

Date: 09MAY2009

Location: Chaney Creek – Phillips Park location

Tools: Clay, Food Dye, Sand, Biodegradable plastic cups, aquarium gravel, canoes/kayaks, Cleanup bags.

Summary: W. Nelson (Education Coordinator), B. Iery (Summary)

Students reviewed groundwater terms and learned about an aquifers and why they are important. Students also learned about House Bill 643 which would inject “reclaimed water” or treated sewage into our aquifers for temporary storage. Students then participated in an aquifer exercise called “Thirstin Builds an Aquifer” for a visual and hands on interpretation of how aquifers work. After a quick water safety refresher students then took part in a mini river cleanup on Chaney Creek in canoes and kayaks.

Results: Students should have a grasp of how aquifers work and why they are vital to our ecosystems and our drinking water. They are able to recognize and define groundwater vocabulary like recharge, saturation zone, and depletion. Students learned about a Bill in the NC General Assembly that could affect our aquifers and ways they can help stop this from happening.