Environmental Education in the Dan River Basin
Survey Results 2017
Introduction

Environmental education (EE) and sustainability practices have been emerging as an important trend in 21st century education. A growing body of research and practices indicate that green schools can save money, improve health, and boost academic achievement. In 2017, the Dan River Basin Association (DRBA) conducted a comprehensive survey of environmental education and sustainability practices in schools throughout the Dan River basin.

The 12-question survey was designed to gather information about the scope and type of environmental education and sustainability programs, and identify interest and perceived challenges in implementing these programs in our region’s schools. This report includes all of the data from the survey.

The survey was emailed to 6,000 pre-K through grade 12 teachers, principals, school board members and school administrators at both private and public schools throughout the Dan River basin. Responses from 314 total participants, a 5% response rate, were received from teachers, principals, school board members, and school professionals representing 108 separate schools from 11 city/counties. The survey was open from December 15, 2016 through February 28, 2017.

- Caswell County (13 responses)
- City of Martinsville (4 responses)
- City of Danville (33 responses)
- Franklin County (32 responses)
- Guilford County (4 responses)
- Halifax County (24 responses)
- Henry County (44 responses)
- Patrick County (17 responses)
- Pittsylvania County (57 responses)
- Rockingham County (37 responses)
- Stokes County (14 responses)
- Unidentified Location (36 responses)
Q1 Which factors have contributed the most to supporting and promoting environmental education and sustainability efforts at your school?

Answered: 303     Skipped: 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices Responses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability Director</td>
<td>4.62%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District-Level Policies</td>
<td>23.76%</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>16.50%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curricular Materials</td>
<td>39.27%</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities Improvement</td>
<td>16.83%</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Operations</td>
<td>18.81%</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Support</td>
<td>10.23%</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>25.41%</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Respondents: 303
None (13 responses)
Trout in the Classroom (3)
Agriculture and Fit For Life Elective Courses
There is no support for environmental education in my area
Offering courses in environmental education/ecoology
Career ideas
Interested teachers
Green Team -Energy Wise Program
I am not aware of what the school has supported or promoted.
Indiviudal efforts
Future Farmers of America students educating student body
Teacher led recycling
Hanging Rock Field Trip
Individual educators, environmental club
JROTC
State guidelines
I would guess science teachers. (I teach history)
Energy Conservation Specialist
Our Preschool Curriculum - Going Green Unit
Club
Grade Level State Curriculum
Personal beliefs
We do not teach environmental ed. or sustainability.
I am currently not aware of any of the above available in our district.
Individual teachers who share their knowledge, Green Committee, but not much is shared through this committee anymore.
Passionate teachers that support environmental causes
There really have been no factors contributing to environmental education and sustainability at my school. Only recycling paper with JROTC.
Individual teachers willing to work enviro ed into their curriculum
Personal interest
Efforts made by our faculty
A (former) teacher who was very aware of said issues
Teacher-led activities
VMNH Earth Day Programs and the schools recycling program
Part of the curriculum (not as much), but as a teacher I try to talk about it more than what is being told in the curriculum.
My self in teaching the subject.
We don't do environmental education
Garden Space
Commitment of Building Teachers/Administration
Direct contact with DRBA staff
Programs sought out by classroom teachers.
Budget cuts
Green Club
Career and Technical Student Organizations
We need help in this area. I have suggested/promoted various sustainability efforts and for various reasons, they have not been approved or implemented.
Unsure
teachers and students
Personal opinions and envolvement
Myself
Our locally initiated efforts to reduce, collect and recycle or reuse materials from the school. Includes paper products from the cafeteria and classroom as well as books and workbooks provided to Danville Community College to be sent to schools in Africa. 26,000 #'s of paper recyled in 2014; 22K #'s in 2015.
Litter & Beautification Month
Admin Team
The efforts of the science teachers that teach environmental education and the agriculture teachers involved in FFA.
Efforts by student clubs
Student initiative
Individual teachers
Don't see any promotion of environmental education at my school
I am new to Franklin County but I have a degree and background in Environmental Education and look forward to implementing sustainability efforts.
Teachers/administrators
Previous principal
A parent at our school spear-headed a paper recycling program.
School provides some funding for FFA, Gardening, & Outdoor Clubs, but their activities are based mostly on teacher interest.
Political Interests
We participate in paper recycling
Q2 Which of the following has your school initiated?

