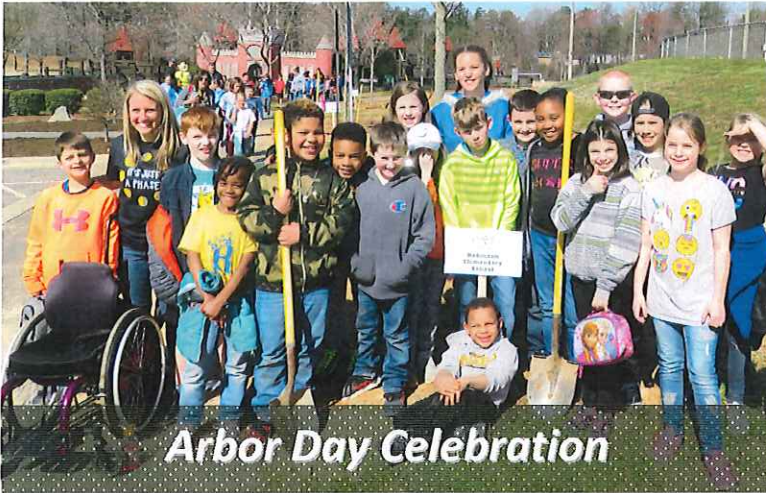


2019-2020

Beautification & Environmental *Education Programs*



Arbor Day Celebration



Great American Cleanup



Recycled Art Contest Winners

Sponsored By:



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Calendar of Events

August 2019

August 26 - June 9
August 26 - May 31
August 24

Classroom Presentations Available
Bookmark Bonanza
Household Hazardous Waste Collection
Call 704-922-7729 or visit www.gastongov.com for more info

September 2019

September 27
September 27
September 20
September 20
September 20
September 23 - October 25

Recycled Art Contest Registration Deadline
Gaston County Clean Up Registration Deadline
Celebrate Fall - **Free Tree** Registration Deadline
Make A Difference Day 'Pledge Card Drive' Registration Deadline
Make A Difference Day Collection Registration Deadline
Make A Difference Day Collection Period

October 2019

October 1
October 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26
October 14-18
October 25
October 25
October 26

Gaston County Clean Up
Black Gold sales to the public
Celebrate Fall Trees Delivered
Recycled Art Due at Keep Gastonia Beautiful Office
MADD Pledge Cards, Collections and Book Bags Due to KGB office
Make A Difference Day (National Date)

November 2019

November 7
November 15
November 16

Recycled Art Winners Recognized at the Main Branch of the Library
America Recycles Day (National Date)
America Recycles Day/**Free Shred Day** Event at the Farmer's Market

December 2019

December 1

Gastonia Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting

January 2020

January 20
January 24

Arbor Day Poster Contest Entry Deadline
I Love A Clean School Contest Registration Deadline

February 2020

February 6

I Love A Clean School Judging

March 2020

March 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28
March 6
March 21 - June 30
March 7
March 16-20

Black Gold Sales to the public (dates to be announced)
Arbor Day Posters or Photos Due to Keep Gastonia Beautiful Office
Great American Cleanup
Free Shred Day Event at the Farmer's Market
Arbor Day Celebration, details TBA

April 2020

April 1 - 30
April 3
April 22
April 24

Great American Clean-Up continues
Custodian, Green Student & Teacher of the Year Nominations Due
Earth Day
Arbor Day (National Date)

May 2020

May 1-31
May 7

Great American Cleanup Continues
Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

June 2020

June 21

Great American Cleanup Ends



HOW TO REACH US:

Keep Gastonia Beautiful, Inc.
James B. Garland Center
150 S. York Street
Gastonia NC 28052

Mail To:
P.O. Box 1748
Gastonia, NC 28053

*Gaston County Public Schools
may also use the **courier**.*

TO SIGN UP FOR PROGRAMS and REQUEST MORE INFORMATION

CALL: (704) 866-6906

Schools WITHIN Gastonia City Limits

CAROLINE LETTS
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com

Schools OUTSIDE Gastonia City Limits

CARLY CALDWELL
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to Dr. Melissa Balknight and staff at Gaston County Schools
for approving the program material for school use.

Keep Gastonia Beautiful, Inc.

Staff Contacts



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patj@cityofgastonia.com



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carolinel@cityofgastonia.com



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Julie Heath

Special Projects Coordinator

julieh@cityofgastonia.com

Contact Us At

704-866-6906

In Downtown Gastonia



Ghillie Dhu's Enchantment

**Center City Park
147 W. Main St.**

Marbles on Main

**Garland Municipal Business Center
150 S. York St. – Main Floor**



Heritage Park

featuring

‘DISCURSUS’

108 East 2nd Street





TREE CITY USA®

Gastonia

Tree City USA

Requirements:

- **STANDARD 1:**
Community has a Tree Board or Department

- **STANDARD 2:**
Community has a Tree Ordinance

- **STANDARD 3:**
Community has a Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at Least \$2 per Capita

- **STANDARD 4:**
Community has an Arbor Day Observance and an Official Proclamation



Bee City USA

Requirements:

- Support, encourage, create, and enhance pollinator habitats
- Provide educational materials about bees and the importance of bees at local events
- Hold a yearly event to celebrate bees and distribute relevant information to attendees
- Establish a policy in the local landscape plan to review pesticide management and formulate policies and practices as it relates to pollinator conservation

Help Your School Win!



Green School of the Year & Coordinator of the Year

By participating in our environmental programming.

Be sure to enter your favorite teacher or student for:

Green Student of the Year & Green Teacher of the Year

Help recognize our great custodians in the

Custodian of the Year Competition

Deadline to submit nominations is April 3, 2020.

See pages 18 – 24 for more information.

GASTON COUNTY CLEANUP

STATEWIDE WATERSHED CLEANUP

- WHO:** Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle, and High Schools
- WHAT:** Gaston County Watershed Cleanup
- WHEN:** **Saturday, October 1**
Note: Cleanups may also be scheduled **anytime** during the months of September or October.
- WHERE:** Stream, waterway, or other area of your choice. If you do not have a site in mind, we can help match you with a clean-up area.
- GOALS:** To make a positive difference by removing unsightly litter and debris, and to make our waterways safer, healthier, more attractive, and more enjoyable for everyone, while also helping to protect and preserve the rich diversity of plants and wildlife in these areas.
- CALL:** Carly at 704-869-1008 to sign up by **September 27**.
- HOW:** After you have chosen your cleanup site and registered your event, you will receive cleanup supplies, including gloves, trash bags and data cards.
- AWARDS:** Participating groups will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.



