection.
6. An **educational resource binder** full of native plant resources, activities, and more!
7. Plastic **storage containers** with lids.



Native Plant and Herbarium Kit

Insect Collection Kit

Includes the following equipment:

1. **“Common Insects of Kankakee County” insect collection** for reference and identification.
2. **4 insect nets, cups** (pitfall traps), **collection jars and containers, ethyl acetate**, and a **squeeze bottle** for collecting insects.
3. **12 insect storage boxes** for student insect collections.
4. **Insect pins, pinning blocks, and pin holders** for pinning.
5. **Versaboards** (spreading boards) and **tracing paper** for pinning Lepidoptera (butterflies & moths).
6. **Tweezers** for adjusting insects while pinning.
7. **Insect field guides** for identification.
8. **Clipboards** for on-the-go data collection.
9. An **educational resource binder** full of insect resources, activities, and more!
10. Plastic **storage containers** with lids.



Insect Collection Kit

Nature Journaling & Illustration Kit

Includes the following equipment:

1. **24 Notesketch pads** for outdoor nature journaling and illustrating.
2. Round and flat **sable watercolor brushes, watercolor palettes**, and **mixed media paper pads** for watercolor illustrations.
3. **Micron pens, drawing tool kits, colored pencils, pencil rolls**, and **erasers** for on-the-go sketching, journaling, and illustrations.
4. **1 Guide to Nature Drawing and Journaling** for teacher reference.
5. **9 wildlife, birds, and trees & wildflowers pocket guides** for easy-to-transport identification.
6. **1 Nature of the Midwest field guide** for identification and illustration reference.
7. **3 mini plant presses** to create botanical keepsakes for your journal.
8. An **educational resource binder** full of nature journaling resources, activities, and more!
9. Plastic **storage containers** with lids.

Water Quality & Bioindicators Kit

Includes the following equipment:

1. **Kick net** for collecting benthic invertebrates and a **dip net** for collecting pelagic invertebrates.
2. Plastic **collection containers, labels, and markers** for invertebrate sampling.
3. **Petri dishes, tweezers, macro lenses, and plastic transfer pipettes** for viewing aquatic plants and critters.
4. **Nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, and 5-in-1 test strips** to test water for free/total chlorine, hardness, alkalinity, and pH.
5. **Surveyor's rope, thermometer, ping pong ball, and stopwatch** for collecting data on physical characteristics of the body of water. **Clipboards** for on-the-go data collection.
6. **Aquatic invertebrate identification guides**.
7. An **educational resource binder** full of water quality resources, activities, and more!
8. Plastic **storage containers** with lids.



2023 ‘Harold Hungerford Conservation Kits’ Equipment Grant Application

Personal Information

Name (First, Last) _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address:

School Information

School Name: _____

School District: _____

School Address:

Approximate start date of 2023-2024 schoolyear: _____

Approximate end date of 2023-2024 schoolyear: _____

Classroom Use

Please list all classes you will be teaching during the 2023-2024 school year.

Application continues on next page...

Please fill out the following information for the class(es) that will be utilizing the equipment.

Class Name	Grade(s)	Brief Description

Which Conservation Kit are you applying for? _____

What equipment do you already have for classroom us, if any?

Would you be available to meet with the District's Resource Conservationist for equipment training in the summer or fall of 2023?

Yes No

Are you willing to work with the District's Resource Conservationist to create a hands-on learning activity for the Resource Conservationist to teach your students during the schoolyear?

Yes No

Would you be interested in an outdoor activity for your students to get hands-on experience utilizing the equipment?

Yes No

Please answer the following questions in a separate document and include your response with the application upon submission. There is no length requirement, but please provide enough detail to help us get to know you and your plans! Paragraph or bullet point answers will be accepted.

How will the Conservation Kit of your choice be used in your classroom and, if applicable, in the field. How will the equipment change or enhance your current curriculum? What concepts do you hope to teach using the Conservation Kit? In what ways can the Kankakee County Soil & Water Conservation District help serve you, and other educators in the county?