Answered: 302 Skipped: 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices Responses</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy Saving</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>65.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste/Recycling</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>69.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Building Renovation</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Building Construction</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Energy</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Purchasing</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Conservation</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>12.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Chemical Reduction</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8.28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Respondents: 302
Other (Please specify)

None (4 responses)
I personally recycle in my classroom but I have to take it to recycling center myself.
Paper products and chemical are green
I initiated recycling. None was in place
A raised garden that children grow vegetables in and then use to prepare a meal.
Recycling
Only recycle paper, NOT bottles & cans
None of the above–tried recycling but was never contacted after request to start a recycling program.
Natural trail preservation and upkeep
Reduction of paper
Truthfully, we are terrible at this. Our recycling is not even taken seriously.
Trying to get a greenhouse up

They haven't done any of this
New LED lights
Energy saving county wide during the summer by instituting a four day work week. Also, thermostats are adjusted to save energy during breaks when school is not in session.
None, but would love to do recycling with used papers.
Recycling initiated as part of JROTC service learning instruction.
The FFA has taken it upon themselves to collect and recycle plastic drink bottles.
Education on the subject
A student club helps recycle; that's about it
Reduction in use of paper
FFA forestry/environmental science teams, Gardening Club, Outdoor Club
Q3 If your school has taken any of the following steps, please check all that apply
Answered: 161 Skipped: 153

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices Responses</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Installed school garden</td>
<td>53.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instituted a garden program in the curriculum</td>
<td>27.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used food from the garden in school cafeteria or cooking class</td>
<td>15.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require food service use local and/or organic food choices</td>
<td>15.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Started a farm to school program</td>
<td>8.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>30.43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Respondents: 161
Other (Please specify)

None (16 responses)
Plastic bottle recycling
No support or implementation on this type of program
3rd grade garden
Not aware of any programs
We have a greenhouse but do not grow food
Tower garden
Recycling all cardboard, paper, and books
I don't know of anything
Horticulture class sales from greenhouse
Working on farm to school program
In the past students have gone to the environment yearly to investigate the welfare of the amphibians in a particular area
Trying to get a garden started especially for our ID kids to farm.
Will soon build a garden to grow vegetables
I am planning to build a butterfly garden at school this spring...probably not the type of garden you're talking about though.
A tour garden is coming. I have received a grant and am waiting on delivery of our tour.
Currently working to set up a greenhouse for our school
Garden installed is very small and is being used for flowers
School Greenhouse
School garden by ag teacher in the past
Have garden in planning phase
Community Garden
Greenhouse
Growing plants in the classrooms
Students planted grass to prevent erosion
We are in the process of installing a school garden
Limited budgets
We have begun to build a greenhouse, but it isn't completed yet
One school in the division has installed a water bottle refill station to reduce single use plastics.
This is my focus as a new teacher. We just started our new garden and it was a huge success. I will be expanding the program in the future.
Hired an energy consultant
A grant provides students a VA grown vegetable or fruit snack three days each week.
Not sure
On occasion
Q4 If your school has taken any of the following steps, please check all that apply.

Answered: 148 Skipped: 166

Answer Choices Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Installed rain barrel(s)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marked storm drains</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Built trails on campus</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>33.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Built an outdoor classroom</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>33.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posted green information signs inside school</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>29.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posted green information signs outside of school</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducted a bio-assessment of campus</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducted a storm water run-off assessment of campus</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>24.32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Respondents: 148
Other (Please specify)

None (17 responses)
Not sure (4 responses)
Pursued solar grant (awarded)
I wish! Nothing here about any of this
Working on an outdoor classroom
Not aware of any of these steps being taken
I don't know of anything
Conducted an energy efficiency review
Recycling program in place
Children raised butterflies and released them in the spring. Encouraged not to waste.
Army Junior ROTC curriculum includes a lesson about protecting the environment which will be taught as part of the "Program of Improvement" requirement.

Posted conservation, recycling and reduction info on campus. Provide coloring books, pencils, wrist bands, book marks, erasers and rulers for students. Class Clean Up Days and Yard Clean Up Days were held. Recycling contests for paper, tabs and aluminum cans. Provide pine seedlings for students on Earth Day.

Recycling Bins
As environmental educator I have tried to initiate some of these programs but have been met with resistance.

Club collection of waste paper and aluminum cans

Currently in the design process for outdoor classroom

Environmental facts of the day on morning announcements at Gereau Center.

Staff training
Q5 Does your school offer any of the following environmental education programs?