RECYCLED ART CONTEST

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle & High Schools

WHEN: Call or email to enter by **September 27**
Artwork is due **October 25**

GUIDELINES:



- *Dimensional Art, Jewelry, Clothing, Sculptures or Posters using Recyclable Materials
- *Each entry must have a completed entry form firmly attached to the artwork.
- *Limit Five Entries per School per Age Division
- *No group entries allowed.
- *All entries must be less than 24" x 36" x36"

SUBMITTING ENTRIES:

Drop off artwork at Keep Gastonia Beautiful Office, (150 S. York St., Gastonia, NC 28052 – 2nd Floor) by 5:00 p.m. on **October 19** or **submit photos to a specified drop box online. Details to follow.**

AWARDS:

Winners will be announced by **November 2**. The winning students, their teachers and families are invited to the library on **November 7 at 11:30 am** to be recognized and awarded gift cards and certificates. The art will be on display at the Gaston County Library, Main Branch, 1555 Garrison Boulevard, for the remainder of the month of November.

First Place Award:	\$50 Gift Card
Second Place Award:	\$25 Gift Card
Third Place Award:	\$25 Gift Card

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards given for each age division: K-2, 3-5, Middle, High

Judged By: Local Artists

OCTOBER – CELEBRATE FALL

TREE PLANTING PROJECT

WHAT: An opportunity for Gaston County public and private schools to celebrate trees and receive a **FREE TREE** for planting on school campuses.

WHEN: Trees will be delivered sometime the week of **October 14th**.
In the case of drought, the program will be postponed.

HOW: To reserve your free tree, please call or e-mail:

Keep Gastonia Beautiful

(704) 866-6906

Gastonia Schools – Caroline Letts

carolinel@cityofgastonia.com

County Schools (outside the city of Gastonia) –

Carly Caldwell

carlyc@cityofgastonia.com

by September 20th

GOALS: To introduce students to tree plantings and to educate about the value of trees.

- Trees renew our air supply by absorbing carbon dioxide and producing oxygen.
- The amount of oxygen produced by an acre of trees per year equals the amount consumed by 18 people annually. One tree produces nearly 260 pounds of oxygen each year.
- One acre of trees removes up to 2.6 tons of carbon dioxide each year.
- Shade trees can make buildings up to 20 degrees cooler in the summer.
- Trees lower air temperature by evaporating water in their leaves.
- Tree roots stabilize soil and prevent erosion.
- Trees improve water quality by slowing and filtering rain water, as well as protecting aquifers and watersheds.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

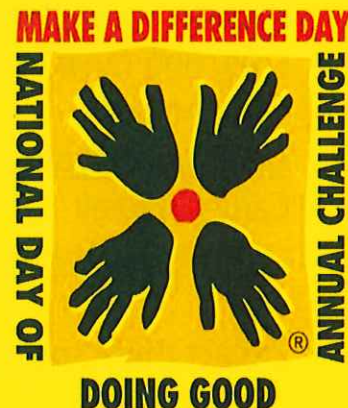
PLEDGE CARD DRIVE

- WHO:** Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle, and High Schools
- WHAT:** Students pledge to *"Make a Difference"*.
- WHEN:** Pledge Cards are due to Keep Gastonia Beautiful by **October 25th**.
Make A Difference Day is **Saturday, October 26th**.
- HOW:** Registration Deadline: **September 20th**.

We challenge students to make a pledge to do something that will *"Make A Difference"* in their community and to complete a pledge card describing any small act of kindness they can perform for a person, a family or community in need. This pledge could be to help keep your classroom clean, pick up litter, visit nursing homes, feed the birds, cut grass for others, help younger children with homework, help your teacher, act with more kindness to others, etc.

CONTACT:

(704) 866-6906 or email
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com or
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com
to request your pledge cards.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

COATS, HATS, AND GLOVES DRIVE



WHO: Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle and High Schools

WHAT: Students collect coats, hats, and gloves (new or slightly used). These items will be **donated** to a **local organization** and distributed to those in need.

WHEN: Collection Period: **September 23 - October 25**

HOW: Register by **September 20**
(704) 866-6906 or email
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com or
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com

Collect these specific items at your school or in your classroom.

We will pick up your donations at the end of the collection period.

Participating groups will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

M.A.D.D. ABOUT BAGS



WHO: Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Middle and High Schools
(Recommended for groups with community service initiatives.)

WHAT: Students collect new duffle bags and book bags for redistribution through the Department of Social Services Foster Care Program.

WHEN: September 23 – October 25

HOW: Register by September 20
Call (704) 866-6906 or email
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com or
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com

Collect the items at your school or in your classroom and we will pick them up at your request.

Participating groups will be recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation.

BOOKMARK BONANZA



- WHO:** Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle, and High Schools
- WHAT:** Contact us to receive **free** bookmarks for classroom distribution. Each bookmark contains information about Keep Gastonia Beautiful and environmental awareness.
- WHEN:** August 26 – May 31
- HOW:** Call (704) 866-6906 or email
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com or
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com

Bookmarks will be sent through courier or mail.

"I LOVE A CLEAN SCHOOL"

CONTEST

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle, and High Schools

WHAT: "I Love a Clean School" is the motto for February's clean school contest.

WHEN: Deadline is **January 24** by calling (704) 866-6906 or emailing Caroline Letts carolinel@cityofgastonia.com or Carly Caldwell carlyc@cityofgastonia.com to register your school. Schools that have not registered will not be judged.

GOALS: Competition goals are to encourage students to show school pride through neatness, cleanliness, and overall care of their school.

JUDGING: Judges will visit your school on Wednesday, **February 5**. Judging will be based on clean hallways, attractive bulletin boards, clean entranceways, neat bathrooms, attractive classroom doors, availability of trash containers, and bonus points for any waste minimization program in process or recycling.

AWARDS: The Clean School Award is a flag that your school can fly or display on your campus, designating your school as a Clean School winner. Schools will receive their flags by Friday, **February 14**.

Flags must be returned at the end of the school year. Instructions for doing so will be distributed with award flags.



ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary (K-2, 3-5), Middle & High Schools

WHAT: Arbor Day Poster Contest

HOW: Call (704) 866-6906 or email
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com or
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com by **January 20** to enter.

Artwork is due by **March 6**.

