

THE THIRST PROJECT WATER WALK

Objective:

What is a water walk?

The goal of a water walk is to get a conversation going with people in your community about the water crisis and inspire them to want to join the cause. To do this, we will do what the founders of the Thirst Project did: hand out free water bottles to get people to ask us what we're doing and talk with them about the water crisis.

Why walk for water?

- **663 million** people lack access to safe, clean drinking water
- Every **21 seconds** a child dies of a water-related disease
- Women and children spend **6-8 hours** each day to fetch water and are therefore unable to get jobs or go to school
- Filled jerry cans can weigh **44 pounds** which women and children must carry for **3.75 miles** on average

Materials/Costs:

- Cases of mini water bottles* (\$5 per pack of 24), Poster (\$1),
- Labels (\$1), Quarter cards with water crisis facts/thirst project info
- Optional: Chalk (\$5), 5-gallon jerry can (\$20-30), "dirty" water bottles

*you can try to get water bottle donations from local grocery stores!

Event Timeline:

One month before event:

- Decide on a location and get any permissions required
- Reach out to local stores for possible water bottle donations
- Begin gathering materials

One-two weeks before event:

- Make thirst project posters and think of chalk art designs for event
- Create quarter cards
- Label water bottles with "thirstproject.org"
- Help members come up with talking points on the water crisis

Day of event:

- Set up posters, make chalk art
- Members will walk around with water bottles and fliers while talking with the public about the water crisis and Thirst Project
- Challenge people to carry the filled jerry can
- Be enthusiastic, have fun, and take pictures!

What is the Thirst Project?

The Thirst Project is the world's largest youth water organization. Their mission is to educate young people about the global water crisis and challenge them to join the clean water cause.

The organization started out with seven passionate college students who handed out 1000 free bottles of water on Hollywood Boulevard to get people to stop and talk with them about the water crisis.

Currently, they travel to schools all across the country to inform students about the water crisis and encourage them to get involved. In addition, they have built and funded water projects to provide clean water to communities in 13 countries.

See <https://www.thirstproject.org/> for more information.



Tips for the event:

- Stay positive and enthusiastic
- Choose a high-traffic location, with lots of young people
- Prepare members with talking points and how to engage with the public
- Cooler for the water bottles
- Use visuals (jerry can, "dirty" water bottles)

If you want to run this service project at one of your upcoming meetings, please email:

service.committee@nycirclek.org

Someone will be able to take you through the steps and organize the project. We hope you enjoy it!

Created by:

NYCKI Service Initiatives Committee