Answered: 220 Skipped: 94

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trout in the Classroom</td>
<td>25.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streamside Trees in the Classroom</td>
<td>5.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Recreational/Nature related field trips</td>
<td>39.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Classroom environmental education presentations</td>
<td>49.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about local trails/river access points</td>
<td>17.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about regional outdoor recreational activities &amp; events</td>
<td>32.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>20.45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Respondents: 220
Other (Please specify)

None (18 responses)

If anyone teaches anything about the environment other than me I don't know about them.

We do participate in Environmental Awareness Days @ Hanging Rock State Park.

We participate in a bluebird project and educate children about bird habitats.

Agricultural focused CTE classes (Forestry, Natural Resources, etc.)

Energy engineering elective class

By the classroom teacher.... "Going Green" unit

Ecology/Envirotthon Team

We have an environmental science class

Ecology classes offer info on sustainability on all levels

Tilapia is raised in the Ag class then harvested for an FFA dinner.

1 teacher has incorporated Model My Watershed activities as part of SOL review.

Only in some classes

The teachers talk about environmental signs and on Earth Day, my class cleans trash from both playgrounds.

Used to have Trout in Classrooms

Tilapia in the Classroom

Students participate in Environmental displays for the VMNH during events.

Save Our Streams water testing by students in grade 7

Field trips to Danville Science Center which have had outdoor activities for the students.

Visits to Danville Science Center

Danville Science Center mentioned some environmental aspects during the field trip.

General environmental education

Education on the subject

Our AG class has a green house and takes students to catch trout once a year and teaches students about livestock.

We offer Ecology and AP Environmental Science classes

One elementary school in the division has the trout tank in the front hall.

I will be taking my team's students on a field trip to Apple Ridge Farm in the spring.

Outdoor club, garden club, FFA
Q6: Which practices does your school use to incorporate environmental and sustainability education in the curriculum? Check all that apply.

Answered: 197 Skipped: 117

**Answer Choices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practice</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written definition of environmental literacy</td>
<td>21.83%</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental or sustainability literacy requirement</td>
<td>11.17%</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration of environmental and sustainability concepts across the curriculum</td>
<td>31.47%</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental or sustainability elective class</td>
<td>27.41%</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment of environmental and sustainability learning achievement</td>
<td>8.63%</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Environmental Science course</td>
<td>33.50%</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student pledge related to conservation and preservation of natural resources</td>
<td>5.58%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>21.32%</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Respondents: 197
Other (Please specify)

None (12 responses)
Don't know (4 responses)
Non-AP environmental science course
My students tell me they talk about it in Earth Science
We offer Ecology as part of our science curriculum
5th Science includes environmental aspects
Teacher lesson plans
Integrated in technology course and science curriculum
Science
TIC
Not sure about the AP course—we might offer it
We recycle paper, but even that we do halfway
Offer an ecology class
My answers pertain to 5th grade because I am not aware of what other grade levels do. Participated in the Soil & Water Conservation Poster Contest, discuss and watch video about how humans can negatively impact an ecosystem.
EV team that converts gas engine cars to 100% electric (In the past)
AP Env Sci course is not offered, but APES Exam/prep is offered to interested students
Occasionally in the science curriculum there are lessons involving environmental and sustainable practices. They may be taught, but nothing is put into practice at this school to my knowledge.
Within the Ag classes, students learn to use hydroponics, grow using natural organic methods, and grow following USDA guidelines to sell lettuce back to the school cafeteria.
Celebrating Earth Day and learning about Natural Resources and how to preserve them
Discussion of environmental sustainability in science classes
Ag class incorporates some of these practices
SOL
At one time there was an APES class but it was dropped. I was the instructor
Watershed lesson as required by the state
Ecology, earth science, geography, horticulture
I think there's an environmental science class
None of these requirements are currently implemented but I am interested in working on this!
After-school clubs related to environment & sustainability
Q7 What challenges have you faced with implementing environmental education and green initiatives in your school? Check all that apply.
Answered: 292 Skipped: 22

Answer Choices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No strategic plan. Programs are only happening haphazardly.</td>
<td>55.14%</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No funding or budget.</td>
<td>64.73%</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have a budget for these programs but not personnel or connections to lead programs.</td>
<td>3.08%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No interest from staff or students in these types of programs.</td>
<td>20.55%</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of staff training.</td>
<td>37.33%</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High poverty area and families and students have higher priorities and concerns.</td>
<td>54.45%</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No time for planning these types of programs.</td>
<td>38.01%</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>12.33%</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Respondents: 292
Other (Please specify)

We have a big campus and some teachers are doing this within their curriculum. I think it is a matter of organizing it. The interest is there.

