

## Water Workforce Pathways – Career Fair Prep Checklist

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### Plan (1-month ahead)

- Register for the career fair or confirm attendance with the organizing organization.** Ask in advance if you need anyone who speaks a second language to talk to attendees.
- Recruit others to attend with you.** Tip: It's best to have a few people with varied jobs/backgrounds/ages attend to offer a breadth of representation in the field.
- Compile materials.** Do you want to bring handouts? Need translation into other languages? Need a banner? A general STEM careers banner is available for use, contact Chyann Erickson ([cerickson@freshwater.org](mailto:cerickson@freshwater.org)) to coordinate use.

### Bring

- Giveaways** – candy, mints, pens, water bottles, etc. Attending entities may have their own materials to contribute.
- Hands-on display or piece of equipment.** A piece of pipe, water samples, a water testing kit are all great options and help get the conversation started!
- Tap water for a water taste test.** Bring a pitcher and cups to start a conversation about where tap water comes from and the contributing careers.
- Job postings for jobs in the area.** These could include jobs within your own company.

### Talking points

- 1/3 of the water workforce will be retiring in the next ten years. Join this field of secure, high-demand jobs that allow you to positively contribute to the community.
- Many water jobs offer a good work-life balance, with predictable schedules and opportunities for remote work depending on the specific role.
- The water industry offers a wide range of jobs requiring diverse skill sets and specialties. No matter what your background is, chances are you're bound to find a niche that suits your interests and strengths. From GED to PhD.
- Many water jobs offer competitive salaries and benefits packages, making them financially secure career options.
- The water industry is always evolving with new technologies and best practices in water treatment, conservation, and infrastructure development. Water jobs are intellectually stimulating with opportunities to solve real-world problems.
- Talk about your journey to the water industry. Why did you choose to work in this field and what do you find most rewarding? What was your educational path?