GUIDELINES:

1. Artwork must be original and include trees in the design
2. Each entry must have contact information firmly attached to artwork including artwork title, student's name, teacher's name, school and grade.
3. **Limit Five Entries Per School Per Age Division**
4. One piece per student
5. No group entries allowed
6. All entries must be on poster board and 22" X 28" or smaller

SUBMITTING ENTRIES:

Drop-off artwork at Keep Gastonia Beautiful Office (150 S. York St., Gastonia, NC 28052 – 2nd Floor) by 5:00 p.m. by **March 6** or **submit photos online. Details to follow.**

AWARDS: Winners will be announced in March. Awards will be presented at a televised City Council Meeting

First Place Award:	\$50 Gift Card
Second Place Award:	\$25 Gift Card
Third Place Award:	\$25 Gift Card

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards given for each age division: K-2, 3-5, Middle, and High

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

- WHO:** Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle & High Schools
- WHAT:** **Arbor Day** celebrates tree plantings, the impact of trees on our lives and community, and local efforts to improve and expand our natural tree canopy.
- WHEN:** March 16-20
- WHERE:** Location and details to be announced by January 1.



CUSTODIAN OF THE YEAR

- WHO:** All custodians in Gaston County Public and Private Elementary, Middle and High Schools
- WHAT:** Custodian of the Year Competition recognizes custodians who provide services to school facilities and properties.
- DEADLINE:** Entries must be received by **April 3**. Please see **entry guidelines on the following page**.
- GOALS:** Competition Goals are to:
1. Encourage custodians in their daily work to maintain and preserve school properties,
 2. Promote cleanup and beautification throughout the community, and
 3. Promote student, teacher, parent and community awareness of custodial responsibilities.
- AWARDS:** First and second place award winners from each division (elementary, middle, and high school) will receive a **certificate and a gift card**.

Winners will be announced in May at our Volunteer Appreciation Event.



CUSTODIAN OF THE YEAR

ENTRY GUIDELINES

- Judging is based solely on the materials submitted by principal, teachers and students.
- Person or school submitting entry is urged to provide photos, letters from students and staff, or any other relevant information.
- A separate entry must be completed for each nominated custodian. No group entries.

As a part of your nomination, please answer the following questions:

- 1) How many years has nominee been a custodian & with this particular school?
- 2) What is the custodian's relationship with the students?
- 3) Has the custodian assisted in planting trees and maintaining flower beds?
- 4) In what ways has this custodian contributed to recycling efforts?
- 5) List any outstanding traits or contributions to your school. Why should he or she be named the Custodian of the Year?
- 6) Supporting Materials: Pictures, Letters from Students, Faculty or Staff, etc.

Please return this form with any supporting photos by **April 3** to: **Keep Gastonia Beautiful, Inc., P.O. Box 1748, Gastonia, N.C. 28053** or through the school courier by addressing entry to "Keep Gastonia Beautiful".

Please answer all criteria and include information listed below:

CUSTODIAN'S NAME: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

WHAT DIVISION IS YOUR SCHOOL? (check one)

_____ Elementary _____ Middle _____ High

GREEN STUDENT OF THE YEAR

WHO: All students in Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle and High Schools

WHAT: The Green Student of the Year competition recognizes students who exhibit a keen interest and practical, everyday efforts in “green” practices, i.e. waste reduction, recycling, litter control, and/or campus beautification.

DEADLINE: Entries must be received by **April 3**.
Please see entry guidelines on the following page.

GOALS: Competition Goals are to:

- (1) Encourage students to become more proactive in improving environmental conditions;
- (2) Promote volunteerism and leadership;
- (3) Improve environmental conditions in local communities.

AWARDS: One winner, countywide, will receive this award and a gift card during the annual May Volunteer Appreciation Event.



GREEN STUDENT OF THE YEAR

ENTRY GUIDELINES

- Judging is based solely on the materials submitted by principal, teachers and students.
- Person or school submitting entry is urged to provide photos, letters from students and staff, or any other relevant information.
- A separate entry must be completed for each nominated student. No group entries.

As a part of your nomination, please answer the following questions:

- 1) How has the student contributed to overall school improvement?
- 2) How has the student involved, or educated classmates?
- 3) List any outstanding traits or contributions to your school. Why should he or she be named the Green Student of the Year?
- 4) Supporting Materials: Pictures, Letters from Students, Faculty or Staff, etc.

Please return this form with any supporting photos by **April 3** to: **Keep Gastonia Beautiful, Inc., P.O. Box 1748, Gastonia, N.C. 28053** or through the school courier by addressing entry to "Keep Gastonia Beautiful".



Please answer all criteria and include information listed below:

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

GREEN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

WHO: All Teachers in Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle and High Schools

WHAT: The “Green Teacher of the Year” competition recognizes teachers who provide positive and effective environmental education within their classroom.

DEADLINE:
Entries must be received by **April 3**.
Please see entry guidelines on the following page.

GOALS: Competition Goals are to:

- (1) Encourage teachers to provide cross-discipline environmental education;
- (2) Promote student, teacher, parent and community awareness of teacher efforts.

AWARDS:
One winner, countywide, will receive this award and a gift card during the annual May Volunteer Appreciation Event.



GREEN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

ENTRY GUIDELINES

- Judging is based solely on the materials submitted by principal, teachers and students.
- Person or school submitting entry is urged to provide photos, letters from students and staff, or any other relevant information.
- A separate entry must be completed for each nominated teacher. No group entries.

As a part of your nomination, please answer the following questions:

- 1) How many years has the nominee been a teacher & with this particular school?
- 2) List any outstanding traits or contributions to your school. Why should he or she be named the Green Teacher of the Year?
- 3) Supporting Materials: Pictures, Letters from Students, Faculty or Staff, etc.

Please return this form with any supporting photos by **April 3** to: **Keep Gastonia Beautiful, Inc., P.O. Box 1748, Gastonia, N.C. 28053** or through the school courier by addressing entry to "Keep Gastonia Beautiful".



Please answer all criteria and include information listed below:

TEACHER'S NAME: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

COORDINATOR OF THE YEAR

- WHO:** All Coordinators in Gaston County Public and Private Schools Elementary, Middle and High Schools
- WHAT:** The "Coordinator of the Year" award recognizes a school coordinator for Keep Gastonia Beautiful who encourages participation in our programs within their schools and partners with our organization to provide positive and effective environmental education.
- HOW:** The winner will be chosen based solely on participation by Keep Gastonia Beautiful staff.
- AWARDS:** One winner, countywide, will receive this award and a gift card during the annual May Volunteer Appreciation Event.