Not been promoted as an option

Too many other things are required to be taught, not enough school day time to incorporate these topics

FFA

We teach by a state curriculum. I add sustainability and environmental topics every chance I get but we have to stick to what is set out for us.

I have not tried to implement environmental education

No area

Disinterested and uncooperative administrators

I have not attempted to initiate any of these programs, but I am not adverse to doing so in the future.

We are already stretched as thin as we can be, adding something like this would weaken moral even more than it is...we don't have the time to incorporate anything else into our days.

Not sure. I would think funding, staff, and interest.

Other than participating in Environmental Awareness Day at Hanging Rock and in the soil and water poster contest, I have not given it further thought.

We offer an introduction to reduce, reuse, and recycle

Used to recycle paper in each classroom; but not sure why we stopped; a teacher used to be over it and she left so why did it stop just because she left?

Does not always fit with the essential standards. Questions are not on the EOG about "river access", "trails", or "outdoor classrooms."

Limited space in facilities

Other things seem to always take priority (SOL classes, funding, staff, etc.)

Requires 100% effort by teacher wanting to implement

We have recycling

Lack of support or enthusiasm from County

Offer recycling of paper, plastic and aluminum

We have a fully certified CEED building on this campus, but no environmental education class or instructor. The staff who secured the funding for the structure and taught the classes were reassigned to other positions and now the building isn't being used except for a nine-week energy module. Our environmental education teacher had to leave teaching due to a car accident and her position was never restaffed. I'm a certified Virginia Master Naturalist with a middle school science endorsement who's expressed interest in filling these niches but because I teach English 8 my division will not allow me to change subjects, since English SOL scores are AYP-critical.

Assistance

Many students and staff are interested in the program and support it, but this is not universal throughout the school

Recycling contests were cut due to lack of funding

We have a recycling group that goes around collecting recyclables such as paper, plastic, cans, etc. and one of our earth science teachers got a greenhouse that we are trying to get built.

Lack of administrative support and understanding of importance

Funding is always an issue. Many educators are focused on state testing

Time

Not on the radar.

Success, overcame obstacles

Not sure

Our school has 2 containers to recycle paper in the gym.

We recycle paper, plastic, and aluminum in our kindergarten classroom.

The rigor of required general curriculum standards from the state and the push for 100% pass rates of all students with SOL testing.

Budget is available for after-school environmental clubs but it is very limited

County not interested in participating
Q8 What do you feel is your greatest need in providing environmental education and green initiatives in your school?
Answered: 224 Skipped: 90

Lack of planning time, materials, and funding
Committee/Team
We would like to be more active in recycling, but no financial support for collection and disposal.
Curriculum and community resources
Training, resources and funding
In class environmental education sessions
Educational need for students and parents, funding for educational resources and connections with supporting community members to help initiate projects
People who actually care about the environment enough to do something to protect it for future generations.
Change in curriculum and focus, this would have to be a state level change.
Funding
Curriculum Resources
Start at the state level to add this type of information to the curriculum. Local level administrators control money for programs. Community businesses should be involved in funding school programs and grants. I think Duke Power could stand to implement and fund these programs. It may help their reputation here in Rockingham County after the coal ash disaster.
Money and staffing. Also, too many other concepts to cover
Initiatives from central office down
Just educating the students & teachers about this.
We need to stop throwing away so many food items, plastics, and paper. There should be a school-wide plan designed for everyone to participate.
Support and education to get off the ground, and PD to help train staff. Then, we would need resources to keep us going.
Money, supplies, training
Resources and time
The school has no environmental education!
Teachers feel that they are too pressed for time to teach the curriculum and do not have time to add environmental education. Teachers need to be taught how to incorporate it into the current curriculum.
My greatest need is interested administrators and staff willing to be involved in finding funding and community groups willing to be involved.
For people to understand the importance and figure out HOW, if even just a little, they can help out!
Lack of funding and time
To make sure that the programs are grounded in science and not propaganda
Our heating and air conditioning system is so inefficient, we have to open the windows because it gets so hot in parts of the building when the heat is on sometimes, and sometimes have to open the windows because it's too cold in the building. It's difficult to teach about energy conservation when so much energy and money, is going right out the window.
Students need to learn the importance of our environment and their place in sustaining it.
Funding
Funding and resources
Education
Teaching children and families to respect the land and not throw trash any old place!
We need to get organized and make a plan, THEN GET STARTED!
Professional Development and Budget
Time to implement the new program and someone willing to oversee it
A plan and budget to cover the plan
Have more focused Professional Development on the subject maybe utilizing those CTE instructors who already specialize in Natural Resource Conservation management.
Information and opportunites
Funding
Education and funding
Recycling in our community
Recycling, food waste awareness
Finding time and a coordinator
Trained staff to lead a group of students in discovering EE
Money
Q8 Continued

