



HYDROLOGIC

CITIZENS GUIDE TO PREVENT POLLUTED RUOFF & PROTECT NATURE

JULY 2019

Weather In The Classroom



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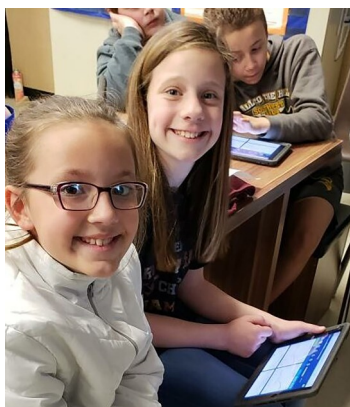
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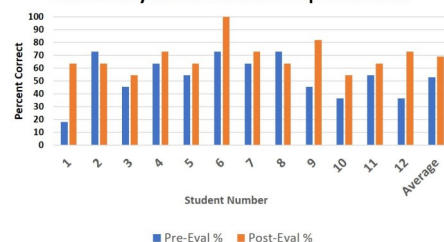


Raleigh County 4th Grade Students watching their local weather from their tablets.

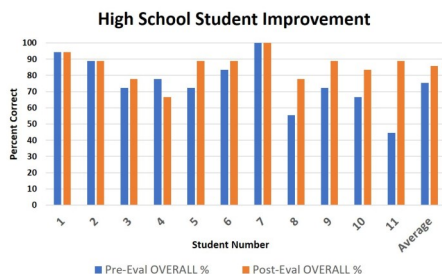
Throughout 2018 and 2019, Beckley Sanitary Board has been bringing weather into Raleigh County Classrooms! In partnership with Beckley Area Foundation and Raleigh County Schools, we recently installed three hi-tech weather stations at three different schools in the Beckley area. These stations record weather and store the information online. Through the web, students and teachers can access the weather information any time of the day or year. To provide training with the new equipment, Beckley Sanitary Board sent staff to the participating classrooms and taught the students about climate, weather systems, and real-world ways to use weather information. In addition to seeing how weather stations are installed and how they collect information, students learned about weather and climate patterns, and the many factors in the atmosphere that impact the kinds of weather we see every day. To see the effectiveness of the lessons, students were given evaluations at the beginning and the end of class. Results varied from class to class, but students generally showed significant improvement in their knowledge of weather (see graphed results). The success of this program is 2-fold. Installing more weather stations helps Beckley Sanitary Board have a better understanding of our local weather patterns, and to plan better for the future. Involving our Raleigh County students provides creative and real-world STEM opportunities, and helps prepare the upcoming generation of scientists and problem solvers! If your classroom would like to get involved, give us a call at 304-256-1760!

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Elementary School Student Improvements



Graph of elementary student evaluation results from one class. These students averaged a 15% improvement in weather knowledge.



Graph of high school student evaluation results from one class. These students averaged a 10% improvement in weather knowledge.



Raleigh County High School Students with their RainWise® Weather Station.

Storm Drain Markers

Have you ever noticed a blue circular icon near a storm drain? What's it doing there? And who put it there in the first place? These markers are placed by BSB and volunteer groups as

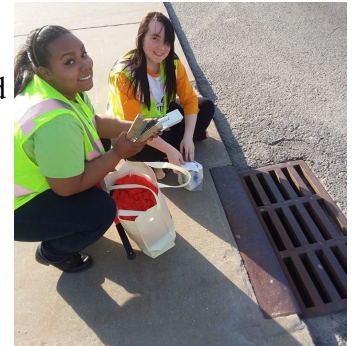


"Drainsto Stream" Storm drain marker in downtown Beckley.

reminders about stormwater pollution. Storm drains, whether in streets, parking lots, or yards, are typically connected to stormwater pipes, which run underground and join up with other pipes, ditches, or streams. Eventually, all of these drains make it to streams. So anything that goes into that storm drain eventually goes into a stream! Just think of all harmful things that can end up in a storm drain...

Litter... fertilizer...grass clippings...motor oil...cigarette butts...the list goes on! And all of these **pollutants** can enter our streams, causing all sorts of problems for the fish and other wildlife

that call those streams "home!" They can also effect our sources of drinking water. We all need a reminder, *"Only rain should go down a storm drain!"* These storm drain markers are our little reminders, all over the city! This is a great way for students or clubs to get involved in a fun community service project! If you'd like to get your helping hands into storm drain marking, give us a call at 304-256-1760 and ask for the Stormwater folks!



WVU Tech Biology Club Students marking a local storm drain.

Kids' Zone

Follow the Rain Drop!



Stormwater is rain water that flows across the ground. As stormwater flows, it can pick up **pollution** from the ground, and carry it all the way into our streams! Pollution can be litter, oil, salt, fertilizer, animal waste, or anything else that doesn't belong in the stream.,

⇒ **Trace the path of the rain drop.** What kind of pollution do you think it might pick up?

⇒ **Color the Picture.**

To report suspected stormwater pollution, please call BSB at 304-256-1760.