It’s Our Water!
At the Headwaters

WC DENR - DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES & THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FUND

WATER FACTS:

• Only 3% of water on Earth is fresh, and most of it is frozen at the poles!
• An average person needs 2 quarts of water a day (~2 liters).
• For more facts, visit:
  http://www.nps.gov/rivers/waterfacts.html

AUGUST WORKSHOP A SPLASH!

Surrounded by the quiet tranquility of beautiful hardwood forest and Falls Lake, teachers from all over North Carolina explored the wonders surrounding water resources in North Carolina. With the lovely Blue Jay Point County Park in Raleigh, NC as a backdrop teachers completed a ten-hour training in the It’s Our Water! curriculum.

These high school teachers can now take this curriculum back to their schools and use it to promote inquiry and problem solving skills in their students. It’s Our Water! can also help these teachers educate their students on lab techniques, measurement skills, and hopefully create a sense of accomplishment and enjoyment in science for students.

IOW would like to congratulate our August teacher training participants, especially those who braved the bunks overnight! You were all such a great and positive crew!

From all It’s Our Water! teacher training sessions, the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. I hope this will inspire and encourage all of you to use the It’s Our Water! curriculum throughout this school year. Please don’t let your It’s Our Water! materials sit on the shelf unused. Use it in your classroom. Use the website and each other to expand upon the curriculum. Encourage other teachers at your school to sign up for an It’s Our Water! workshop.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

August Workshop a Splash! 1
Upcoming Workshops 2
Calendar September–November 2
New State It’s Our Water! Coordinator 2
Resources & Call for Activities 3
Facilitator—Mark Townley 3
Hosting a Workshop 4

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:

• It’s Our Water Teacher Training at Great Smoky Mountains National Park September 23 & 24.
  For more information e-mail Eric Romaniszyn at “romaniszyn@yahoocom”

• It’s Our Water Teacher Training at University of North Carolina - Charlotte September 29 & October 1.
  For more information e-mail Sarah Kiser at “kisersm@co.mecklenburg.nc.us”

• For updated workshop information, please see the website at:
  http://www.ncwater.org, click on It’s Our Water!
SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, & NOVEMBER 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Nov. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- **9/23 & 9/24** — It’s Our Water! Teacher Training, Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- **9/29 & 10/01** — It’s Our Water! Teacher Training, University of North Carolina—Charlotte
- **10/01** — Info & Display: Bass Lake Day, Holly Springs, NC
- **11/10 & 11/11** — Info & Display: NCSTA Conference, Greensboro, NC

---

NEW IT’S OUR WATER! COORDINATOR FOR NORTH CAROLINA!

Shelby Gull Laird, a former teacher at Garner Magnet High School, near Raleigh, NC started the position as part-time It’s Our Water! Coordinator for North Carolina this summer. Shelby is familiar with many aspects of It’s Our Water! as she has used parts of the curriculum in her classroom setting, as an Earth/Environmental Science teacher.

Shelby will be facilitating workshops throughout the next few years as well as assisting other facilitators in conducting workshops of their own. She is part-time, so it may take a day or two for her to return phone messages, but if you e-mail, you will probably get back to you in a matter of hours.

Shelby lives in Willow Springs, NC with her spouse, Malcolm, and their two dogs, Ditto and Hamish. She is currently finishing a Master’s degree in Science Education (Spring 2006) and will then begin a Master’s in Natural Resources—Hydrology. She is working on both of these degrees at the best university in North Carolina; NC State University, of course!

Shelby talks to a group of It’s Our Water! teachers at the close of a workshop.
Earth/Environmental Science Websites & Resources

REAL-TIME DATA ON THE INTERNET

- **Hydrology:**
  - USGS North Carolina Water Science Center
    http://nc.water.usgs.gov/info/h2o.html
  - USGS WaterWatch (similar site, bigger map)
    http://water.usgs.gov/waterwatch/

- **Geology:**
  - USGS Recent World Earthquake Activity
    http://earthquake.usgs.gov/recenteqsww/
  - View of Earth from the Moon and other Maps
    http://www.fourmilab.to/cgi-bin/uncg/Earth/action?opt=m
    Or just try http://livingearth.com, click on “Interactive Earth”

Know of any neat websites? You know, the ones you spent hours to find... Share them with others!

Send Copies of Your Activities or Pictures of Your Students!

- Have a great activity about Water quantity or quality you created and would like to share?
- Want to congratulate your students on a job well done or show off what they have discovered about their stream?

Write to us with your stories and information. This newsletter will have a new section to share information and stories with other It’s Our Water! teachers!

Deadline for submission is November 15, 2005! Submit to:
Shelby Gull Laird <shelby.gull@ncmail.net> or fax Shelby at: 919-733-3558

Mark Townley, Facilitator and Teacher.

Mark Townley is an awesome It’s Our Water! facilitator. Not only is he always happy, patient, and willing to answer any teacher’s question about the program, but he also uses It’s Our Water! in his own Earth/Environmental Science classroom. Mark stars in the It’s Our Water! DVD’s as the teacher for the Piedmont team with his students from Lee County High School in Sanford, North Carolina.

Mark always talks about how much he enjoys teaching the It’s Our Water! curriculum and points out to teachers that he uses it not only to teach about hydrology, but even mineralogy, weathering and erosion, and other earth and environmental science concepts.

Mark is happy to share hints and tips with you, and several of his lessons or amendments to It’s Our Water! can be found on the website, www.ncwater.org, click on “It’s Our Water” then follow the “For Educators” link.
**NC DENR - DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES**

Shelby Gull Laird

It’s Our Water!
1611 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1611
Phone: 919-715-4939
Fax: 919-733-3558
Email: shelby.gull@ncmail.net

Sponsored by:
The Environmental Education Fund &
NC DENR Division of Water Resources

---

**IT’S OUR WATER!**

- Is a North Carolina-specific high school Earth/Environmental Science curriculum and resources guide for North Carolina students and teachers. It covers the importance of water quality and quantity, monitoring and maintaining water quality, and the impacts individual choices and actions have on water quality.
- Centers around field activities in a local stream that lead to a final report and recommendations by the class, coordinated with a series of videos, demonstrations, classroom activities, homework and quizzes.

---

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN IT’S OUR WATER! WORKSHOP?**

All you need to do is...

- Gather up 10 high school science teachers from your school or district.
- Pick a workday or other day you can meet for 6–10 hours.
- Find a place to have this meeting.
- Ask the school district or another sponsor to pay $25 each for your materials (Including: It’s Our Water! DVD and Curriculum Guide, Project Wet Guide, Healthy Water Healthy People Testing Kit Manual, and NC River Basins Booklet with inserts and poster, and more).
- Contact Shelby Gull Laird <shelby.gull@ncmail.net>, who will arrange for another facilitator or herself to come to your facility and work with your group learning about It’s Our Water!

---

Holly Denham assists It’s Our Water! teachers with their coloring during a Project WET activity.