Time...interest
Student awareness and community future
Access to hands-on experiences for students
Making everyone aware how they can do their part and starting some programs.
Starting a coherent initiative
Because of curriculum no time to implement
Training
I think recycling and eating farm-grown healthy foods would be a good start.
Ideas on how to accomplish this. Keeping in mind. I am not sure there are funds available to accomplish this.
Activities that are at no cost, will be good to have.
Finances
My school is a preschool with all 4 year olds in the DPS
Funding and engagement. There isn’t much time left in the day to teach about these programs, but I feel they are extremely valuable.
How to keep it clean and safe
Getting it started
Funding & Training
Funds
I am not aware of any initiatives developed by our district. The teachers have so many other requirements, no one will start anything here unless it is mandated by our district.
We need funding for initiatives such as trails and gardens, and the manpower to help start the process. At an elementary school, we can’t really start some of these without support. Even high school students helping with the planning and initial digging of a garden would be beneficial.
Awareness and education
Getting one started
Student awareness
Funding
Experiential learning; community building; citizenship; STEM
Designated time for such programs. Like DARE and other drug resistance programs, it can become part of the routine. The time must be made a priority first, though.
Resources
Looking at the lighting and heating within the building to conserve energy
Having an administrator who will support it and push it
Information and funding
Money. Grant funding provides money for me to have Trout in the Classroom. What happens if that grant money is gone?
Funding, training, and awareness
Money and training
Have each school initiate it, county got hands on to many things
Our school needs to start with the basics of recycling. Other than cutting off the lights when not in use, there is no environmental awareness here
We need dumpsters so we can recycle our plastic bottles, etc. The school system doesn't have enough $ to pay the monthly dumpster fee
Educating our students
Just to get it started! We have a garden and that's it
Sustainable programs led by personnel that have an interest in maintaining long term leadership initiatives.
Exposure to environmental education ideas and materials
Money and time
We could recycle the paper from our classrooms - if we had a way to collect it in our classrooms and then a way to send it to be recycled.
Funding and space
Practice what you preach. Many things could be done to improve the sustainability of the school and school system. Ideas have been offered, but never acted upon. Ecology classes could be used to carry out many projects, but funding is an issue. Students have done many projects on how the school could improve its sustainability, but none have been met with much enthusiasm.
Resources
Funding to offer Environmental Science studies in the science curriculum, Foods classes, and further it’s study in Ag classes.
Our students future depends on it. What will the world be like in 20 years if they have no interest in their environment
Funding and training
We need community volunteers to assist in the setup of other facilities such as a greenhouse, garden, or outside learning environments.
Commitment of admin, teachers, and students, the time required to start/maintain program, and as usual funding.
The resources, including time, money, space

Funding for training and implementation

Getting the students and faculty to care about such issues in the first place

SOLs are the priority due to the state, so anything else is hard to squeeze in time-wise

Resources: money, materials

The knowledge and where to begin

Starting the initiatives to get the program up and campus awareness of the program.

I feel that funding is the greatest issue

Resources

Funding and professional development

Funding our classroom has acquired monies from the seed foundation, but additional funding would help

Recycling-The amount of plastic trash from the cafeteria each day is staggering

Training, materials, and funding

Funding

The training and the staff to be able to do more environmental education that isn't AP level. Many students would love to learn more but do not want to take an AP level

Better teacher training that will expose teachers to resources that are available. More initiative taken by leaders

Time and money

Funding

Time to Plan

Training and curriculum

Staff training, time for planning

Funding

We need to provide these initiatives in our school. We need appropriate support to do so

Limited to no time for planning and/or implementation

Community interest

Interest from staff and students

I feel the students need this information and experience to be able to take care of the earth!

