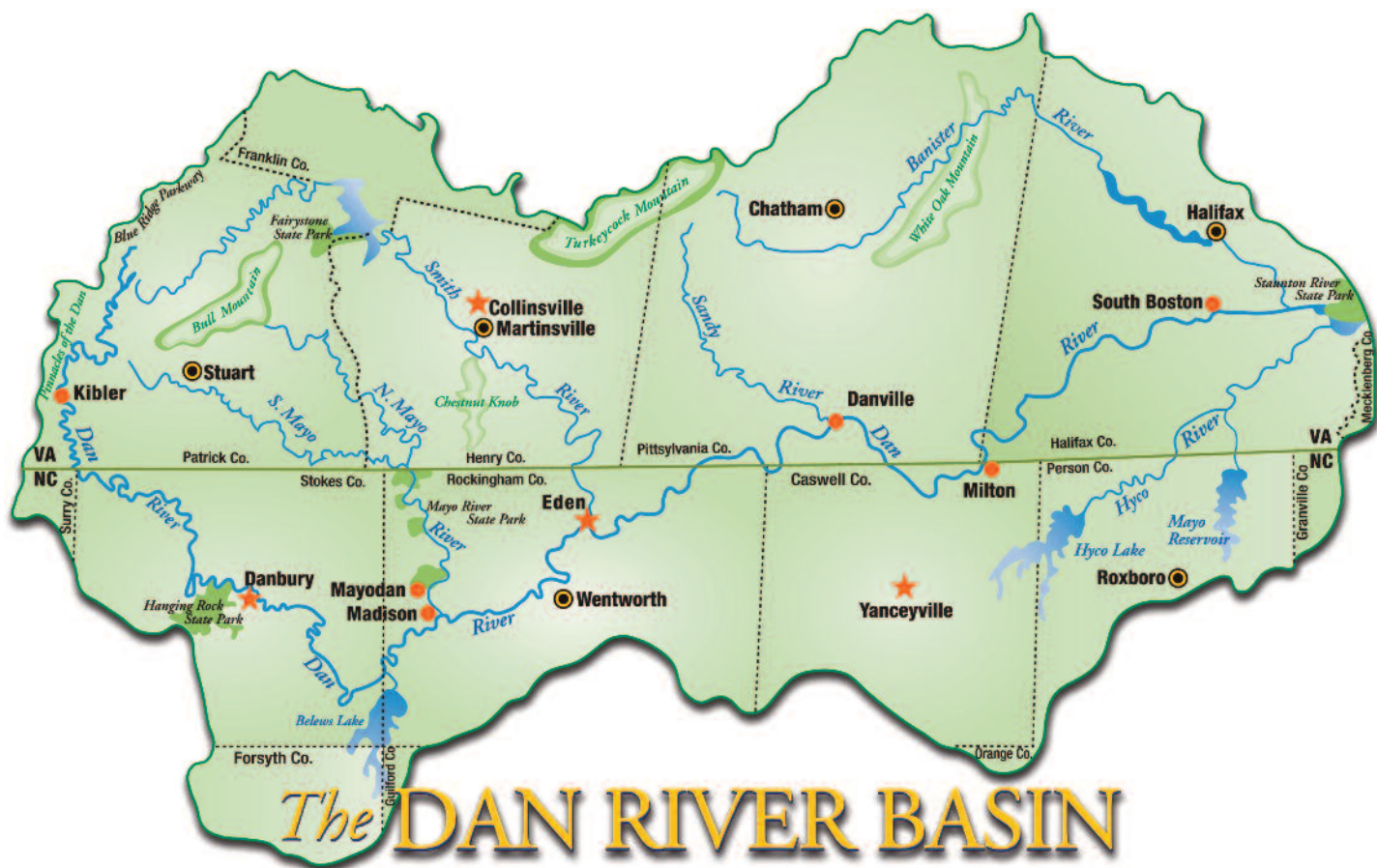


# **Environmental Education in the Dan River Basin**

## **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.

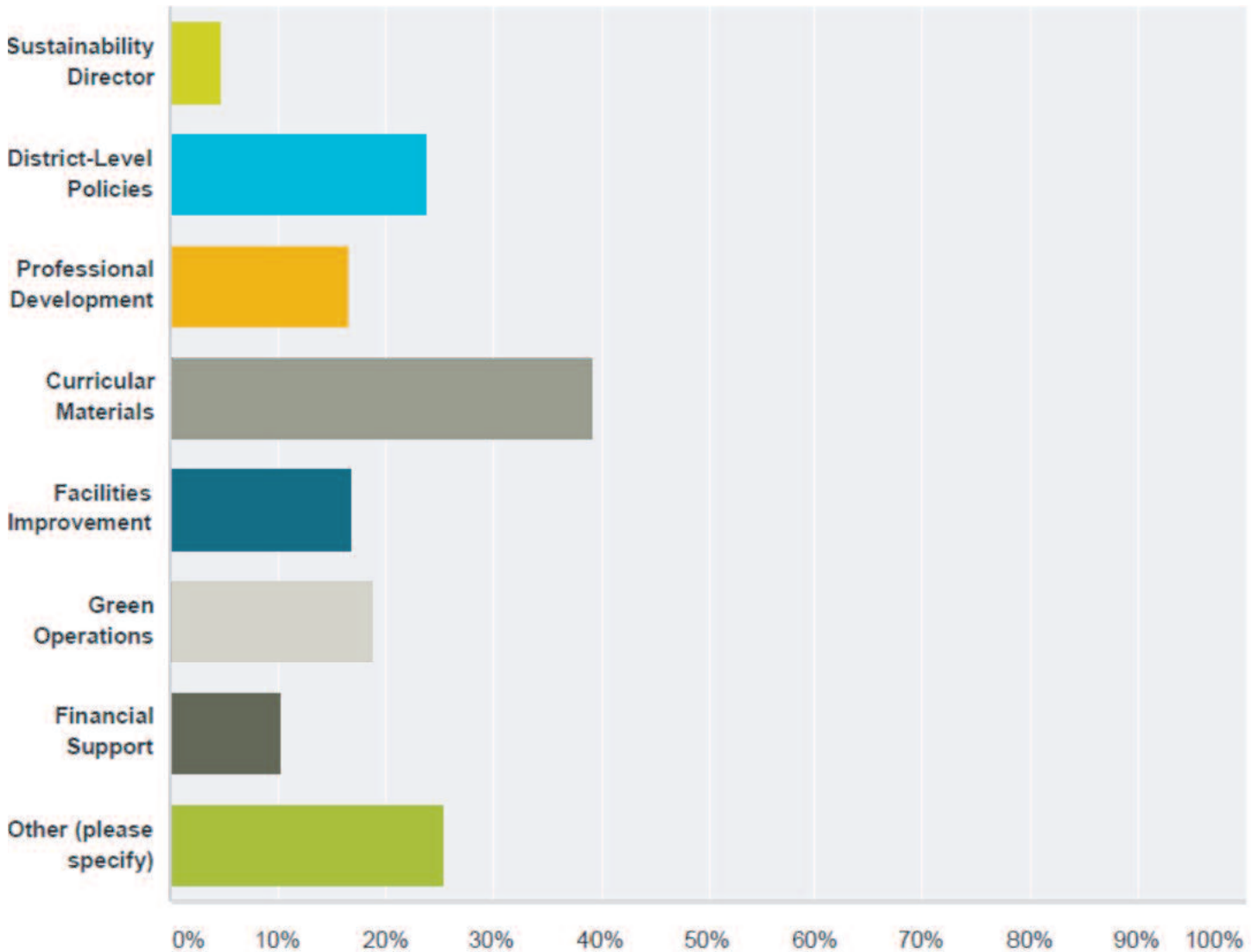
The 12-question survey was designed to gather information about the scope and type of environmental education and sustainability programs, and identify interest and perceived challenges in implementing these programs in our region's schools. This report includes all of the data from the survey.

