

Earth Force GREEN Program

Global Rivers Environmental Education Network



History of GREEN



- GREEN began in 1989
- Dr. William B. Stapp;
 - University of MI, Ann Arbor
- Passed to Earth Force in 1999

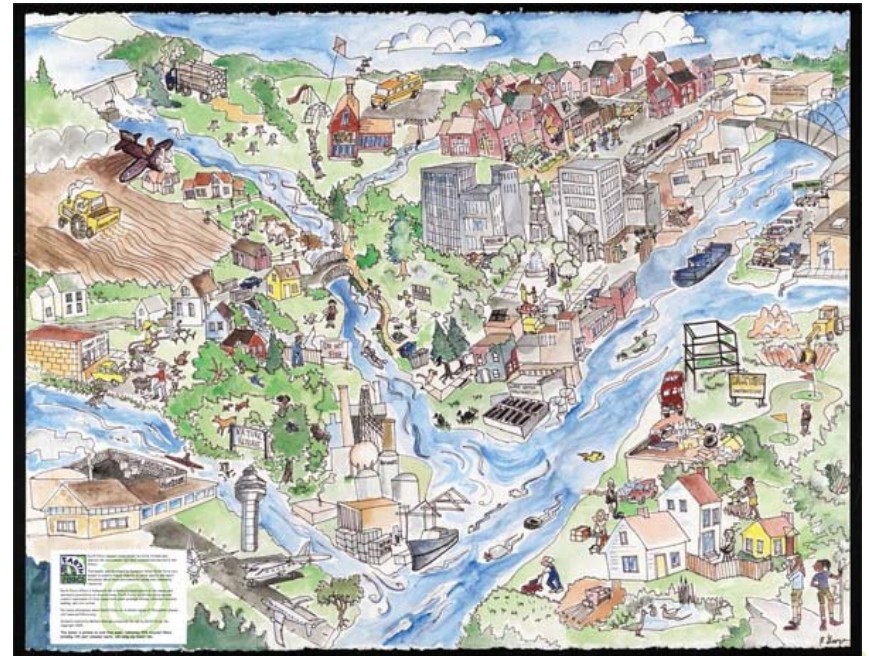
Why GREEN?

- Encourages inquiry-based learning
- Promotes civic involvement
- Engages the community
- Focuses on youth empowerment



GREEN Tools

- Protect Our Watershed kits
- Awareness to Action poster and activity guide
- Water testing kits:
dissolved O_2 , pH, N_2 , P_2 ,
turbidity, change in
temperature, benthic
macroinvertebrates



Step 1: Watershed Inventory

- Identify local watershed and water quality conditions
- Identify threats, problems and resources



Step 2: Selecting a Watershed Problem



- Develop criteria to select an impairment or threat
- Use democratic decision making that facilitates team work
- Choose an impairment or threat on which to work

Step 3: Researching Policy and Practices

- Identify behaviors and policies related to selected problem
- Identify key players in selected problem
- Collect and describe facts and opinions about the problem
- Develop recommendations for improving the problem



Step 4: Deciding What to do

- Brainstorm strategies
- Use criteria to make democratic decision about what to do



Step 5: Taking Action



- Establish an action plan with timeline
- Carry out action plan

Step 6: Looking Back and Ahead

- Assess the impact of the project
- Decide what still needs to happen
- Chronicle effort and celebrate



GREEN Watershed Projects

- School Lane Charter persuades board to install pervious surface
- Radnor Middle School builds riparian buffer zone
- Currently Bridesburg Elementary is installing a watershed mural in school



GREEN Watershed Projects



- Philadelphia School students publish watershed education books
- Friends' Central raises funds to repair buffer zone

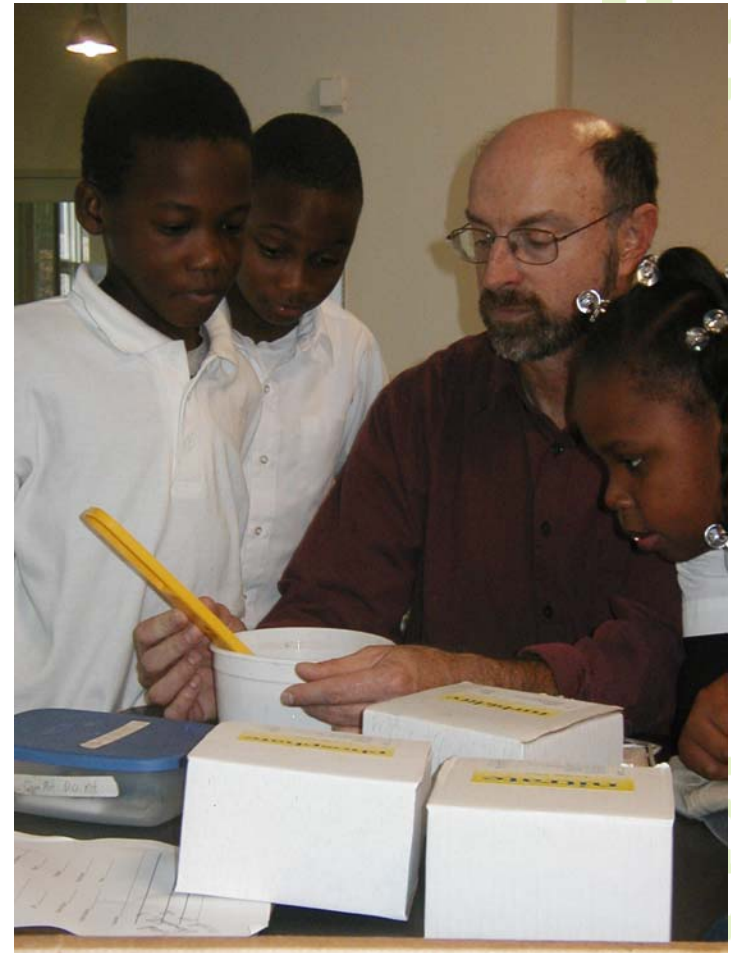
GREEN Teacher Trainings



- Summer Institutes provide in depth training for teachers on watershed content and GREEN process
- Teachers earn Act 48 credits

Ongoing Teacher Support

- Planning meetings
- Materials
- Community connections and resources
- 3-6 classroom visits per year
- Culminating Youth Summit for students to showcase projects



GREEN: Beyond Water Quality Monitoring



- Students analyze water samples, conduct balanced research, then synthesize findings to create watershed protection projects.
- Teachers receive ongoing training and support from Earth Force staff