



### Interested in learning more?

The EnviroScape is available for checkout. Please contact us to learn more about its availability. Pick it up from the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization anytime between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

You can also arrange for a presentation. Contact us for more details.

## Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

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## EnviroScape

The Vermillion River Watershed maintains the **EnviroScape**, an interactive display that demonstrates how water picks up pollutants as it flows downstream. The model represents a watershed that includes several land uses. A lake starts out clean, but as it rains, pollution is washed downstream to contaminate the lake.

### Agricultural areas

Lesson: Sediment, fertilizer, and pesticides easily run off when buffers are not in place.

### Industrial

Lesson: Industrial areas can be sources of pollution when they are not managed correctly.

### Residential

Lesson: Exposed soil easily washes off construction sites, use tools to reduce the erosion. Grass clippings introduce excess phosphorus into downstream water bodies. Sweep, compost, or properly dispose of them.

### Forests

Lesson: Trees have deep roots that stabilize steep slopes. When these trees are cut down erosion is more likely. Make sure when a tree is cut down a new one is planted!

### Roads

Lesson: In the winter, salt is applied to roads to melt ice. Salt in water bodies suffocates plants and animals that are not used to high salt levels. Don't use salt on your property, and encourage others to use best practices for snow and ice removal.