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



Answer Choices Responses		
Sustainability Director	4.62%	14
District-Level Policies	23.76%	72
Professional Development	16.50%	50
Curricular Materials	39.27%	119
Facilities Improvement	16.83%	51
Green Operations	18.81%	57
Financial Support	10.23%	31
Other (please specify)	25.41%	77
Total Respondents: 303		

## Other (Please specify)

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/ecology

Career ideas

Interested teachers

Green Team -Energy Wise Program

I am not aware of what the school has supported or promoted.

Individual 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 involvement

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 recycled 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.

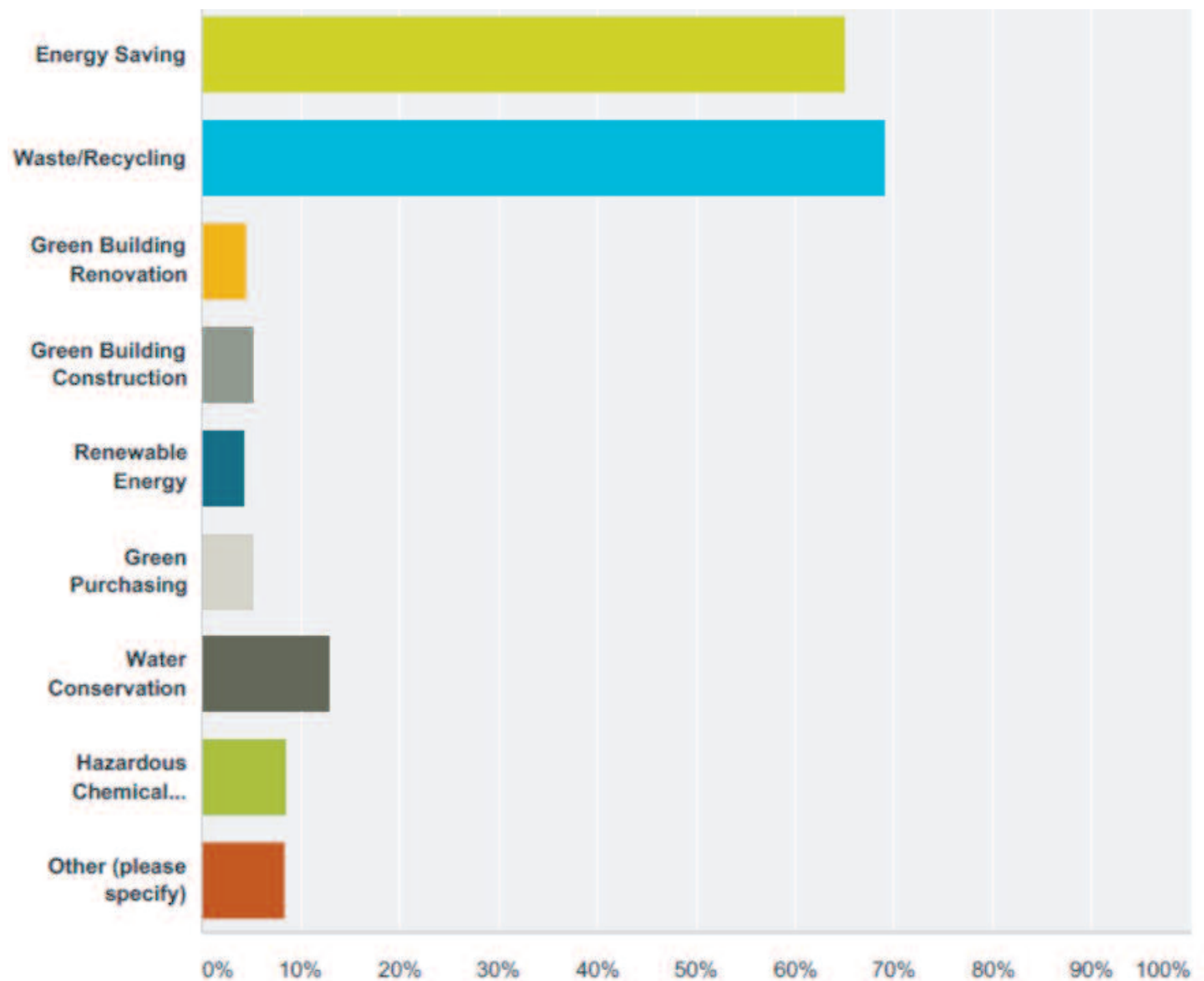
School provides some funding for FFA, Gardening, & Outdoor Clubs, but their activities are based mostly on teacher interest.