GREAT AMERICAN CLEAN-UP

- WHO:** Gaston County Public and Private Schools
Elementary, Middle, and High Schools
- WHAT:** Great American Cleanup
(An annual community-wide cleanup)
- WHEN:** March 21-June 30
- WHERE:** Select an area of your choice (school grounds, playgrounds, parks, etc.) or call for suggested areas.
- GOALS:**
- Cleaner community
 - Assist in helping to deter litter
 - Promote volunteerism
 - Create a healthier, cleaner & safer environment
- INFO:** Registered participants will receive cleanup supplies, including gloves and trash bags. All participating groups will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.
- CALL:** Carly at 704-869-1008 to register and receive free supplies and information.

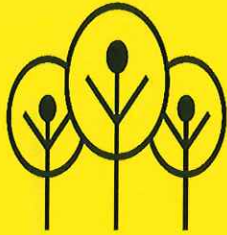


SWAT-A-LITTERBUG PROGRAM

- WHO:** Gaston County Public and Private Schools
- WHAT:** "Swat-A-Litterbug" Program
- WHEN:** 24 Hours A Day
- GOAL:** To remind litterbugs that littering and tossing out cigarette butts is illegal and to educate citizens on the impacts litter has on our community. Litter is truly a safety hazard and has been responsible for more than 2,500 accidents per year. Litter is not only unsightly, but also costly. Littering is against the law, and violators can be fined up to \$1000 for the first offense.
- HOW:** Our organization is asking citizens to call in license tag numbers of the cars seen littering or tossing out cigarette butts in Gaston County. In return, Keep Gastonia Beautiful, Inc., in cooperation with the City of Gastonia Police Department, will send the owner of the vehicle a litter bag or portable ashtray and a letter promoting our anti-litter message.
- CONTACT:** Keep Gastonia Beautiful, at (704) 869-1008 to report the tag number, time of day, and location of a litter violation.



About Keep America Beautiful



KEEP AMERICA
BEAUTIFUL
— K A B . O R G —

<http://kab.org>

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL'S MISSION

Engaging individuals to take greater responsibility for improving their community environments.

TEACHER RESOURCES

Waste In Place Lesson Plans

Solid Waste Education for elementary-age children.

Black Gold Sales



Call: (704) 869-1008

For information

Located on Duke St.

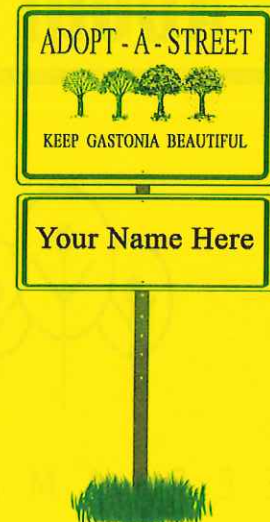
off of Gaston Day School Rd.

\$15 per scoop

FREE TO SCHOOLS

Adopt -A- Street

This program is to encourage community residents and organizations to adopt residential blocks of streets and keep them litter-free. The adopted areas are to be cleaned every two months in an effort to maintain a healthy environment, improve our City aesthetically, and to show pride in our beautiful city.



Keep Gastonia Beautiful will provide:

1. Signs for the street with personalized acknowledgement attached.
2. Trash bags, gloves, and safety vests for use by the adopting participants.
3. Removal of "Orange" trash bags from adopted street sections, as necessary.

Requirements:

1. A signed agreement to adopt the street of your choice.
2. Set safety parameters prior to litter removal.
3. Designate individual or organization representative who will be responsible to:
 - a. Serve as liaison between the group and KGB.
 - b. Work with KGB to assist in gathering additional participants for the Adopt-A-Street program for adjacent streets.
4. Adopt at least a two-block stretch of roadway and maintain both sides of the street with a clean up every two months.
5. Remove litter during the daylight hours only.
6. Contact KGB to pick up supplies prior to your cleanup.
7. Ensure participants are 18 years old or proper adult supervision provided.
8. Complete cleanup report for confirmation and trash bag removal, as necessary.

Get started:

Decide on your area to adopt and call Keep Gastonia Beautiful at 704-869-1008.

Tennis Ball Reuse Program

Watch for announcements throughout the year.
Tennis balls will be distributed by
Keep Gastonia Beautiful as they become available.



Gaston Country Club
3700 Country Club Drive
Gastonia, NC 28056
704.864.3283
www.gastoncc.com



Racquet Club of Gastonia
3116 Howe Dairy Road
Gastonia, NC 28056
(704) 864-5304
www.racquetclubofgastonia.com

EARTH BRACELETS

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private
Elementary Schools
Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade Classes

WHAT: Making an "Earth Bracelet". We
provide all the supplies and a
speaker to come to your school
and help your students make their
individual bracelets. Program
takes approximately 30 minutes.

WHEN: August 26 – June 9

GOALS: Students will be able to explain the importance of plants, soil, sun, water and air
for animals and people. They will be able to discuss how they use each of these
resources in their daily lives and be able to change their daily habits in small ways
to preserve the environment.

Students make a beaded bracelet to remind them of each resource.

CONTACT: (704) 866-6906 or

City of Gastonia Schools:
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com

Gaston County Schools:
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com



Available With Presenter



Available Without Presenter

Kindergarten

K.G.2.2

1st Grade

Social Studies

1.G.2.1, 1.G.2.2

Science

1.L.1.3

2nd Grade

Social Studies

2. G.2.1, 2.G.2.2,

2. C&G.2.2



THE WARTVILLE WIZARD

A MAGICAL LITTER LESSON

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private
Elementary Schools
Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade classes

WHAT: A video of the book, The Wartville Wizard, will be presented to the class by a Keep Gastonia Beautiful School Specialist.

WHEN: August 26 – June 9

GOALS: Students will be able to explain the problems of litter, how we can help reduce litter in the community and the best strategies for combating litter.

Each school will receive a copy of a book about litter for their school library.

HOW: Contact Keep Gastonia Beautiful and arrange for a presenter to come to your school and present the Wartville Wizard video and give a brief talk about the problems of litter.

CONTACT: (704) 866-6906 or

City of Gastonia Schools:
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com

Gaston County Schools:
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com



Available With Presenter



Available Without Presenter

"TWIGGY"

THE TALKING TREE

WHO: Gaston County Public & Private
Schools
First Grade Classrooms

1st Grade
Social Studies
1.G.2.1, 1.G.2.2, 1.G.2.3

WHAT: Twiggy the Talking Tree visits your classroom.

