

Education Program Status Report

Presentations/Exhibits

- Presented on/did activities about the water cycle and water pollutants with 5th graders at Olive Chapel Elementary School. One 5th grade class (approximately 25 students per class) per date: 2/7/25, 2/10/25, 2/12/25, 2/13/25, 2/14/25, 4/15/25.
- Attended East Wake Magnet High School's Career Fair on 2/27/25. Approximately 1,500 students participated in the event.
- Attended Kingswood Magnet Elementary School's STEM Career Expo for 3rd-5th graders on 3/12/25. Enviroscope presented.
- Exhibited at the WRRI Annual Conference on 3/19-20/25.
- Attended Millbrook Magnet Elementary School's STEM Career Expo for 3rd-5th graders on 3/21/25. Enviroscope presented.
- Presented at the 3/26/25 Forsyth County Creek Week E&SC Event for the public with Robby Deans and Nate Gainer of DEQ-DEMLR's Winston Salem Regional Office. 11 people attended.
- Attended Creech Road Elementary School's Science Day Event on 3/27/25. Presented the Enviroscope to 4 3rd grade classes of approximately 25 students/class.
- Visited Stokes Middle School's 6th, 7th, and 8th grades (~75 students total) on 4/2/25 as part of the NC Science Festival's SciMatch Program. Presented the enviroscope, did the Project WET activity Sum of the Parts, and taught students how to use a texture by feel soil chart.
- Presented the Enviroscope and about stormwater and water pollution to South Rowan Regional Library's homeschool group (~30 elementary-middle school aged students) on 4/3/25.
- Attended General Greene Elementary School's STEM Career Expo on 4/4/25, approximately 400 students participated. Enviroscope presented and challenged students to draw one of the water pollutants they learned about to add to a mural.
- Attended RISE SE Raleigh Charter Middle School's Earth Day STEM Event on 4/9/25. Enviroscope and soil samples presented.
- Attended Conn Magnet Elementary School's STEM Career Expo for 5th graders on 4/11/25.
- Attended the annual DWR/DEMLR Stream Clean on 4/25/26. DEQ employees cleaned up 3,185 pounds of trash, including 31 tires.
- Assisted with the NC State Envirothon by writing the 'Current Environmental Issues' portion of the high school test, presenting the CEI overview to the NC Envirothon high school participants at the resources station training day on 5/2/25, and proctoring the CEI exam to the high school students on 5/3/25.
- Continued to co-host monthly Water Education Coffee Talks with DWR's water educator, Lauren Daniel, for formal and non-formal educators. The purpose of these coffee talks are to answer questions, showcase our education resources, facilitate networking, and discover/facilitate collaboration opportunities.

Workshops

The Annual Local Programs Workshop was held on April 23 & 24, 2025 at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center. Approximately 85 people, including speakers, attended the in-person workshop both days and approximately 100-107 people attended the virtual workshop on both days. The Local Program Workshop was planned in partnership with the Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI). Orange County won the 2025 Best All Around Local Program Award, The Town of Boone won the 2025 Overcoming Challenges Local Program Award, and Cody Schmoyer won the 2025 Most Valuable Person in E&SC Individual Award.

The NC E&SC Workshop has been scheduled for December 4, 2025, in Raleigh at the McKimmon Center. This workshop is planned in partnership with the Southeast Chapter of the International Erosion Control Association and the NCSU Department of Crop & Soil Science.

Contract Administration

The contract between DEMLR and WRRI for the support of the 2025 Annual Local Program Workshop and Awards Luncheon is already in place.

The contract between DEMLR and WRRI for the support of the 2026 & 2027 Annual Local Program Workshops and Awards Luncheons is ready to submit to NCDEQ.

Updates

The E&SC website pages are continuously being updated as needed.

If you or a colleague would like to contribute an article or suggest a topic for the summer edition of the Sediments Newsletter, email the Sediment Education Specialist!