Political Interests

We participate in paper recycling

## Q2 Which of the following has your school initiated?

Answered: 302 Skipped: 12



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

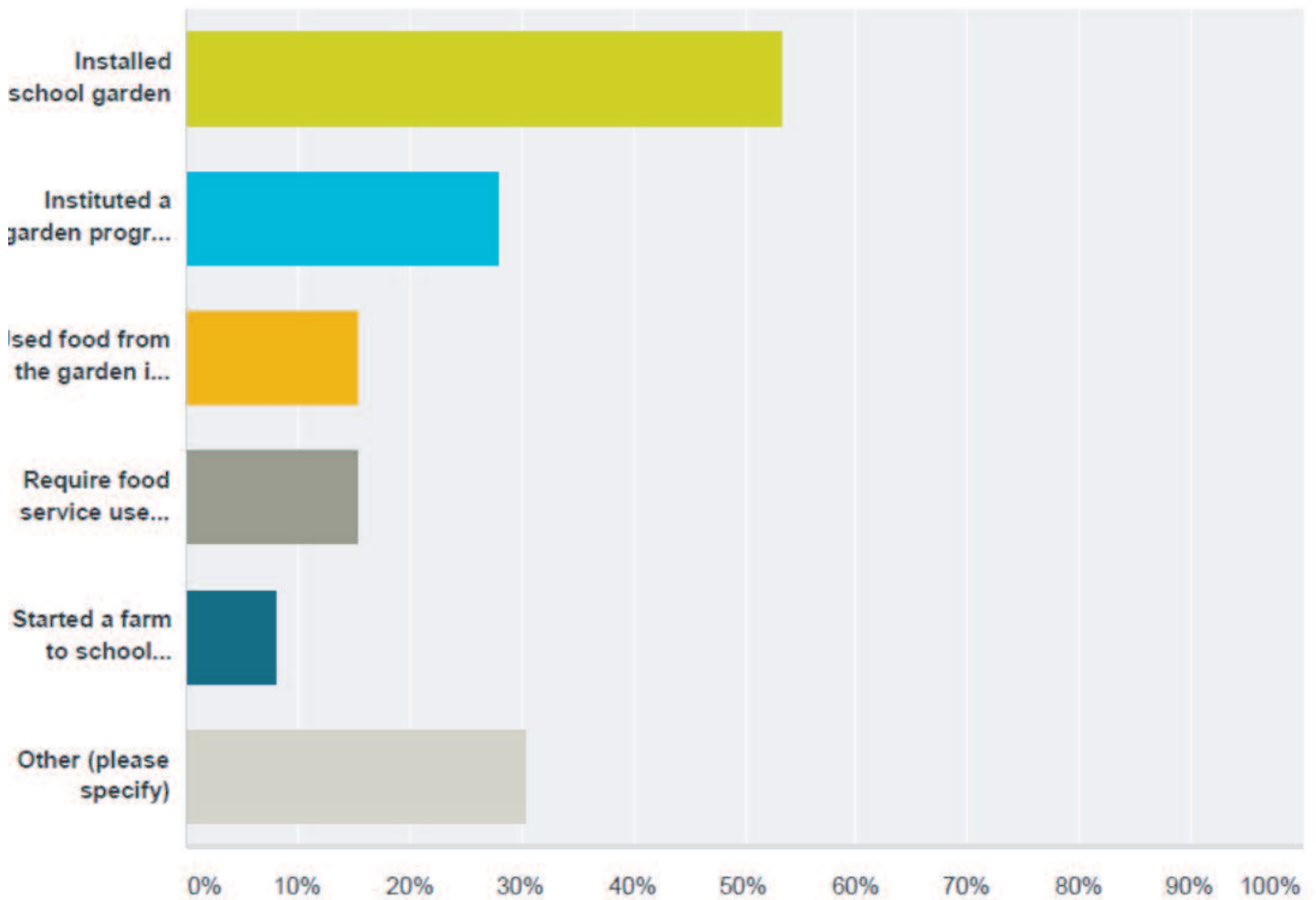
A student club helps recycle; that's about it

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



Answer Choices	Responses	
Installed school garden	53.42%	86
Instituted a garden program in the curriculum	27.95%	45
Used food from the garden in school cafeteria or cooking class	15.53%	25
Require food service use local and/or organic food choices	15.53%	25
Started a farm to school program	8.07%	13
Other (please specify)	30.43%	49
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.