WHEN: August 26 – June 9

GOALS: Students will be able to talk about the value of trees in our community and the environment. Twiggy's interactive costume allows students to touch and see the animals that live in trees and reinforces how trees are homes to many animals. We prefer not to group classrooms of 25 or more due to the nature of this program. Each school will receive a tree book donated by Keep Gastonia Beautiful & Gaston County Recycling for their school library.

HOW: Make an appointment for
"Twiggy" to visit your classroom.

CONTACT:

Dawn Carr
(704) 865-3072
carrcd4@gmail.com



Available With Presenter



Available Without Presenter



GOODS FROM THE WOODS

WITH TWIGGY THE TALKING TREE

WHO: Gaston County Public & Private Schools
Second Grade Classes

2nd Grade
Social Studies
2.G.2.1, 2.G.2.2,
2.C&G.2.2

WHAT: Twiggy the Talking Tree visits your classroom.

WHEN: August 26 – June 9

☒ Available with
Presenter

☐ Available
Without
Presenter

GOALS: Students will be able to talk about the importance and value of trees in our community and environment. Twiggy builds on information taught in her 1st grade program and teaches students about the surprising variety of ways in which we use trees. We prefer not to group classrooms of 25 or more due to the nature of this program.

Each school will receive a tree book donated by
Keep Gastonia Beautiful & Gaston County
Recycling for their school library.

Each student will receive educational material.

HOW: Make an appointment for "Twiggy" to visit your
classroom.

CONTACT:

Dawn Carr
(704) 865-3072
carrcd4@gmail.com



LOUIE THE LITTERBUG MEETS MICHAEL RECYCLE

WHO: Gaston County Public & Private Schools
Kindergarten Classrooms Only

Kindergarten
Mental and Emotional
Health
K.MEH.1.3
Social Studies
K.G.2.2

WHAT: "Louie" the litterbug puppet visits your classroom and presents the story of Michael Recycle. Participants will receive **free** educational materials and a book donated by Keep Gastonia Beautiful & Gaston County Recycling for their school library. (30 min. program)

WHEN: August 26 – June 9

GOALS: Students will learn the meaning of reduce, reuse, and recycle.

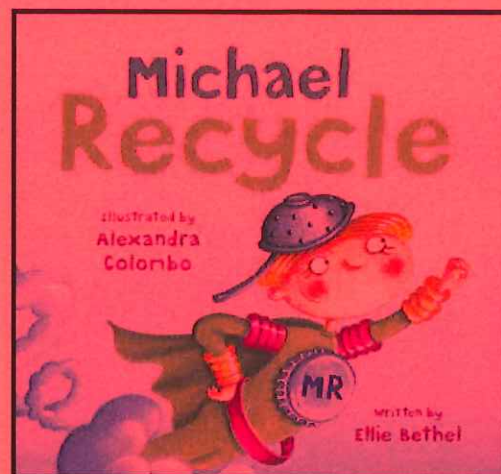


HOW: Make an appointment for "Louie" to visit your classroom. We prefer not to group classrooms of 25 or more due to the nature of this program.

CONTACT:

Julie Heath
(704) 868-4986
juliegrayheath@gmail.com

Please provide the following on the message or email: name, school, # of classes, # of students per class, preferred dates, times and contact Information.



Available with Presenter

MICHAEL RECYCLE MEETS LITTERBUG DOUG

WHO: Gaston County Public & Private Schools
First Grade Classes Only

1st Grade
Science
1.L.1.3

WHAT: Louie the Litterbug puppet visits your classroom and presents the story of Michael Recycle Meets Litterbug Doug. Participants will receive free educational materials and a book donated by Keep Gastonia Beautiful and Gaston County Recycling for their school library.
(30 minute program)

WHEN: August 26 – June 9

GOALS: Students will learn to waste less and reuse more. They will become environmentally aware of what they can do in their classroom and community.

HOW: Make an appointment for "Louie" to visit your classroom. We prefer not to group classrooms of 25 or more due to the nature of this program.

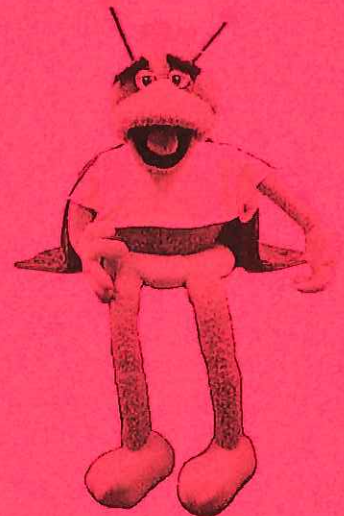
CONTACT:
Julie Heath
(704) 868-4986
juliegrayheath@gmail.com



Available with Presenter



Available Without Presenter



"BEE" the Change

WHO: Gaston County Public and
Private Elementary Schools

1st Grade

Science

1.L.1.1, 1.L.1.2,
1.L.1.3

WHAT: School Specialist visits your classroom and presents a program on the jobs of the bees through interactive role play. A bee related book will be donated to the school and each student will receive educational materials. A 'Bee' Green bead bracelet craft kit will be provided.

When: **August 26-June 9**

Goals: Students will learn the importance of bees and how they can 'Bee' the Change in their community and 'Bee' Green.

Contact: (704) 869-1047
Julie Heath
julieh@cityofgastonia.com



Available With Presenter



PROJECT POLLINATION

Bee Friendly Plantings

WHO: Gaston County Public &
Private Elementary Schools

3rd Grade

Science

3.L.2.1

WHAT: A lesson on Bees, their importance and habitat. A discussion on how and what they pollinate, and ways we can help the bee population. We will bring in flowers and a magnifying glass to let students examine the pollen. We will also supply seeds from bee friendly plants for students to plant in class and take home. Seeds, soil and pots made from toilet paper rolls will be provided.

WHEN: **August 26 – June 8**

GOALS: Students will learn the importance of bees to our environment, and their vital role in helping protect the bee population.

