

# Teacher's Conservation Corner

## John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District

### New Water Monitoring Data Application

The John Marshall Soil & Water Conservation District has just released a new online application which can be used to look at some of the water monitoring data which has been collected over the past couple of decades.

Data for monthly *E. coli* bacteria levels and quarterly benthic macroinvertebrate scores for select watersheds can be found on the site.

The application also shows additional information such as the land use for each watershed as well as watershed sizes.

The data can be filtered to show just certain dates or results. There is also an option to view the data over time to see how it changes.

The application is available [here](#) for anyone to view.

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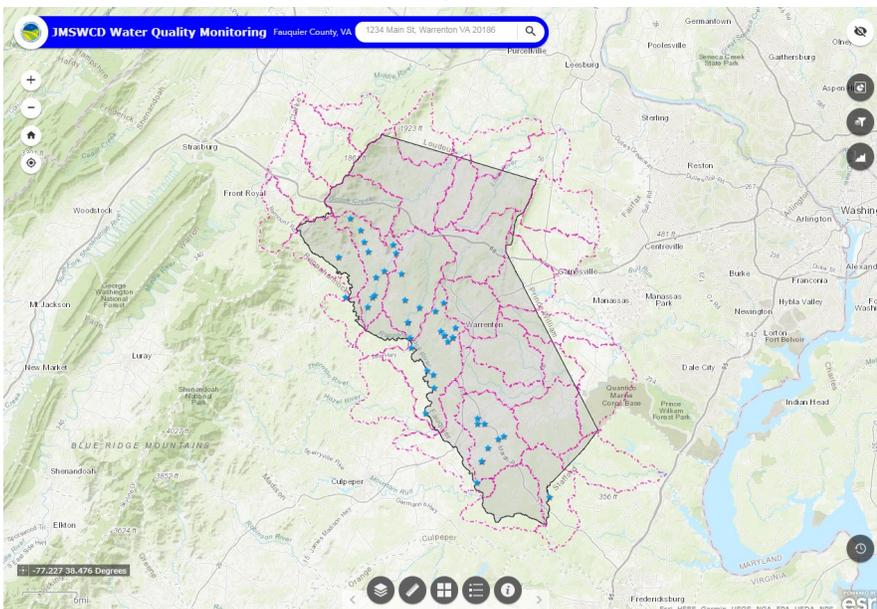


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A screenshot of the Water Monitoring Application.

## Enviroscape

The Enviroscape is an interactive table top model used to demonstrate soil erosion, watersheds, land use, and pollution.

Students take turns spreading different “pollutants” - soil, pesticides, fertilizers, etc. - on the model and then see what happens when it rains (a spray bottle is used to simulate rainfall).

The Enviroscape model can be used for different grade levels in different ways:

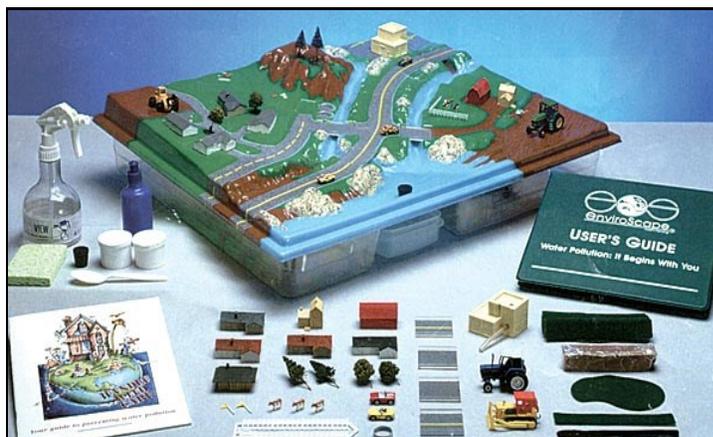
3rd Grade: Soil erosion

4th Grade: Watersheds and water resources

6th Grade: Ecosystems, watersheds, and stream processes.

It can also be used for other grades as well to cover other topics or to provide a review prior to SOL testing.

This activity takes between 30 and 60 minutes to complete, depending on the specific subjects that stu-



*The Enviroscape model.*

dents are studying as well as available class time.

This model is a great visual representation of rainfall transporting pollutants through a watershed, and students always enjoy seeing what happens.

Please contact Conservation Education Specialist Michael Trop at [michael.trop@fauquiercounty.gov](mailto:michael.trop@fauquiercounty.gov) if you are interested in learning more or scheduling a program.

## Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund Grant

The Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund Grant (also known as the License Plate Grant) awards numerous grants each year with monies raised from the sale of Chesapeake Bay License Plates. This year, there is \$273,710 available for grantees.

While the numbers vary each year, grants usually range in size from \$500 to \$12,000, so large or small, this is a great opportunity to get some money to fund

a project. The grants can be used to support a wide variety of educational activities including field trips, supplies, equipment, and more.

Grants are due September 25 and will be awarded in May or June 2019. The [grant website](#) contains the application forms as well as examples of accepted projects. The district can provide guidance for writing grants if needed.

The Teacher’s Conservation Corner is a publication of the John Marshall Soil & Water Conservation District. If you have an idea for information you would like to see in this newsletter, please send an email to [michael.trop@fauquiercounty.gov](mailto:michael.trop@fauquiercounty.gov). All programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status.