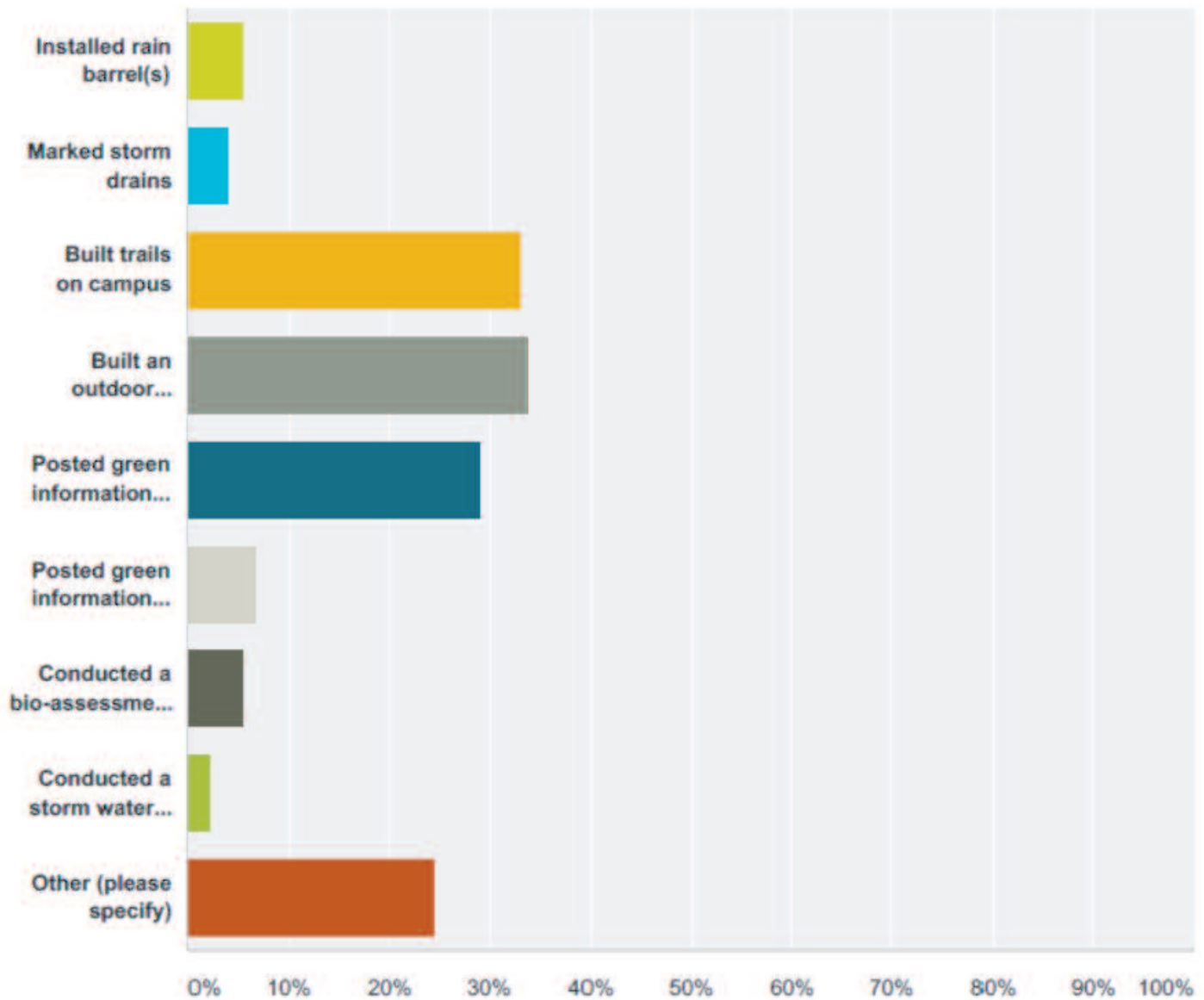
Not sure

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

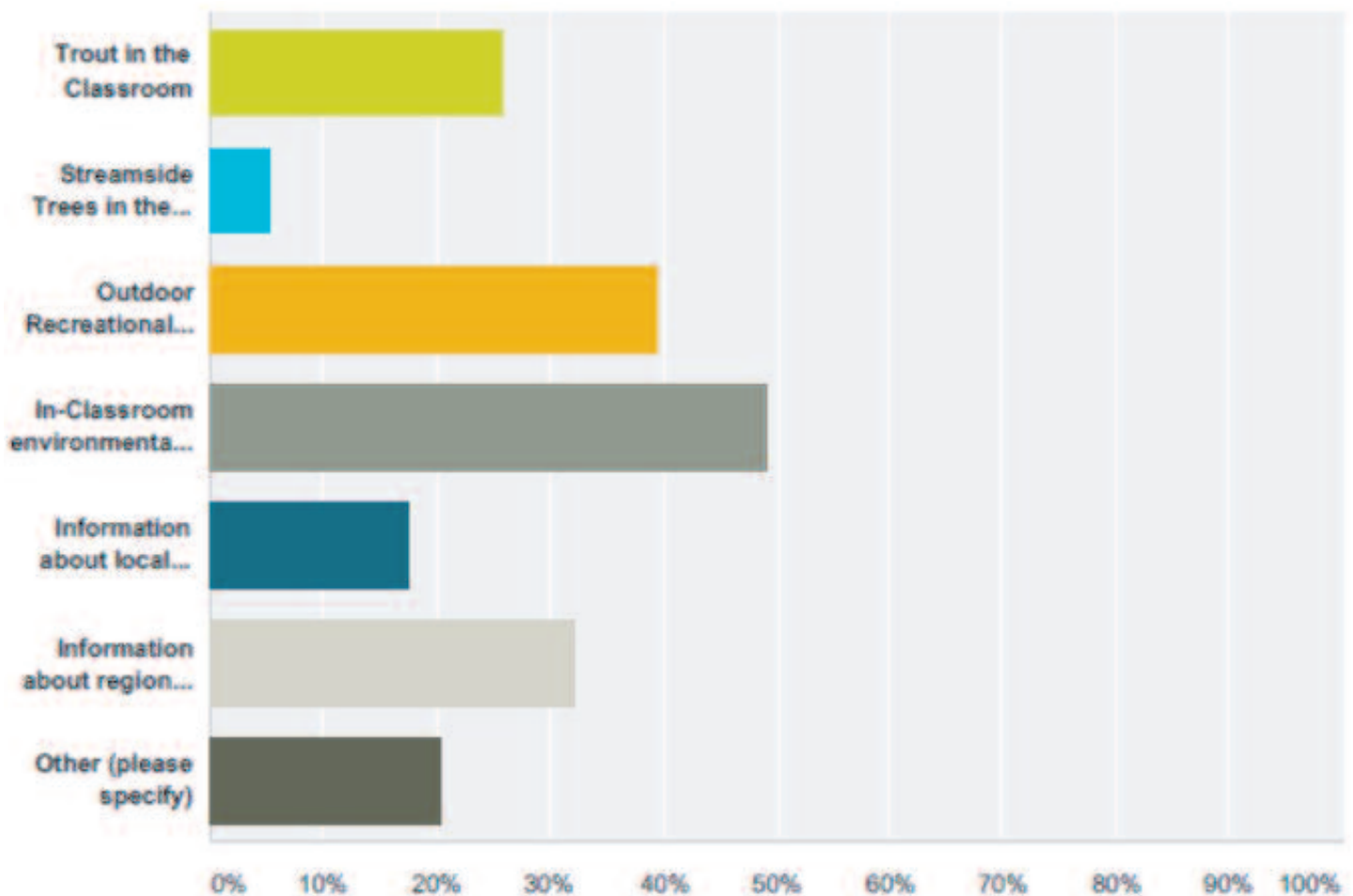
Currently in the design process for outdoor classroom

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



Answer Choices	Responses	
Trout in the Classroom	25.91%	57
Streamside Trees in the Classroom	5.45%	12
Outdoor Recreational/Nature related field trips	39.55%	87
In-Classroom environmental education presentations	49.09%	108
Information about local trails/river access points	17.73%	39
Information about regional outdoor recreational activities & events	32.27%	71
Other (please specify)	20.45%	45
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/Envirothon 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

