High School Programs

There is no point to this pollution: This exercise allows students to analyze data to solve a mystery, interpret a topographic map, and analyze and compare water quality data to learn about the cumulative impacts of nonpoint source pollution. Students will identify the point and nonpoint sources of pollution, demonstrate the cumulative impact of nonpoint source pollution, learn to read and interpret a contour map while identifying important map clues about watersheds and water quality, graph, analyze, and interpret data sets to draw conclusions about pollution sources, compare local household and community nonpoint sources of pollution to surface water quality standards, and list ways to reduce or eliminate nonpoint source pollution.

Benthic Bugs and Bioassessment: This activity allows students to investigate the relative water quality of a stream by conducting a simulated bioassessment by sampling aquatic macroinvertebrates represented by ordinary materials. The students will investigate the role that aquatic macroinvertebrates play in determining water quality, simulate the process of rapid bioassessment of aquatic macroinvertebrates, collect, sort, classify, identify, analyze and evaluate a sample of materials representing aquatic macroinvertebrates, determine a streams water quality using a pollution tolerance index based on a sample of aquatic macroinvertebrates, and compare the differences between the relative water quality of different samples.

Enviroscape –The flexibility of the Enviroscape makes it possible to address human impacts issues such as erosion, litter, animal waste, fertilizers, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, and other non-point source pollutants or the process involved with bringing clean water to the home and the removal of it safely back into the environment. This interactive model is a strong visual lesson that does an excellent job of portraying somewhat abstract concepts in an easy-to-understand format.

Mystery River- This lesson allows students to critically analyze real local data and determine whether or not a problem exists. Students have the opportunity to practice working with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division Adopt-A-Stream database to locate current and historical data on waterways all over our watershed, some going back as far as 2000. This lesson is wrapped up with an oral presentation of the student's findings of potential problems that may be present.