CONTACT: (704) 836-0002 for
City of Gastonia Schools:
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com

(704) 869-1008 for
Gaston County Schools:
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com



Available With Presenter

SEA SURVIVAL

The Hazards of Plastic The True Story of Duffy the Sea Turtle

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private
Elementary Schools

2nd Grade
Social Studies
2.G.2.1, 2.G.2.2

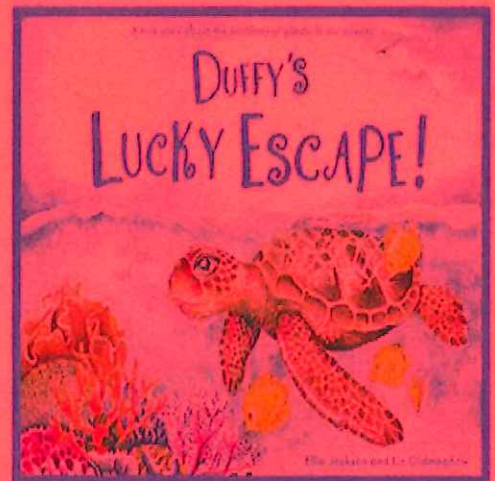
WHAT: School Specialist visits your classroom and presents Duffy's Lucky Escape! A true story about a sea turtle who is rescued after mistaking a plastic bag for food. We will also discuss ways to reduce our dependence on single use plastic and its harmful effects on our environment. Participants will receive a book donated by Keep Gastonia Beautiful for their library.

When: **August 26-June 9**

Goals: Students will learn to identify single use plastic, reduce waste and reuse more. They will become aware of changes they can make to help protect the environment.

Contact: (704) 836-0002 for
City of Gastonia Schools:
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com

(704) 869-1008 for
Gaston County Schools:
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com



Available With Presenter

RECYCLE: STASH THE TRASH

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private
Elementary Schools

WHAT: Solid Waste Education Program

WHEN: August 26 – June 9

GOALS: Students will be able to discuss the importance of recycling and the impact our waste has on the environment.

HOW: After a fun, interactive game, students will be able to correctly identify what items can be recycled or composted in Gaston County and be able to sort their garbage appropriately.

K-2 Classrooms will receive a copy of the recycling game for their classroom!

Programs will be adjusted to fit the grade level of the students and number of students in the classroom.

1st Grade
Social Studies
1.G.2.1
Science
1.G.2.1

2nd Grade
Social Studies
2.G.2.1, 2.G.2.2,
2.C&G.2.2

3rd Grade
Social Studies
3.G.1.3, 3.C&G.2.2

4th Grade
Science
4.L.1.3

5th Grade
Social Studies
5.G.1.2

CONTACT: Carly Caldwell
(704) 866-6906
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com

Caroline Letts
(704) 866-6906
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com



Available With Presenter



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WHERE DOES YOUR GARBAGE GO???

VIRTUAL LANDFILL TOUR

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private
Elementary Schools

WHAT: Watch a 10 minute video tour of the Gaston County
Landfill & Recycling Center

WHEN: August 26 – June 9

GOALS: Students will be allowed to see what really happens when
they “throw something away” or recycle something to
further educate themselves on recycling and becoming
more environmentally friendly.

HOW: Through a virtual tour of a modern landfill facility,
students will observe technology that makes waste
disposal safe. Students will also “tour” the recycling
center and the baling facility and have a chance to “visit” the Methane Reclamation
Station where waste gases are trapped, condensed and used to produce electricity!

NOTE: An interactive worksheet for teacher resource will be provided.

CONTACT:

(704) 866-6906

Carly Caldwell

carlyc@cityofgastonia.com

or

(704) 869-1008

Caroline Letts

carolinel@cityofgastonia.com

1st Grade
Social Studies

1.G.2.1

Science

1.L.1.3

2nd Grade
Social Studies
2.G.2.2

3rd Grade
Social Studies
3.C&G.2.2

4th Grade
Science
4.L.1.3

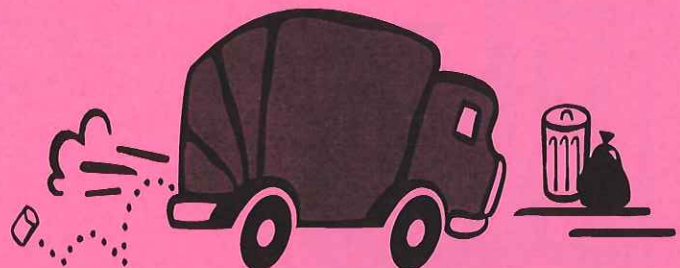
5th Grade
Social Studies
5.G.1.2



Available with Presenter



Available Without
Presenter



RECYCLE - STASH THE TRASH

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private Middle Schools

WHAT: Solid Waste Education Program

WHEN: August 26 – June 9

GOALS: Students will be able to discuss the importance of recycling and the impact our waste has on the environment.

6th Grade
Social Studies
6.E.1.2
Science
6.E.2.4

7th Grade
Social Studies
7.G.1.3
Science
7.E.1.6

8th Grade
Science
8.P.2.2, 8.E.1.4

HOW: Students will discuss the scale of the solid waste problem facing America today, with a focus on how solid waste negatively impacts the air, water and soil. After a fun, interactive game, students will be able to correctly identify what items can be recycled or composted in Gaston County and sort their garbage appropriately.

CONTACT:

Carly Caldwell
(704) 866-6906
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com

Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com



Available with Presenter



Available Without Presenter

DOES CLEAR AIR = CLEAN AIR?

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private
7th Grade Classes

WHAT: Through a demonstration, students will understand
how the air is dirty even though it looks clean.

7th Grade
Science
7.E.1.6

WHEN: August 26 - June 9

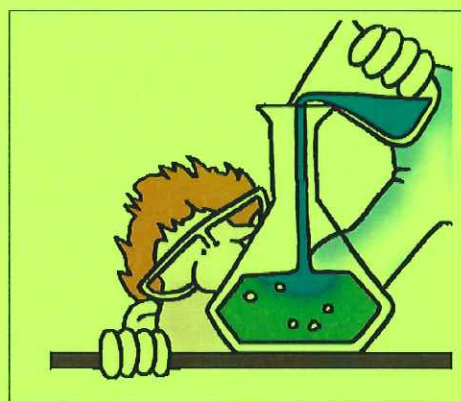
GOALS: Demonstrate how human actions impact the air and identify pollutants created
by those actions.

HOW: By identifying pollutants using common ingredients and an activity to discuss
ways we can reduce the amount of pollution we produce.

CONTACT: (704) 866-6906 or

City of Gastonia schools:
Caroline Letts
carolinel@cityofgastonia.com

Gaston County schools:
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com



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Presenter

WHERE DOES YOUR GARBAGE GO??