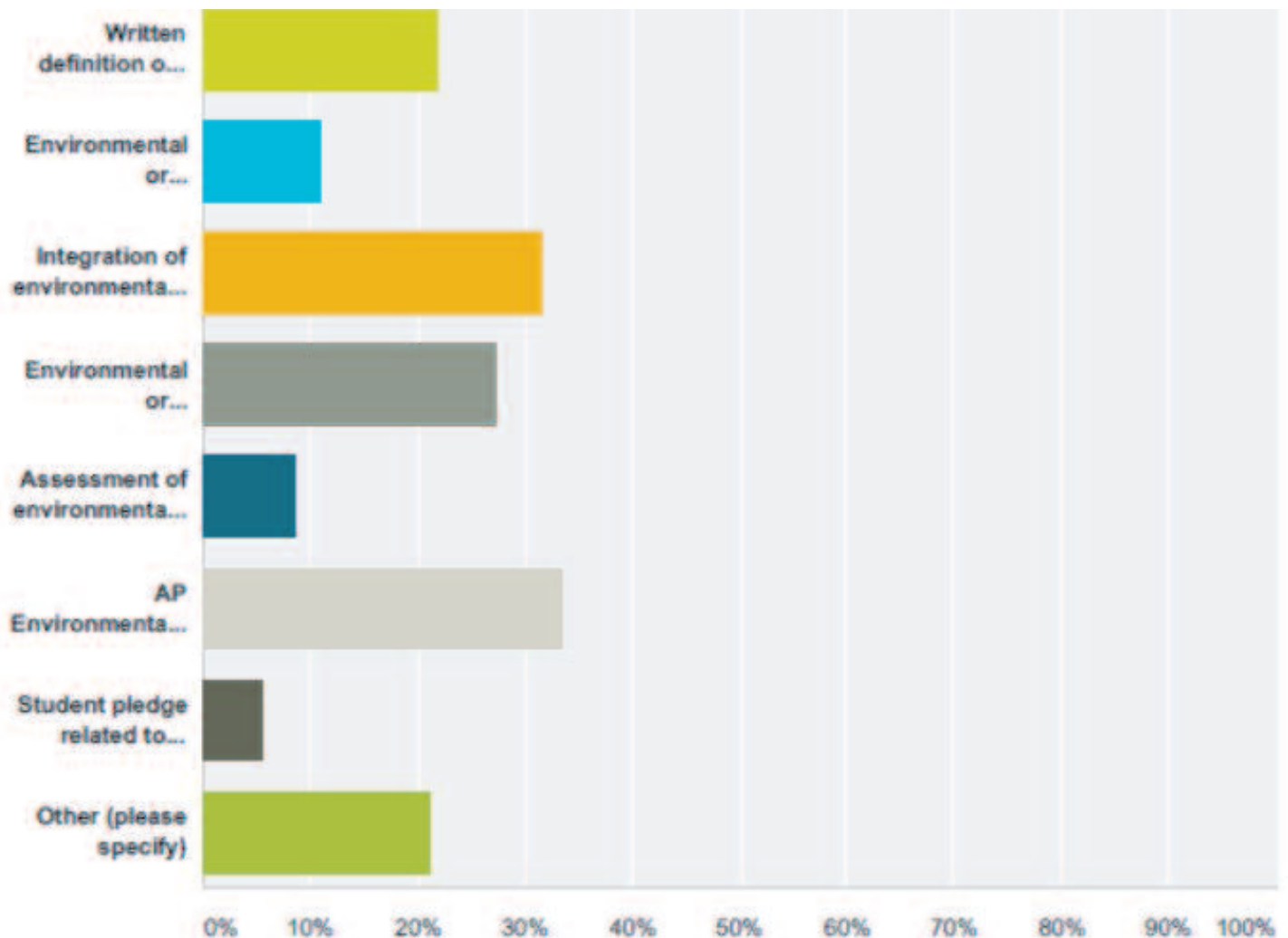
One elementary school in the division has the trout tank in the front hall.

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

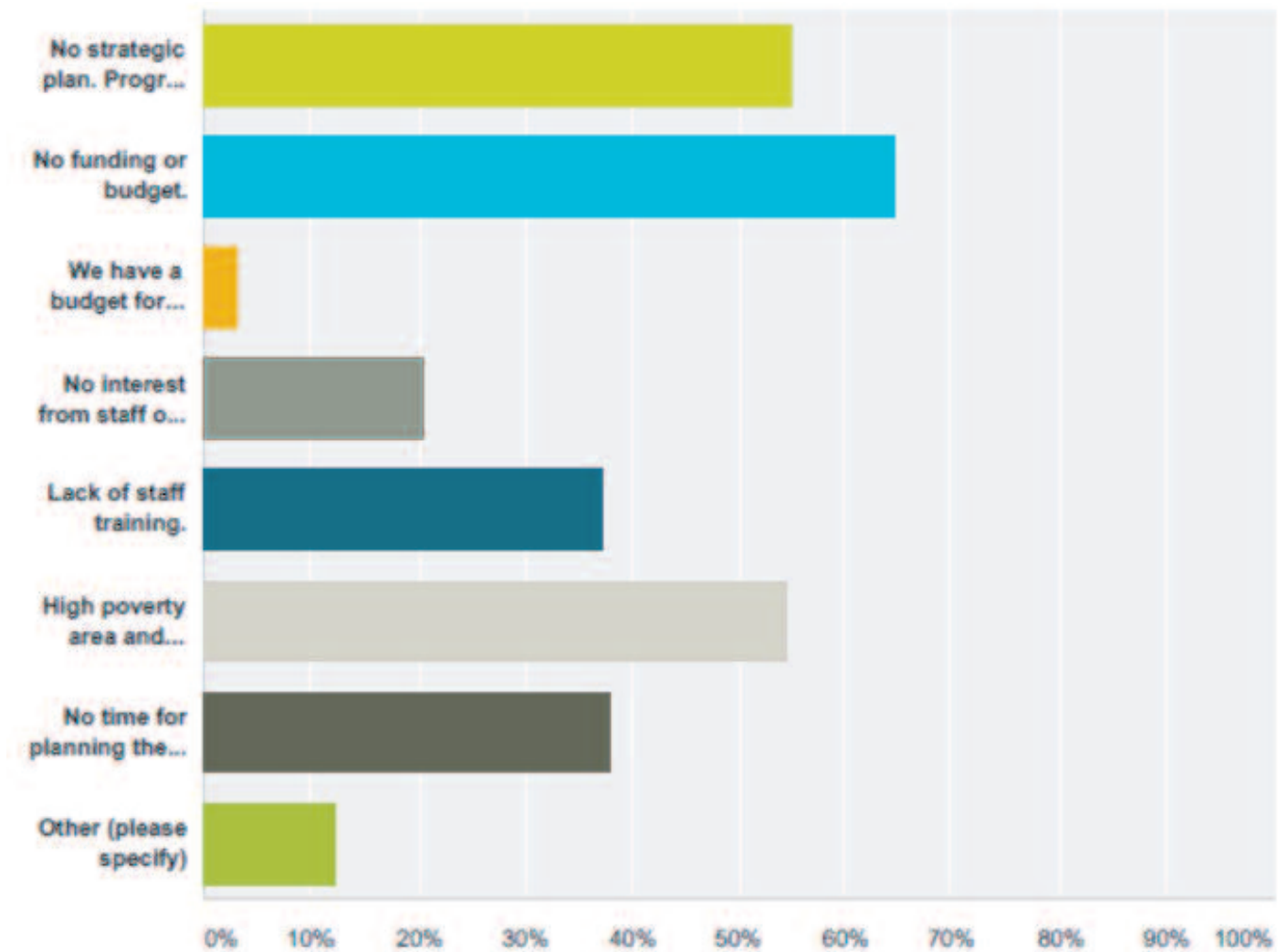
I think there's an environmental science class