Education of what is feasible in our school

Support from the County level to encourage new student-led initiatives

A strong starting point - committee to develop a strategic plan and needs assessment

A community initiative helping schools realize what we can do. The amount of wasted food in our school is upsetting. A composting program would be great, but I lack the knowledge on how to begin

Funding for projects

Funding and time

People willing to make it happen

Education, need to show how you can take recycled bottles and turn them into usable benches or other products

Up-to-date Curriculum materials

More recycling, water conservation, gardening to grow food

Money

Willingness to staff the positions. We already have the facilities and the curriculum

Being able to offer a tiered program teaching sustainable living practices to our students through each grade level.

Materials that can be used within the classroom to further educate the students, and myself as well, on strategies and plans that can be implemented to promote environmental consciousness

Money and initiative

Education

Funding

More time and money

A bigger commitment to it would be nice

Materials and support

Funding and time to implement due to SOL’s and various other mandated tests

More time

Parental involvement

Funding

Guidance in leading and funding this type of curriculum

Contact information for guest speakers

Texts, and students interested in learning
Q8 Continued

I think it helps at-risk kids think and learn outside of the box. They need to see beyond "their environment" and how these initiatives can help everyone.

A bigger push to include it in the curriculum by higher ups

A starting point - committee to develop a strategic plan and needs assessment.

Resources

Lack of interest at the elementary level

Funding is our greatest need. We have lots of great ideas but funding is very limited.

More resources and partnerships with environmental firms for recycling plastic.

Classroom

Support at the county level (perhaps this will change now that we have a brand-new superintendent) I am hopeful.

Financial support

We need more funding. I would love to be able to grow a garden with my class but that would be very expensive to do all by myself.

Funding and understanding of impact on their lives

Getting the word out. Making all staff aware of the programs we do have in place already and seeking input as to which programs they would like to see implemented.

Proper funding and training

Money

Alignment with standards of learning

Recruiting support and interest from the students up through the school board. We have agriculture classes, but these may not include education in conservation. Maybe they should.

Funding

Funds

Funding is the biggest necessity when it comes to making our school more environment friendly and green.

Greater needed to address to provide

Professional development or training

Funding

Funding and training to implement school programs. I am especially interested in the school gardening and green initiatives.

Student and staff interest in developing a school wide program.

Program showing the need and affects of protecting the environment through recycling. Students need to understand the need to conserve water, paper, plastics, etc.

Time

Emphasis on food, and water waste

Awareness

A plan and funding

Staff need to get on board with an easy start up. Perhaps this can be incorporated through the BETA program and FFA programs at our school.

School body and staff interest in it as a priority

Even though I'm the music teacher, I feel we need a focus on conserving resources. We are in a high poverty area, and we have a low budget. Focusing green efforts on providing a better education could benefit our district.

Community assistance; our schools are incredibly resource-taxed

School system or school level plan. Link to existing SOL requirements as we are very busy. Prepared programs/lessons that can be incorporated into existing pacing guide.

Basic education about sustainability and recycling programs and being good stewards of the land.

Concerted effort of staff members showing concern about the environment.

More of a school wide pull to participate in programs offered and information distributed.

Time, financial support and manpower

Resources

Initiative. But we're just so swamped by trying to make it through any given day or week that interest in environmental practices seems ... unrealistic.

Time, money, training

Funds/space

Awareness

Time and space to conduct

In my opinion, Knowledge and Awareness are lacking prerequisite requirements, but our greatest "needs" would likely be Funding, Staff, Training, and Time, (in that order).

County recycling program that makes gathering easier

Awareness

A plan to incorporate programs
A shared value set among faculty and staff

Interest

Awareness among students of the need to recycle

Training for teachers with a directed and structured way to use the program

Programs may need to start in K-6 schools to build foundation

Administrative pressure

Workshops to train teachers and curricula ideas that align with state standards (Earth Science)

I believe all students should be exposed to environmental education and green initiatives because they are our future leaders and we have to teach them at an early age!

Having the time to incorporate it as part of the curriculum and as part of our daily habits

Open communication

We should have a big push to lessen paper use with strategies and support on how to implement that. It would be great to take more nature trips or have people come in and speak about these things. We do have a garden and the students get to access that on Wednesdays after school but we never have anything related to sustainability during the school day. Science classes to cover the need for recycling and how to reduce waste

We have tons of waste in the cafeteria; plastic utensils, styrofoam, and plastic containers.