VIRTUAL LANDFILL TOUR

- WHO:** Gaston County Public and Private
Middle and High Schools
- WHAT:** Watch a 20 minute tour the Gaston County Landfill & Recycling Center
- WHEN:** August 26 – June 9
- GOALS:** Students will be allowed to see what really happens when they “throw something away” or recycle something to further educate themselves on recycling and becoming more environmentally friendly.
- HOW:** Through a virtual tour of a modern landfill facility, students will observe technology that makes waste disposal safe. Students will also “tour” the recycling center and the baling facility and have a chance to “visit” the Methane Reclamation Station where waste gasses are trapped, condensed and used to produce electricity!
- NOTE:** An interactive worksheet for teacher resource will be provided.
- CONTACT:** (704) 866-6906
Carly Caldwell
carlyc@cityofgastonia.com

6th Grade
Science
6.E.2.4

7th Grade
Social Studies
7.G.1.3
Science
7.E.1.6

8th Grade
Science
8.P.2.1, 8.P.2.2, 8.E.1.4

9th–12th Grade
Biology
Bio.2.2.1, Bio.2.2.2

Earth/Environmental
Science
EEn.2.2.2, EEn.2.4.2,
EEn.2.7.3, EEn.2.8.4

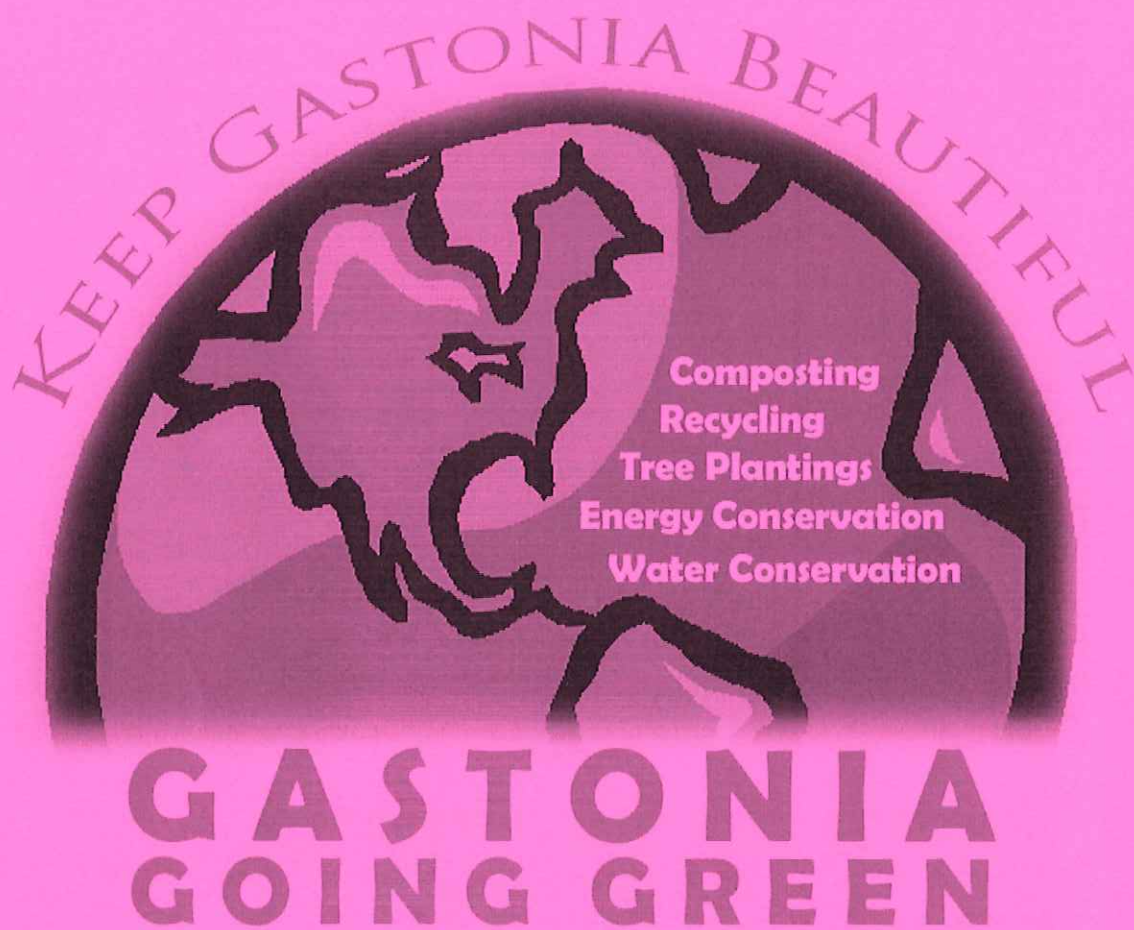


Available with Presenter



Available Without
Presenter





School Beautification & Litter Prevention

Ideas for Cleaning Up and Greening Up your School



Organize A Campus Cleanup
Free Supplies are Available!

Beautify your campus.
Sign up for a free tree.
Free Black Gold is also available.

Organize a Recycling Program.
Call us for help!

Sponsor an Earth Day Event.
Hold a recycling contest,
Cleanup, or plan a Nature Walk.

Begin a Composting Project.
Call us for help!

Other Gaston Area Resources

A variety of other environmental education resources are available in Gaston County and North Carolina. The following programs are available through other area organizations.

North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, Gaston County Office

Teacher training materials & lesson plans.

<http://gaston.ces.ncsu.edu/>

Contact: David Fogerty

david_fogerty@ncsu.edu

704-922-2130

Crowder's Mountain State Park

Call to arrange a visit to the park.

704-853-5375

NC Division of Air Quality

877-623-6748

<http://daq.state.nc.us/airaware/>

Gaston County Natural Resources Department

Provides water, soil and forest conservation programs in Grades K–8 from Sept–April.

Contact: 704-922-4181

NC Wildlife Resources Commission

919-833-1923

<http://www.ncwildlife.org>

City of Gastonia Fire Department

Call to arrange a group presentation on life safety skills.

Contact: Public Education Officer

704-866-6807

NC Division of Forest Resources

<http://www.ncforestservice.gov/>

NC DOT Beautification Programs

<http://www.ncdot.gov>

Gaston County Parks and Recreation

Call for more information about the Park Partners program.

Contact: 704-922-2164

NC State Museum of Natural Science

919-707-9800

<http://www.naturalsciences.org>

North Carolina Forest Service

Gaston County Office

Provides Smokey the Bear forest fire prevention programs and forest resource information.

