



September 24, 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have an excellent opportunity to participate in a field trip that directly addresses one of the Science 9 units we are covering this year—Environmental Chemistry. The information gathered on this trip also serves as excellent review for the Freshwater & Saltwater Systems unit of Science 8. Throughout the day, students will investigate the health of the Bow River from rafts, with certified river guides. Specifically, students will measure the quality of the water both upstream and downstream of the Bonnybrook wastewater treatment plant. A tour of the plant is also included. This is a unique opportunity for our students, as members of the public cannot tour this facility. RiverWatch, a distinguished science program operational in Edmonton and Calgary since 1995, has successfully engaged over 100 000 participants.

This field trip will occur on the following dates:

9-1, 9-3, 9-4, & 9-6 **Wednesday October 7, 2026**

9-2, 9-5, & 9-7 **Thursday October 8, 2026**

If possible, please reschedule any appointments on the day of your child's trip as leaving the trip early or arriving late is not an option.

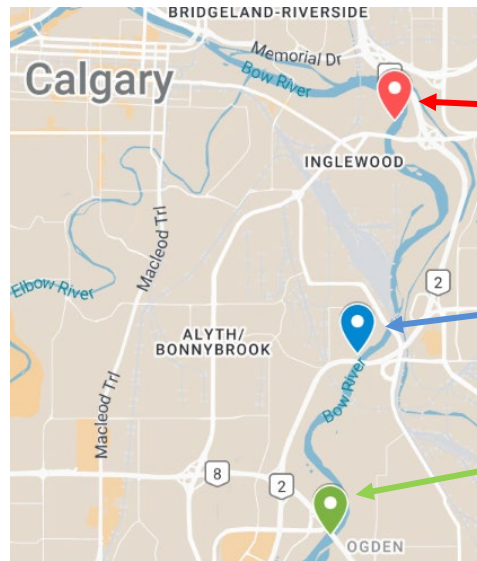
Acknowledgement of Risk forms must be filled out and returned to your child's science teacher by **Monday, September 28**. Though swimming is not permitted on the trip, a swimming ability form is required to inform staff of students who may not be comfortable around water. All participants are provided with and must wear a Transport Canada Special Purpose Vessel PFD while on the water or along shorelines.

Cost: The cost of this field trip is \$50. Please pay online through your MyCBE account. After September 29, 2026, the fee will be non-refundable.

What to bring: Students are required to dress for the weather. Hats, sunscreen, mitts, and/or toques may be required. Students will be wearing rubber boots all day, so extra socks may also be needed. Rain gear is provided, if the weather requires it. **Long pants are also required when touring the wastewater treatment plant, no exceptions.** Students will also need to bring a garbage-free bagged lunch, water to drink, and all snacks. Please do not bring any valuables or money. Cell phones are not permitted on the rafts and there is no secure location to leave them throughout the day. Backpacks are also not permitted.

Questions: Please feel free to contact Mr. Hagen (fahagen@cbe.ab.ca) for further information about the trip, or you can browse the RiverWatch website at www.riverwatch.ca.

Map



Pearce Estate Park
Rafting starting point

Bonnybrook Wastewater
Treatment Plant
Lunch and tour site

Graves Landing
Rafting ending point

Itinerary for October 7 & 8

9:00 am depart William D. Pratt

9:30 am – 10:00 am Classes arrive at the river staging area – Pearce Estate Park

10:00 am – 10:30 am Students start rafting with interpretation to the 1st test site

10:30 am – 11:00 am Students arrive at the 1st test site for water quality tests

11:00 am – 11:30 am Students continue rafting to the Bonnybrook Wastewater Treatment Plant (BBWWTP)

11:30 am – 11:40 am Students arrive at BBWWTP and walk to the lunch site

11:40 am – 12:05 pm Students eat lunch

12:05 pm – 12:20 pm Students start BBWWTP walking tour

12:20 pm – 12:30 pm Students walk back to raft to start rafting again

12:30 pm – 1:20 pm Students continue rafting to take-out site, Graves landing

1:20 pm – 1:30 pm Rafts out of the water, load onto trailers, return equipment

1:30 -1:40 pm Board buses to return to William D. Pratt

*Please note every effort will be made to return to the school by 2:30

Students will be well prepared for this experience through class discussions and prior learning. Students need to be reminded that a high standard of behaviour is expected when representing William D. Pratt in the community. In addition, given the safety precautions required around bodies of water, horseplay or other such inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. Should a student not adhere to these expectations, river guides and staff may remove a student from the activity and parents may be called to pick up their student.

Sincerely,

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