Money

Economic issues

We teach environmental education per SOL requirements but I do not feel we always practice what we preach. We recycle paper and plastic bottles and we conserve energy with a policy of turning lights off and keeping doors shut. However, I feel we could go further. Nutritional education and the garden to lunchroom initiative is needed, for example

Time to incorporate environmental education opportunities for students and personnel interested in teaching environmental education

Encouragement from administration to participate in and develop curriculum for kindergarten and up to high school

Funding

More funding & planning time. More intentional implementation and integration with curriculum standards

Staff training

For people to accurately present all sides of an argument or issue and not allow the politics and special interests to be the sole driver of the train

Providing students with knowledge about going green and the importance

Schools should take the lead in their community

To make real world connections for students
Q9 What EE programs or initiatives would you most like to provide for your students in the future? Check all that apply.
Answered: 303 Skipped: 11
**Answer Choices**

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<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>Rain Barrel/Water Conservation Program</td>
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<td>Trout in the Classroom</td>
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<td><strong>Total Respondents:</strong> 303</td>
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**Other (Please specify)**

I don't have a classroom

At this time, like I mentioned having available funds and time to implement major activities are concerning to me. I am up for ideas that are ‘free’ and not too time consuming.

We do take a nature related field trip

Have done trout in the classroom. Have worked on school grounds nature trails but not completed them. Have a recycling program in place, but only for paper products.

Establish a ecology based instruction--bringing the science, environmental, climate, and stewardship concepts together.

We plan to continue our current curriculum as required by the state.

Bio-fuels how to make and use

Farm to School meat project [pork]

Flyers for students and parents

School wide recycling program instead of just by a few teachers.

Would like to collect and recycle plastics; may be more work than time available.

Not sure

Ready-made lesson plans for non-science classes would be most welcome.

We do these now

We currently offer recycling of paper only

Garden to lunchroom

All of these sound awesome
Q10  Are you...
Answered: 313 Skipped: 1

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<td>North Stokes High School</td>
<td>Danbury</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Pine Hall Elementary</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Poplar Springs Elementary School</td>
<td>King</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>South Stokes High School</td>
<td>Walnut Cove</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Southeastern Stokes County Schools</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Walnut Cove Elementary School</td>
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<td>West Stokes</td>
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Q12  Do you have any questions or comments for the Dan River Basin Association regarding environmental education programs or green initiatives?

Answered: 108  Skipped: 206

I would like information sent to me

How do we get information about the programs that are open to our area?

Good luck! This area sucks when it comes to environmental concerns

Please don't bring in a program and expect teachers/schools to implement, teachers are required to focus on directives from the county and state. Teachers do see environmental concerns as important, but there just isn't enough time to include anything that doesn't help schools reach our reading and/or math goals. Public schools are under so much pressure to meet state standards. Public school teachers feel those same concerns about clean water, recycling, etc, we have children and grandchildren and their future is important.

Would like more information

I would be interesting to know what type of in class programs would go along with our 5th science curriculum.

I love when companies offer free classroom programs. Our school is small and often can not afford programs that have a fee.

Thank you!

Help us?

Do you have someone who can come into classrooms to educate students and staff?

What is Trout in the Classroom?

Send help if you can!

Is this also being done in Danville, Virginia?

Is there any funding available for green initiatives?

I think we need to encourage recycling in our school and in our community. Also, all schools have a flat roof and would be ideal for solar panels.

I understand that you would like to bring more environmental education into the schools, however this survey took time from my planning block to tell you that I already don't have time. While it's a good idea, this would be something that could be offered on the weekends at your establishment.

Please keep in mind that I am only aware of 5th grade activities associated with your questions. There may be a program in other grade levels that I am unaware of.

Keep up the good work!

The water could use a lot of work because it is terrible!

Love the Dan!

What sort of curriculum support do you have for elementary schools?

How often is the water in the Dan River tested for the effects of the coal ash spill? Do any farms discharge water into the Dan River?

I love Trout in the Classroom! My students love Trout in the Classroom! I would love to be able to implement some other programs in my room and learn more about Streamside Trees in the Classroom.

I would really like to see a push for awareness and training in our area!

Today's children don't know or care about the environment unless though know how it directly effects them individually.

I would love to see an initiative started.

