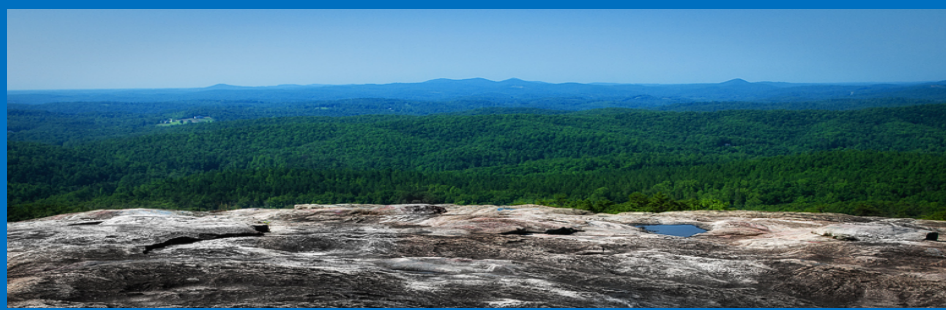




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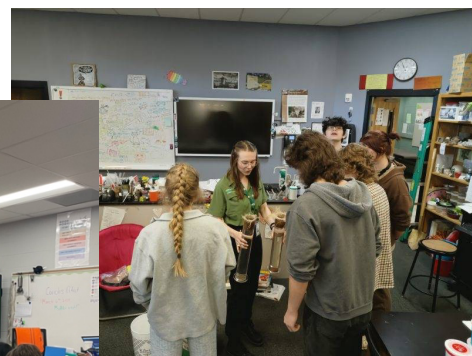
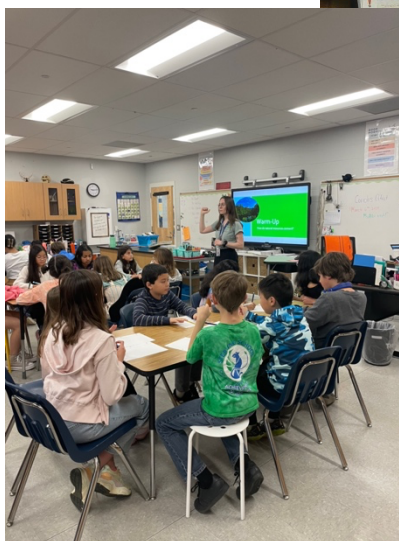
Soil & Water Report



School Programs

Abbi visited Sterling School's four fifth grade classes to test a new concept-mapping interest approach and teach A Grave Mistake to 87 students.

Later in the month, Abbi went to the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities to teach seventeen multi-grade high school students about soil properties, demonstrate the Slake Test, and meet with SCGSAH Environmental Club members to discuss a native plant installation on the grounds.



Advanced Soil Health Workshop

Greenville County SWCD hosted a Soil Health workshop for Advanced New and Beginning Farmers in March. The all-day workshop was hosted at the Augusta Road Ruritan, and after lunch participants visited manager Kirsten Robertson's farm as well as Farm in the Wildwood in Piedmont.

Participants learned advanced Soil Health principles, with brand new resources that Soil and Water has generated. These resources include 'menus' of gardening and/or grazing practices. It ties the practices back to the soil health principles they address. This is state-of-the-art information that is impressing soil health advocates across the United States.

Another new and innovative resource shared was a Soil Health Toolkit: Hands-on Experiments to Understand Your Soil. These five experiments are unusual ways to check the microbiology in the soil. The workshop was well received by all attendees.



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Rain Barrel Workshop

GCSWCD partnered with Conestee Nature Preserve to conduct Build Your Own Rain Barrel workshops this month.

Seventeen households learned about how to install and use their rain barrel to conserve water and save runoff on their property.

Each participant installed components on the donated barrels and took home their own rain barrel to install on their property.



Connecting with Legislators on Conservation Priorities

District Commissioners spent time this month in Columbia, SC and Washington DC educating state and national legislators on issues important to conservation districts.

Commission Chair Mike Stewart was pleased to participate in both events representing Greenville County.



Swansgate Workshop



Abbi visited with the Swansgate Active Retirement Community members to talk about all things stormwater and how to be stewards of their nearest waterway, Brushy Creek. Following the presentation, members were able to create native riparian buffer seed balls to use throughout the property adjacent to the creek.

Members of the community conduct regular creek cleanups and plan to plant the seed balls during their next scheduled event!