



The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) program is administered at Kentucky State University (KSU) by the Environmental Education Center (EEC), a land-grant program. The purpose of the EEC is to protect and enhance 300 acres of Kentucky's wild lands. The EEC creates a collaborative learning facility which connects landowners, students of all ages, faculty, and staff to the environment through meaningful learning activities. The center makes every reasonable effort to provide access to all members of the Commonwealth with an emphasis on providing educational experiences that accommodate different learning abilities. The property is open for public use according to the University Public Use Policy. The EEC incorporates funds from different funding agencies to maximize the impact of each for all members of the Commonwealth.

Watershed Protection and Management

Twenty middle and high school teachers returned from the previous 2007 summer training program at the EEC. In addition, approximately 500 school children learned the importance of watershed protection and management as a direct result of these exercises. Teachers gained further insight on how to educate the future generations of Kentucky landowners.



Students and teachers learn about macro-invertebrate stream life.

When asked what the teachers gained as a direct result of this workshop, one teacher replied, "*In cooperating technology: use of GIS, GPS, and of invasive species and how they will impact the future.*"

Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife

Approximately 800 visitors to the EEC were educated on various aspects of protecting and preserving Kentucky's wild lands through guided excursions throughout the 300 acres that make up the EEC. Particular attention was given to educating landowners on the importance of aquatic life in various bodies of water, including vernal ponds and streams.

Weeds Affecting Plants

In-depth, experience-based training for 60 middle and high school teachers from across the Commonwealth took place at the EEC. The Environmental Science Workshop focused on how to identify and eradicate various invasive plant species in Kentucky and GPS use. The workshop was designed to provide training to encourage teachers to incorporate environmental topics/issues into their school curriculum. A U.S. Department of Agriculture grant covered transportation costs for these same teachers so they could bring their classes to the EEC.

To gain a better understanding and appreciation of the benefits generated from the RREA funds allocated to Kentucky State University, please visit our web site:

<http://www.ksuenvironmental.org>.

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