Ben Hall is doing a great job with our school garden. He is our agriculture teacher.
How can we start some of the programs at our school?  
Would welcome any information you may send my way.  
I teach water conservation and water quality and have been looking for a way to have my kids do hands on water testing!  
If you can help please let me know!  
Gardens and trails are high on my list  
I would love to take students on a local field trip to become more aware of their environmental needs and sustainability. I am also very interested in classroom materials for Going Green  
How can I get a recycling program started at my school? Currently, I personally recycle 40lbs of paper from my classroom every 2 weeks. We could make a bigger impact on a school level!  
Do you provide a list of all services (programs or speakers) to each school?  
Cynthia Bizzell (Teacher) Please contact with follow up information.  
Any speakers available? Also, we (FCPS) have acquired property behind the school which has a stream. Nature lab or protection ideas would be greatly appreciated!  
Would love to learn more about it.  
If you could/would please send me anything that you feel that I can use, contact me.  
I would like to know more about what is available.  
The Henry County School system leadership seem to be backing away from Environmental programming and support for participation in these programs. Since we are considered a "Green" school, it would be useful to remind them of that designation when we are seeking partnerships with DRBA.  
Would like to be considered for grant opportunities  
Do you offer any programs for the classroom?  
How would you turn bottles into reusable material and how expensive is it convert material?  
A suggestion - environmental education needs to be incorporated into all subject areas. Right now it’s seen as the domain of science teachers but if environment ed isn’t also being tied into language arts and math instruction, an opportunity to make all three subjects more relevant for today’s learners is being lost.  
Yes, please send literature to DRMS.  
Send more information and materials to the schools and directly to teachers. If resources and lesson plans are made available they will be more likely to be implemented. Assist schools with recycling containers- they are very expensive! Give schools the resources to implement these programs!  
Very interested in this topic, hope to hear from you all  
Please try to get Danville City Schools offer more professional development on these topics  
I would like information about opportunities you offer  
I appreciate all the support we have received in the past from the association for doing outdoor field trips. Thanks so much  
Where are you located?  
Is there a point of contact?  
What resources are available?  
Do you have a free educational materials or presentations for PreK-Grade 5?
Will you be bringing some of your environmental education programs to GWHS soon because there were some field trips I would've loved to take my students on and even some classroom activities I would've loved to done with my students, but we just didn't have the funds to do. We have a huge geese problem on campus and I had an idea to build a pond and area they could go to whenever they come to our campus, but once again funding is everything. My students loved that idea as well, but my question mostly for DRBA is could you come to our campus and maybe help get some of these programs started.

I would like to see more focus placed on developing sound curriculum for schools and on adequate and appropriate training for educators.

It would also be beneficial to have access to opportunities and resources that demonstrate some of the green principles in practice. Additionally, as it becomes increasingly obvious and necessary to implement changes in our most basic infrastructure, I would like to see educational opportunities that encourage students to pursue careers in environmentally related fields. One final remark, when our county high schools were refurbished, I was tremendously disappointed that there was little to no effort on including green initiatives (rain water collection, solar lighting, solar energy collection/storage for onsite use, etc).

Is there something can be done to put some of these into action?

Is there a list of items that can be recycled easily in this region. What about paper from the restrooms? So much is thrown away every day. I would like to see our school work toward finding more ways to recycle and conserve.

Pittsylvania County still offers Agricultural education in upper grade levels which could integrate very well with sustainability education if the funding was there. I would love to see that happen.

I may not be fully aware of what my school is engaged in concerning this topic.

When I was in elementary school, a representative came from the local water conservation district to do programs with us. That would be very helpful to get students started in thinking about how our water system works.

Good to make connection to our STEM Academy. Activities for students require activity, movement, hands on. Lecture style/powerpoint presentations do not work well at elementary level.

Thanks for all you do. As an educator, I would welcome regular e-mail updates from you, including suggestions and ideas for implementing environmental education in a non-science class (specifically English).

Send me information. I would love to at least incorporate some speakers for our monthly "Moment of Science" presentations.

Now that I am aware of your organization, may I contact you about your resources?

I have worked with DRBA in Henry County and I would like to work with you in Franklin County wherever possible. Please let me know what is the best way to communicate so we can talk more about what is going on in Franklin County and the potential for programs and better integration of Environmental Education in the science classes.

I really am not familiar with your association.

Our Dan River Basin Association representatives, Wayne Kirkpatrick and Krista Hodges along with our Streamside in the Classroom representatives, provide excellent service to our school community and are very supportive of our classroom efforts for environmental education.

Are there small grants available for teachers to implement environmental related projects at school?

When I was younger, my father wanted us to turn off the light when we were not in the room. This is not about environmental, but about living within our financial means and not spending frivolously on the electric bill. I believe too many of the environmental programs have a particular agenda and do not present programs in a manner that promotes responsibility in decision making, but pushing a special interest agenda.

No (40 responses)
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