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<http://www.eenorthcarolina.org/index.asp>

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS *LINK

SWCD Links - Homepage

• **Environmental Education**

The District's community education program was established to encourage stewardship while strengthening environmental literacy. Each year the Swain Soil and Water Conservation District sponsors a series of outreach programs tailored to enhance public knowledge of natural resources despite age, social values, or political standpoint.

Most often subject matter relates to the significance of soil and water resources however lessons are also presented on land practices, food, plant, wildlife, and air resources. Lessons are intended to be experience-based and interdisciplinary as a means to foster the attitudes, build skills and motivation required to stimulate responsible action.

A majority of the District's programs correlate with objectives outlined in the North Carolina Essential Standards for Science, Social Studies, and Health Education as well as the National Science Education Content Standards. Many of the programs were developed by or otherwise adapted from curriculum outlined in Project Learning Tree, Project WET (Water Education for Teachers), Project Food, Land, and People and others.

KEEP THE LINKS TO CURRICULUM LISTED ABOVE

INSERT LINK : 2012 NEWSLETTER

INSERT LINK: AVAILABLE LESSONS LIST.

Swain SWCD education programs are year-round and constantly developing, please contact Zae Millsaps for additional information or special requests.

• **VISUAL AIDS** *LINKS @ left*

Enviroscape – Grades 2-5.

The Enviroscape is a unique, interactive learning tool designed to help younger students make visual connections between land use and water quality. It is a tabletop, hands-on model that shows the origin of both point and nonpoint source pollution and how watersheds work. <http://www.envirosapes.com/>

Stream-table – 5-9.

The Stream-table is a model designed to replicate the morphology of river systems. By controlling the flow rate students observe cut banks, migrating meander bends, development of flood plains and more.

INSERT PICTURE?

• **DISTRICT SPONSORED EVENTS** *K&L*

POSTER CONTEST - Grades 3-5.

Each year the Swain Soil and Water Conservation District sponsors a Poster Contest for students in grades 3-5. Resource materials and courtesy poster board are available from August to December. The first place poster from each grade level advances to the Area level (open to the fifteen western counties). The first place Area level posters continue on to compete on the State level. The entry deadline is January 15th.

INSERT LINK TO POSTER PACKET/SPECIFICATIONS

INSERT PICTURE 2013 POSTER FINALISTS

CONSERVATION FIELD DAY: 5th grade only

In 1974 the Swain SWCD (formerly Tuckaseegee SWCD) designated a day now known as Conservation Field Day to educate students about the field of natural resources conservation. On this day, students circulate in groups to different stations to hear lectures and participate in demonstrations. Topics typically include forestry, wildlife, air quality, environmental stewardship, stream bank dynamics, soils science, and outdoor recreation safety. Conservation Field Day takes place mid-April.

ENVIROTHON PROGRAM - Middle and High School Students

The Envirothon is an academic competition where five member teams are quizzed on their knowledge of aquatics, current environmental issues, forestry, soils, and wildlife. Teams from the sixteen western counties compete against each other for a chance to advance to the State competition. Cash prizes and scholarships are presented to the top teams in the middle school and high school categories. The District sponsors teams each year. Training is a must. For more information visit <http://www.ncenvirothon.org/home>
Swain High School contact: Mr. Mike Davis, Envirothon advisor

INSERT 2012 SWAIN HIGH SCHOOL ENVIROTHON TEAM PICTURE 45

CONSERVATION SUMMER CAMP

As of summer 2014, the District will be offering a weeklong science-based summer camp for rising seventh and eighth grade students. Day to day students will assemble to explore ancient timber stands, hike waterfall trails, analyze water and soil quality, and search for geocache prizes. Camp will take place in July. Registration will cost \$ 20.00 per student. The camp was made possible by a grant received from the Duke Energy Nantahala Area Soil and Water Conservation Grant Program.

- [SWAIN BIG SWEEP * NEW LINK](#)

NC BIG SWEEP

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Swain SWCD coordinates county wide participation in NC Big Sweep. NC Big Sweep is a volunteer based statewide effort to remove litter from the environment. On a single day in October Swain volunteers removed 120 pounds from downtown Bryson City and Walker Woody Road. As of February 15th, Swain Middle School students have removed 92 pounds of litter from areas surrounding the school campus. Unfortunately, collecting litter is an ongoing process and volunteers are always needed to help keep our community beautiful and litter free. Community service hours (students only) and equipment/supplies are provided. If you would like to volunteer we would love to put you to work!

<http://www.ncbigssweep.org/>

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M.S.

- [STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES](#) *Takes the place of education 8-12

AREA 1 SOIL AND WATER SCHOLARSHIP (NAME?)

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RESOURCE CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

The Resource Conservation Workshop (RCW) is a weeklong, all-expense paid trip to North Carolina State University. The Swain District selects one outstanding student, with a demonstrated interest in natural resource conservation, per year to attend the workshop. The selected student will attend intensive study sessions with an emphasis on the management of natural resources in today's environment. Scholarships and awards are presented to students at the end of the workshop based on their performance during the experience. Rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors are eligible for the RCW workshop. Applications are available at

http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/documents/RCW_STUDENT_APPLICATION_FORM.pdf

<http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/RCW.html>