Additional Opportunities Available

Creeking Field Trip

Students investigate what animals live in our local streams and determine the water quality from the macro-invertebrates that our found in this field trip opportunity.
Grades 3 -5, 7, 9-12

Family Night Activities

Franklin Soil and Water can bring an activity and information to your after school or evening family events celebrating STEM , Earth Day, Right to Read Week and more!

Children's Water Festival

The Children's Water Festival is an annual event for Franklin County 5th grade students currently held at Franklin Park each May. Franklin Soil and Water continues to be a partner and presenter for this event each year.

Youth/ Scout / Environmental Club Meetings

Franklin Soil and water can provide presentations, activities and resources to help meet a 4-H topic, scout badge or other organizational goal. Any of our programs can be modified to fit the needs of your group or club. We also support and assist with stream clean ups and storm drain labeling projects.

Conservation Poster Contest

Franklin County students in grades K-12 are invited to participate in a poster contest on an environmental theme each spring. Winners are chosen in different age categories and presented with awards in a ceremony at a local venue.

Envirothon Competition

High school students working in teams answer questions about aquatic ecology, forestry, soils, wildlife and a current environmental issue in this outdoor competition. Regional winners progress to the state contest with hopes to advance to the North American event.

Educator Workshops

Workshops for educators that provide resources, background information and hands-on activities for a variety of environmental topics are provided upon request. College credit and continuing education units are available.

Curriculum programs offered include:

- Leopold Education Project
- Project Food, Land and People
- Project Learning Tree
- PLT Early Child & HS Modules
- Project WILD/Aquatic WILD
- Growing Up Wild
- Project WET
- Getting Little Feet Wet
- Healthy Water, Healthy People

SWIFT Newsletter

Soil and **W**ater **I**nformation **f**or **T**eachers is distributed electronically three times during the school year. It provides information about environmentally themed educator workshops, contests, grant opportunities, resources and family events.

Education programs are possible through support from Franklin County Commissioners, Municipalities, Villages and Townships in compliance with storm water permit requirements.

Programs presented by Franklin Soil and Water's Environmental Education Team. To schedule contact:

Linda Pettit
Environmental Education Specialist
linda-pettit@franklinswcd.org
614-486-9613 ext. 115

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Creating Conservation Solutions for Over 70 Years

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2017-2018 School Year

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District

Soil and Water Quality Education Opportunities

Presentations / Workshops / Resources / Contests

New Environmental Programs
for the 2017-2018 School Year!

The Power of Plants!

An introduction of plant parts and their different roles will be followed by the discovery that plants soak up and filter storm water runoff. A discussion of the importance and advantages of using native plants will also be included. This program correlates directly with Life Science for grades preK-5.

Map Your Watershed

This introduction to **G**eographic **I**nformation **S**ystems (GIS) will demonstrate how can we use technology to map and design the watershed we live within. It will include a discussion of what the implications are of using a digital format and how we can analyze data for a project. It correlates directly with HS technology standards as well as environmental topics of watershed and water quality. Grades 9-12

How to Design a Rain Garden

This program will answer the what, how, why and where of putting in a rain garden and specifically focus on how we use math formulas to design a rain garden in the most optimal location. Grades 9-12

**Signifies the program is also available for loan.*

Environmental Education Programs
Presentations have been correlated with Ohio's New Learning Standards for Science.

Exploring Soil: Hands-on Soil Investigations

Students rub rocks together to create soil, experience the difference between sand, silt and clay and create a loam model to enhance their understanding of soil components. Grades: 3, 6

Journey Through the Soil — Soil Tunnel

A realistically painted canvas mural depicts soil layers and plant roots. The ingredients, textures, properties, and importance of soil are discussed One panel depicts a rain garden, and pervious pavement. Grades 3, 4, 6.

The Sliding Soil — Soil Erosion Simulator*

The concept of erosion is demonstrated with the soil erosion simulator. Students predict and compare the effects of rain falling on bare soil, mulched soil and grass. Soil erosion, water quality and landscape alterations are discussed.
Grades: 2-4, 7-8, 9-12

What's in Our Water — EnviroScape*

Students witness how the water quality changes when rain and land pollutants mix through runoff and erosion, with this watershed model. The concept of point and non-point sources of pollution can be addressed. Grades preK, 1-4, 7, 9-12

Francis the Fish*

Students portray characters in a local community and witness the effect of everyday actions on the water quality of streams and ponds. Grades: preK, 1-4

Literature-Based Environmental Programs
Children's stories provide an avenue to introduce and investigate environmental topics.

Crawdad Creek*

Students sit around a "dry stream" model as they encounter local stream animals and their habitat needs through this story by Scott Russell Sanders.
Grades: preK-1, 3-5

The Empty Lot

Habitat needs and environmental interaction are explored as students participate in this story by Dale Fife.
Grades: preK– 1, 4

The Lorax

Through participation in the narration of this Dr. Seuss story, students witness human impact on the environment and discuss the importance of making wise choices.
Grades: preK, 4, 7, 9-12

Murky Water Caper*

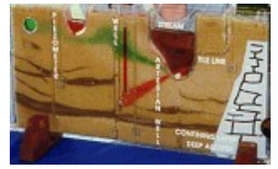
Students become the characters in this readers' theater play of Deborah Rodney Pex's detective story about the causes and effects of water pollution. Scripts, "costumes", and simple scenery are included. *Grades: 4, 7, 9-12*

Under One Rock— Discovering Soil is Alive

A discussion of soil as a habitat, and its macro-invertebrate inhabitants is followed by a hands-on investigation to discover the critters that live in the soil and their role in soil health. With younger students the critters found are compared to those in the book *Under One Rock* by Anthony D. Frederick.
Grades: preK-3, 5, 7

Models and Kits for Loan
Visual and interactive materials provide students with a better understanding of scientific concepts.

Ground Water Model



A simulated cut-away section of the earth shows the dynamics of water flowing underground and the potential of groundwater contamination. *Grades: 7, 9-12*

***Lorax* Loan Kit**

A 6' x 6' felt backdrop and related props are provided to bring Dr. Seuss's story of the Lorax to life.
Grades: preK-4, 7, 9-12

Soil Profile Panel

A 6' x 6' felt backdrop simulates the layers of the soil. Soil component add-ons, provide interactive learning of what is in our soil.
Grades: preK, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Rocks and Soil Loan Kits

Books, activities, and samples of rocks, minerals, fossils and soil help meet Earth and Space Sciences Standards on the components, properties, and importance of these resources. Grades: 3, 4, 6, 8, HS Geology

Watershed Loan Kit

Children's books, activities, puppets, preserved water macroinvertebrates, watershed posters, and a dry stream model help students become familiar with watershed concepts, stream habitats and water quality issues. The variety of items cover a range of grade levels from *preK-HS*.