

Conservation Education

Cumberland Soil & Water Conservation District's conservation education program made over 6550 contacts through classroom visits, public library and parks and recreation center presentations, Envirothon team training, distribution of literature and participation in special events in 2008-2009. The District's education program serves public, private and home school educators in Cumberland County.

Education Coordinator, Kay Bullard, presented 103 hands-on conservation lessons in classrooms this year. As part of each lesson students received activity books and teachers were given a packet of information and activities to supplement their curriculum. 120 teachers requested and received class sets of grade level appropriate booklets for their kindergarten – sixth grade students to celebrate Earth Day in April.

The District also participated in Clark Park Nature Day, the Cumberland County Fair and Cumberland County Schools' Very Special Arts Festival.



Resource Conservation Workshop (RCW) Scholarship

John Dalton, a rising junior at Fayetteville Academy was the recipient of this year's RCW Scholarship. John spent one week on the NCSU campus to study a wide range of conservation topics and explore career opportunities in natural resources conservation. John is the son of John and Teresa Dalton of Fayetteville.

Envirothon Team Training

The District sponsored several workshops for Cumberland County Envirothon teams during the year. Soils, forestry, aquatics, wildlife and current environmental issues training was provided by the following resource specialists: Elizabeth Evans of the Ft. Bragg Endangered Species Branch; Division of Soil & Water Conservation soil scientist, Channa Witanachchi; Southeastern Community College Instructor, Rebecca Westbrooks, and local environmental educators, Juli Beighley and Harriett Shooter.



Cumberland County Fair Exhibit

The District's **Cumberland County Fair** exhibit for 2008 highlighted the wise use of our natural resources and backyard conservation. The display showed how rain barrels can be outfitted to gutters to save water for yard and garden use. Handouts included brochures on backyard conservation and other publications of interest to the general public. A drawing was held during the fair for a free rain barrel.

Pet Waste Stations Placed in County Parks

Cumberland County has four large public parks and is building a "dog" park. In July of 2008 the District applied for, and received, a 319 Non Point Source Pollution Control Grant to purchase ten pet waste disposal stations.

Two pet waste disposal stations were placed in each of the County's five parks.

Placing pet waste disposal stations in the dog walking traffic areas of the parks will encourage pet owners to pick up after their pets and dispose of pet waste properly; thereby reducing a significant contributor to bacterial contamination in area waterways after storm events.

An information brochure was developed by the District to educate the public about using the pet waste stations.