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		
No strategic plan. Programs are only happening haphazardly.	55.14%	161
No funding or budget.	64.73%	189
We have a budget for these programs but not personnel or connections to lead programs.	3.08%	9
No interest from staff or students in these types of programs.	20.55%	60
Lack of staff training.	37.33%	109
High poverty area and families and students have higher priorities and concerns.	54.45%	159
No time for planning these types of programs.	38.01%	111
Other (please specify)	12.33%	36
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 the building when the heat is on sometimes, and sometimes have to open the windows because its 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 opportunities

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 thats 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.

## Q8 Continued

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

## Q8 Continued

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

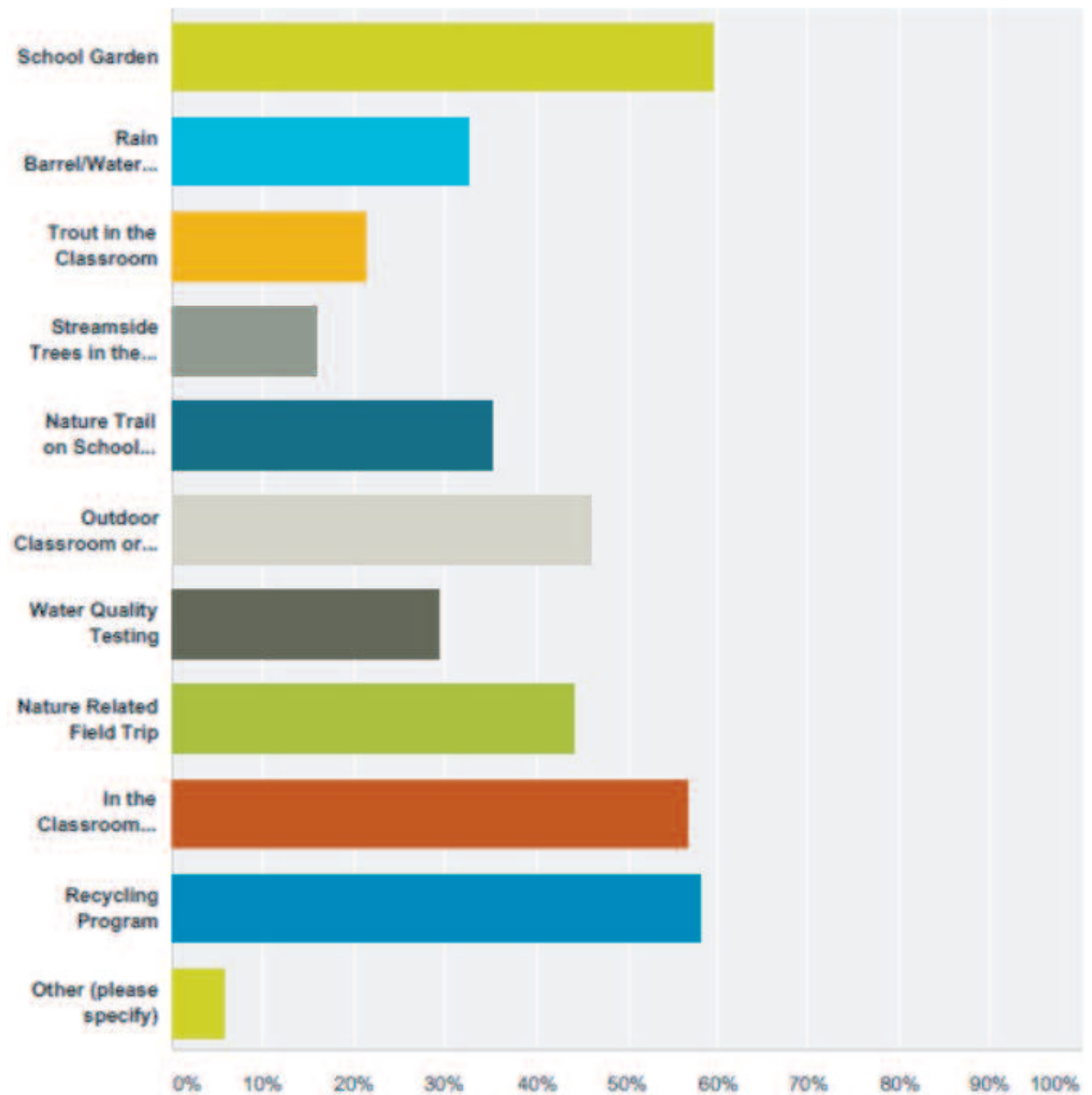
Schools should take the lead in their community

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





<b>Answer Choices</b>		
School Garden	59.41%	180
Rain Barrel/Water Conservation Program	32.67%	99
Trout in the Classroom	21.45%	65
Streamside Trees in the Classroom	16.17%	49
Nature Trail on School Campus	34.98%	106
Outdoor Classroom or Living Lab	45.87%	139
Water Quality Testing	29.37%	89
Nature Related Field Trip	44.22%	134
In the Classroom Programs and Presentations	56.77%	172
Recycling Program	58.09%	176
Other (please specify)	5.94%	18
Total Respondents: 303		

