

24 Trained

Volunteers

Dan River Basin Association Volunteer Environmental Educators 2024 Accomplishments

DRBA's Volunteer Environmental Educators (VEE) are individuals who want to share their knowledge and passion for natural resource protection, stewardship and conservation. After completing free training provided by DRBA staff, VEEs generously give their time to provide our environmental education programs - both in the classroom and in the field - helping us to educate thousands of youth in the Dan River watershed through hands-on activities, real world experiences and interactive presentations.



\$6,129 Monetary Value

Volunteer Educators in the Field



Tub of Bugs presentations at Snow Creek Elementary



Leaf Pack Study at Franklin County High School



Career ChoICE Expo in Pittsylvania County



What's in Your Watershed in Milton



Danville STEAM-C Night



Talent Search Paddle at Fairy Stone

Project Highlights



Volunteer Environmental Educators assisted with planting four nationally certified Monarch Waystations. Two were located at elementary schools in Virginia – Snow Creek Elementary and Patrick Henry Elementary. Two were located at public parks – Smith River Greenway in Eden, NC and Fisher Farm Park in Ridgeway, VA.

Individual

Projects



Educators also assisted with a half day summer camp for MHC After 3 middle school students at the Eastman Eco-Learning Station along the Smith River in Henry County. Students learned about watersheds by building their own watershed model, water quality testing and river exploration using underwater viewfinders.



Volunteer educators assisted the Trout in the Classroom program by picking up trout eggs from the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources and educating students about trout at releases held along the Smith River in Henry County. Students learned about the trout life cycle and aquatic insects found in the river.



Looking Ahead 2025

DRBA is looking for more Volunteer Environmental Educators in 2025. A two hour inperson training will be held in February for any new VEEs.

As a Volunteer Environmental Educator, you will have the opportunity to:

- Help with hands-on programs and educational activities
- Help at special events
- Support the VEE program with volunteer coordination, recruitment, training, and other administrative projects
- Deepen your knowledge about the Dan River Basin
- Receive free volunteer training and continuing educational experiences
- Be part of a team known for its strong sense of community and hands-on education programs

To learn more about the Volunteer Environmental Educator program, visit <u>www.danriver.org/VEE</u> to complete the online application. For questions, contact Krista Hodges, Education Outreach Manager at <u>khodges@danriver.org</u>.

