

Image Description of WaterViz Animated Art

The background image of WaterViz is an original painting by artist Xavier Cortada, with sections for each component of the water cycle. Each section is animated by moving particles. The number of particles and the speed of their movements are directly proportional to the data generated by environmental sensors at the Hubbard Brook. For example, as stream flow increases, the number of particles in the stream increases and they 'flow' faster.



Beginning at the top, the animated graphic shows a forest of trees that change in appearance based on the season. For example, in summer, green foliage is shown on the trees. Whereas in winter, the trees do not have foliage. Below the trees, roots extend down into a layer of soil. In some winter images, a layer of snow is shown above the soil. At the bottom of the graphic, is a stream with water flowing from left to right. The red number on the bottom left of the screen shows the amount of stream water passing a specific point each second (cubic feet of water per second, cfs).

The following animated particles are shown in the graphic to represent different components of the water cycle:

1. Particles move from top to bottom to represent rain or snow falling.
2. Waves move in the soil layer to show the amount of water stored in the soil.
3. Particles flow from left to right in the stream.
4. A hazy green mist rises from the surface of the plants and a hazy white mist rises from the stream and soil.