Lee County earth/environmental science teacher Mark Townley has been teaching his students about North Carolina’s water resources this semester using It’s Our Water! As a field test teacher, he has been teaching the It’s Our Water! curriculum for quite some time now, and each semester he finds the students react to activities in the stream in a unique way. This semester, his students did something quite different. They decided to educate their community about what they had learned.

The final module of It’s Our Water! requires students to come up with a plan to maintain or improve the quality of their stream. Mark’s students decided that public awareness might help their goals for Little Buffalo Creek, and contacted their local paper. Their efforts can be read in the Sanford Herald at:


How exciting would it be to have your students show such positive efforts towards their environment and community. I hope this will inspire and encourage all of you to use the It’s Our Water! materials, 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.

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Some of Mark’s previous students taking readings at Little Buffalo Creek in Sanford, NC.

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JANUARY, FEBRUARY, & MARCH ‘06

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**Schedule of Events**

- **01/03/06** — It’s Our Water! Teacher Training, Riverside High School, Durham, NC
- **02/04/06** — It’s Our Water! Teacher Training, East Forsyth High School, Winston-Salem, NC
- **03/08/06** — It’s Our Water! Teacher Training, WRESA, Asheville, NC
- **?????** — It’s Our Water! Teacher Training, We’ll Come to you, let us know when! :)  

**Help Us to Fill in the Blanks!**

Sign up for It’s Our Water! Teacher Training today or contact Shelby Gull Laird to set up a training for your school / school system!

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**It’s Our Water! Trained Teachers in North Carolina**

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**Key**

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Created By: Shelby Gull Laird
Date: December 20, 2001
For: NC DEIR Division of Water Resources & The Environmental Education Fund
Projects in the News

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 March 1, 2006!

Submit to:
Shelby Gull Laird <shelby.gull@ncmail.net> or fax Shelby at: 919-733-3558
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!