

Blain Source Water Protection Project

Early in 2006, the SCCA received a Water Resources Education Network Grant from the League of Women Voters of PA, Citizens Education Fund, to work with the Blain Borough Source Water Protection Project.

The purpose of this grant was to address the source water contamination problem that affected the Blain Borough and Jackson Twp. Communities in 2004, and to raise public awareness of the great need for source water protection.

Through this grant, educational models and display materials were purchased for the use of Source Water Protection Education to the 4th through 8th grade students of the Blain Mennonite School, Clarks Run Amish School, Blain Amish school 2, and Mrs. Leister's entire fourth grade class of Blain Elementary School.

A SWP program was developed to show how human actions could affect the quality of their drinking water. The Enviroscape model demonstrated a 3 dimensional version of the town of Blain; relating it to the 2004 Well & Town water pollution incident. After addressing point source & non-point source pollution, erosion, nutrient management pesticide use and land construction impact, students helped to find means for Better Management Practices and actions they and their families could use to help correct and prevent this type of event from happening, again, to their town's water.

The newly purchased Ground Water Model was also used for the Blain Elementary, demonstrating an up close version of how contaminated water

can easily percolate through the ground into another source of water.

A Macro invertebrate session was also held to exemplify water quality indicators for the Mennonite & Amish students. Many of the children & teachers had never seen or used a microscope, let alone have an opportunity to look at the macro invertebrates through such a device.

Dickinson College ALLARM SMART program students, Kristin Lee and Jack Treichler presented their program and West Perry High School Students, Samantha Berkheimer and Christine McCarl assisted with the SCCA Directors, Linda Sieber and Karen Bolze.

Source Water Pollution Coloring Books were provided to all students.

A "Clean Water" Poster Contest was arranged with Art teacher Kathy Odat and three place winners were chosen. Pictured below, from left to right:

2nd place	Courtney Smith
1st place	Kayla Reisinger
3rd place	Madelyn Horn

This was a very rewarding experience for all, and we hope to continue this "traveling" educational program for future groups and schools. Please let us know if you're group may be interested, and if you are interested in helping with these programs!