### 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

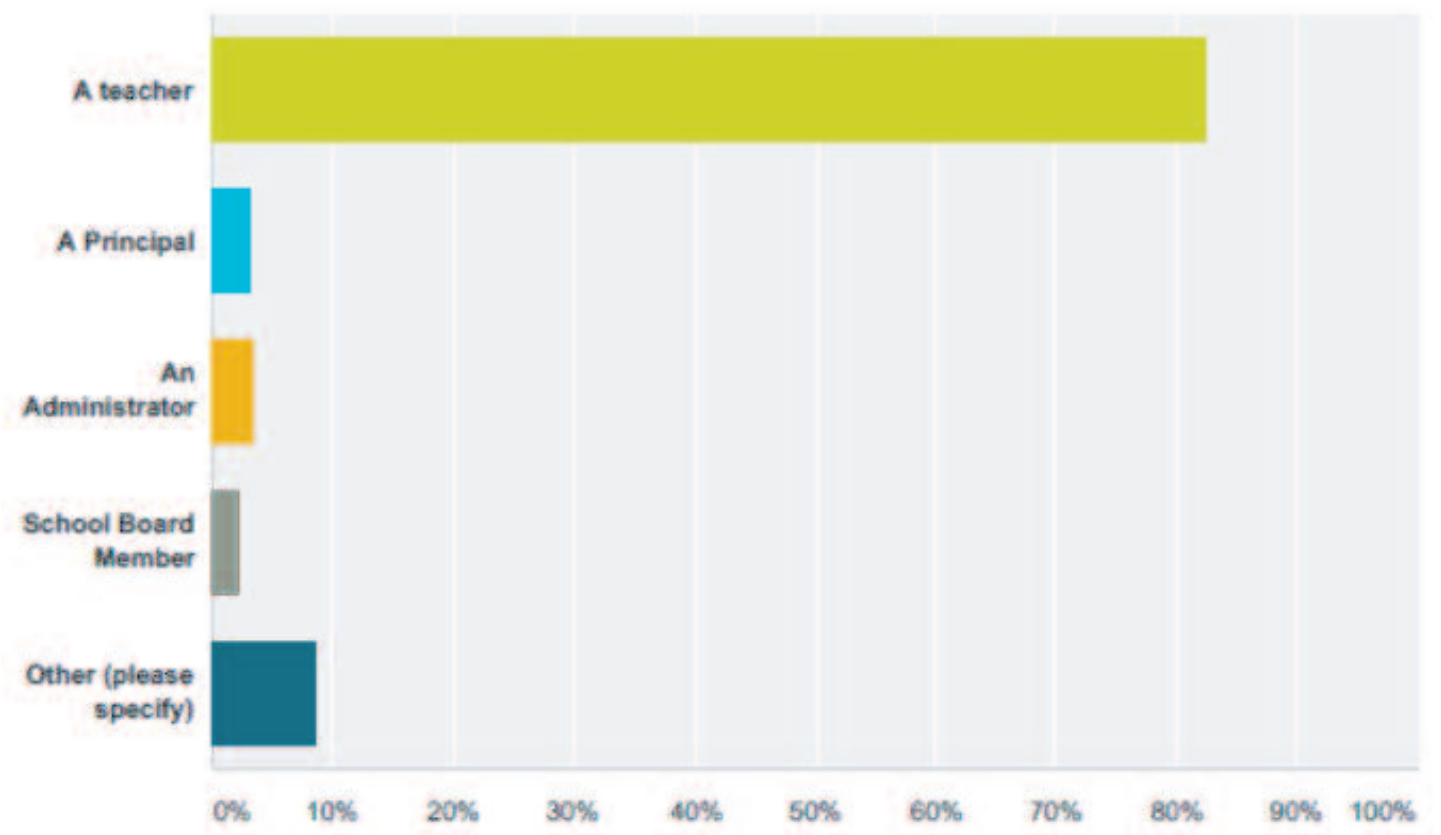
We currently offer recycling of paper only

Garden to lunchroom

All of these sound awesome

Q10 Are you...

Answered: 313 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices		
A Teacher	82.43%	258
A Principal	3.19%	10
An Administrator	3.51%	11
School Board Member	2.24%	7
Other (please specify)	8.63%	27
Total	313	

# Q11 Information About Your School

Answered: 279 Skipped: 35

# of Resp.	School Name	City/Town	State	County
3	Bartlett Yancey High School	Yanceyville	NC	Caswell
4	Caswell County Schools	Yanceyville	NC	Caswell
1	Dillard Middle School	Yanceyville	NC	Caswell
1	Elementary School	Town not identified	NC	Caswell
3	N.L. Dillard Middle School	Yanceyville	NC	Caswell
6	Dan River Middle School	Ringgold	VA	Danville
3	E. A. Gibson Elementary	Danville	VA	Danville
5	Forest Hills Elementary	Danville	VA	Danville
5	Galileo Magnet High School	Danville	VA	Danville
20	Geroge Washington High School	Danville	VA	Danville
1	Gibson Elementary	Danville	VA	Danville
1	Grove Park Preschool	Danville	VA	Danville
1	John M Langston	Danville	VA	Danville
1	O. T. Bonner Middle	Danville	VA	Danville
1	Westwood Middle and George Washington High	Danville	VA	Danville
2	Westwood Middle School	Danville	VA	Danville
1	Woodberry Hills Elementary	Danville	VA	Danville
5	Benjamin Franklin Middle Schoo	Rocky Mount	VA	Franklin
1	Burnt Chimney Elementary	Wirtz	VA	Franklin
3	Dudley Elementary	Wirtz	VA	Franklin
1	FES	Ferrum	VA	Franklin
10	Franklin County High School	Rocky Mount	VA	Franklin
1	Rocky Mount	Rocky Mount	VA	Franklin
3	Snow Creek Elementary	Penhook	VA	Franklin
4	The Gereau Center	Rocky Mount	VA	Franklin
1	School not identified	Rocky Mount	VA	Franklin
2	Lee M Waid	Rocky Mount	VA	Franklin
1	Sontag Elementary	Rocky Mount	VA	Franklin
1	5 different schools	High Point, Jamestown	NC	Guilford
1	Northwest High School	Greensboro	NC	Guilford
1	School not identified	Greensboro	NC	Guilford
1	Clays Mill Elementary	Scottsburg	VA	Halifax
1	Cluster Springs Elementary School	Alton	VA	Halifax
1	Halifax Co. Public Schools STEM Academy	Halifax	VA	Halifax
2	Halifax County Middle School	South Boston	VA	Halifax
8	Halifax County High School	South Boston	VA	Halifax
5	Halifax County Middle	South Boston	VA	Halifax
2	Sinai Elementary	South Boston	VA	Halifax
3	South Boston Elementary	South Boston	VA	Halifax
1	Sydnor Jennings Elementary	Nathalie	VA	Halifax
1	School not identified	Town not identified	VA	Halifax

