# Brief Description: In this activity, students will watch a video and locate a stream near their house using Google maps. By observing the land use near their house, they will think through how human activities can have an affect on water near them as well as across NC, which can in turn impact the plants, animals, and people that use that water.

***Water Quality*Distance Learning – High School Activity**

**NC Rivers: Impacts and Influences**

If they have safe access to a public stream, the students should then complete an NC Stream Watch survey. Instructions can be found under “More Information” at the bottom of this page.

# Specific Instruction:

After viewing the [video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmHSUrgpCV8&feature=youtu.be) and locating a stream, students will write a paragraph to describe the different land uses and potential impacts to their nearby stream. They should include the following:

a. The name of a nearby stream

b. At least 3 things you can identify near that stream (farm, building, road, forest/woods, etc.)

c. How can those land uses you observe impact your nearby stream?

# Standards Correlation

EEn.2.3.2: Illustrate the water cycle to explain the connection between groundwater and surface water, detailing how groundwater moves through the lithosphere. (Emphasize the processes of evaporation and infiltration in the conceptual diagram of the hydrologic cycle.)

-Explain river systems including NC river basins, aquifers, and watersheds.

EEn.2.4: Evaluate how humans use water.

EEn.2.4.1 Evaluate human influences on freshwater availability.

EEn.2.4.2 Evaluate human influences on water quality in North Carolina’s river basins, wetlands and tidal environments.

# For More Information:

NC Stream Watch Component (Optional: For students who have safe, public access to a stream or river):

1. Visit https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-resources-training/public-involvement/stream-watch-home-page

2. Scroll down to “Stream Level” tab and click to complete the Stream Level Survey about a stream in your neighborhood or community.

3. View your observations on a statewide map: https://ncdenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=cf93169315264a28a985e3a016941880