# Q11 Continued

# of Resp.	School Name	City/Town	State	County
4	Axton Elementary	Axton	VA	Henry
5	Bassett High	Bassett	VA	Henry
1	Campbell Court	Bassett	VA	Henry
2	Collinsville Primary	Collinsville	VA	Henry
2	Drewry Mason Elementary School	Ridgeway	VA	Henry
3	Fieldale Collinsville Middle School	Collinsville	VA	Henry
2	G. W. Carver Elementary	Martinsville	VA	Henry
1	HCPS	Collinsville	VA	Henry
1	Henry County Schools	Collinsville	VA	Henry
1	John Redd Smith Elementary	Collinsville	VA	Henry
2	Laurel Park Middle School	Martinsville	VA	Henry
8	Magna Vista HS	Henry	VA	Henry
3	Martinsville City High School	Martinsville	VA	Henry
1	Martinsville City Schools	Martinsville	VA	Henry
1	MCPS	Martinsville	VA	Henry
1	Mt. Olivet Elem	Martinsville	VA	Henry
3	Patrick Henry Elementary	Martinsville	VA	Henry
1	Rich Acres Elementary	Martinsville	VA	Henry
2	Sanville Elementary	Bassett	VA	Henry
1	Stanleytown Elementary	Stanleytown	VA	Henry
1	School not identified	Martinsville	VA	Henry
1	Carver Elementary	Martinsville	VA	Martinsville
2	Blue Ridge Elementary School	Ararat	VA	Patrick
1	Hardin Reynolds Memorial School	Critz	VA	Patrick
2	Meadows of Dan Elementary	Meadows of Dan	VA	Patrick
7	Patrick County High School	Stuart	VA	Patrick
1	Patrick County Public Schools	Stuart	VA	Patrick
2	Stuart Elementary School	Stuart	VA	Patrick
2	Woolwine Elementary	Woolwine	VA	Patrick
1	Bonner	Danville	VA	Pittsylvania
1	Chatham Elementary School	Chatham	VA	Pittsylvania
1	Chatham Middle & Chatham High	Chatham	VA	Pittsylvania
2	Dan River High School	Ringgold	VA	Pittsylvania
4	Gretna Elementary School	Gretna	VA	Pittsylvania
1	Gretna High	Gretna	VA	Pittsylvania
1	Northside Preschool	Danville	VA	Pittsylvania
1	Piedmont Governor's School	Danville	VA	Pittsylvania
2	Schoolfield Elementary		VA	Pittsylvania
1	Southside Elementary School	Blairs	VA	Pittsylvania
2	STEM Academy	Chatham	VA	Pittsylvania
1	Twin Springs Elementary	Danville	VA	Pittsylvania
2	Union Hall Elementary	Chatham	VA	Pittsylvania
1	School not identified	Town not identified	VA	Pittsylvania

# Q11 Continued

# of Resp.	School Name	City/Town	State	County
1	School not identified	Danville	VA	Pittsylvania
3	Brosville Elementary School	Danville	VA	Pittsylvania
4	Chatham High School	Chatham	VA	Pittsylvania
1	Kentuck Elementary	Ringgold	VA	Pittsylvania
2	Langston	Danville	VA	Pittsylvania
1	Stony Mill Elem.	Danville	VA	Pittsylvania
7	Tunstall High School	Dry Fork	VA	Pittsylvania
4	Tunstall Middle School	Dry Fork	VA	Pittsylvania
1	Bethany Elementary School	Reidsville	NC	Rockingham
2	Central Elementary	Eden	NC	Rockingham
1	Dillard Elementary	Madison	NC	Rockingham
1	Douglass Elementary	Eden	NC	Rockingham
2	Draper Elementary	Eden	NC	Rockingham
2	Hunstville Elemntary	Madison	NC	Rockingham
1	John Motley Morehead	Eden	NC	Rockingham
1	McMichael High School	Mayodan	NC	Rockingham
3	Morehead High School	Eden	NC	Rockingham
3	Reidsville High	Reidsville	NC	Rockingham
3	Reidsville Middle	Reidsville	NC	Rockingham
5	Rockingham County High School	Wentworth	NC	Rockingham
2	Rockingham County Middle	Wentworth	NC	Rockingham
1	Rockingham County Schools	Eden	NC	Rockingham
2	Rockingham Early College High	Wenthworth	NC	Rockingham
2	Stoneville Elementary	Stoneville	NC	Rockingham
1	Stoney Creek Elementary	Reidsville	NC	Rockingham
1	Western Rockingham Middle School	Madison	NC	Rockingham
1	Williamsburg Elementary	Reidsville	NC	Rockingham
2	Dalton L McMichael High School	Mayodan	NC	Rockingham
1	John M Morehead High School	Eden	NC	Rockingham
1	Chestnut Grove Middle School	King	NC	Stokes
2	Lawsonville Elementary	Lawsonville	NC	Stokes
2	Mount Olive Elementary	King	NC	Stokes
2	North Stokes High School	Danbury	NC	Stokes
1	Pine Hall Elementary	Pine Hall	NC	Stokes
1	Poplar Springs Elementary School	King	NC	Stokes
1	South Stokes High School	Walnut Cove	NC	Stokes
2	Southeastern Stokes County Schools	Walnut Cove	NC	Stokes
1	Walnut Cove Elementary School	Walnut Cove	NC	Stokes
1	West Stokes	King	Nc	Stokes

# 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 they know how it directly affects 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.

## Q12 Continued

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?



## Q12 Continued

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 do 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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