Contact: 704-922-0719

ncforest@co.gaston.nc.us

NC Division of Water Resources

919-733-4064

<http://www.ncwater.org>

NC Department of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance

<http://www.p2pays.org/>

Schiele Museum of Natural History

Call for a booklet listing school group educational programs

704-866-6900

NC Office of Environmental Education and Public Affairs

<http://www.eenorthcarolina.org>

National Environmental Education Foundation

<http://www.neefusa.org>

THE TALKING TREE TRAIL

What: The Talking Tree Trail is an educational walking trail designed to teach students about the variety of trees represented in our local environment.

Where: Lineberger Park, Gastonia

When: Anytime

Why: To educate students about trees and their importance to our local ecosystem.

How: Arrange a field trip to the Talking Tree Trail.

The Trail is self-guided. Students interact directly with the trail's "talking birdhouses", hearing information and fun facts about 10 tree species native to North Carolina.

Who: Sponsored by
Keep Gastonia Beautiful,
The City of Gastonia,
Community Development,
Recreation Department,
Landscape Division, and
WGNC 1450 AM.

3rd Grade
Science
3.L.2.2

4th Grade
Science
4.L.1.3

5th Grade
Science
5.L.2.3



HOW IS WASTEWATER RECYCLED?

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT TOUR

- WHO:** Gaston County Public & Private
Middle and High Schools
- WHAT:** Wastewater Treatment Plant
- WHEN:** August 26 – May 31
- WHERE:** *Crowder's Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant*
off U.S. Highway 321 South of Gastonia
- GOALS:** To educate students about the Wastewater Treatment
Plant processes and the importance of recycling
wastewater for use downstream.
- CONTACT:** **Mike Alexander to schedule a tour**
704-854-6672
mikea@cityofgastonia.com



Available with Presenter



Available Without Presenter



DOWN THE DRAIN

WHO: Public and Private Schools
within the city limits of Gastonia

WHAT: *JMercury Booklet Presentation-
4th Grade only*
Students learn about the wastewater
treatment process and receive a copy
of the JMercury booklet.



*Mercury Awareness Presentation-
Middle & High School*
Students learn about the dangers of
improper mercury disposal.

CONTACT: Mike Alexander to schedule a presentation
704-854-6672
mikea@cityofgastonia.com

*Fats, Oil & Grease (FOG) Presentation –
Middle & High School*
Students learn about the problems associated
with dumping fat, oil or grease down the drain.



The Grease Goblin

CONTACT: Greg Johnson to schedule a presentation
704-854-6669
gregj@tworiversutilities.com

WHEN: August 16 – June 5

GOAL: To educate students about the importance of pollution prevention and preserving the
environment. Our Industrial Chemist will come to your classroom to give the presentation.
Supplies are provided. The JMercury Booklet is also available in Spanish.

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CONSERVATION CLASSROOM PROGRAMS

WHO: Gaston County Public & Private Schools; K-12th Grade

WHEN: September-June

WHAT:

Elementary Programs

Calling All Birds: Students learn about birds in their schoolyard. *Grade K*

Goods from the Woods: Students learn about forest resources. *Grade K-1*

Soil Buddies: Students learn how different soils enhance the growth of plants. Students will make their own "soil buddy," with grass "hair." *Grade 1*

NC Treasures: Students explore a variety of NC plants and animals. *Grade 1*

Life of a Pollinator: Students learn about local pollinator life cycles. *Grade 2*

Frog Tales: Students learn about local frog life cycles. *Grade 2*

A Drop in the Bucket: Students learn where water is found on earth. *Grade 3*

Dig Into Soil: Students consider soil texture on their school grounds. *Grade 3*

Earth's Largest Plant: Students explore the structure of trees. *Grade 3*

The Story of Spencer Mountain: Students head to George Poston Park to discover Spencer Mountain's story of formation, weathering, and erosion. *Grade 4*

Macroinvertebrate Mayhem: Students learn about aquatic insect adaptations. *Grade 4*

The Incredible Journey: Students simulate the water cycle. *Grade 5*

Owl Pellets: Students explore food chains by dissecting owl pellets. *Grade 5*

Middle School Programs

Know Soil, Know Life: Students investigate the importance and origin of soil. *Grade 6*

Turtle Ninjas: Students learn about ecosystems by considering local turtle populations. *Grade 6*

The Incredible Journey: Students simulate the water cycle. *Grade 7 & 8*

The Butterfly Effect: Students explore the workings of the climate system. *Grade 7*

Common Water: Students learn about water distribution and water usage over time. *Grade 8*

Ask the Bugs: Students learn how scientists monitor water quality. *Grade 8*

Seeing Watersheds: Students model the function of a watershed. *Grade 8*

High School Programs

The Butterfly Effect: Students explore the workings of the climate system.

Seeing Watersheds: Students model the function of a watershed.

Get the Groundwater Picture: Students deepen their understanding of how groundwater moves.

Sustainable Food Systems: Students discuss the food system and compare agriculture practices.

Soils around the World: Students investigate soil history and compare different soil types globally.

HOW: Contact Erin Lineberger - (704) 922-2167 – erin.hines@gstongov.com

Gaston Natural Resources



http://www.gastongov.com/government/departments/natural_resources/index.php

All programs are place-based and utilize STEM, inquiry-based methods.

All programs are correlated to NC

Essential Standards.

Please visit our website listed at the bottom of this page for complete program descriptions and correlations.

CONSERVATION CONTESTS

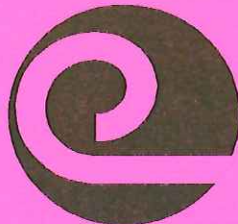
- WHO:** Gaston County Public and Private
3rd-8th Grades
- WHAT:** Students submit entries to their Soil and Water Conservation District in the following categories: Poster (3rd-6th); Essay (6th); and Public Speaking (7th-8th). All entries are correlated to the theme: **“Wetlands are Wonderful”**
- WHEN:** Entries accepted on a rolling basis until **February 17th, 2020**. Winners selected by February 27th.
- GOALS:** Students will seek a systems-level understanding of the functions of wetlands through an inquiry-based approach resulting in a poster, essay, or speech contest entry. In preparation for the contest, a “Wetlands are Wonderful” classroom program will expose students to soil and water conservation practices.
- HOW:** Schedule a classroom program by contacting:
Erin Hines - (704) 922-2167 or erin.hines@gastongov.com

3rd Grade
3.E.2.1
4th Grade
4.L.1.1, 4.L.1.3
5th Grade
5.L.2.1
7th Grade
7.E.1.6
8th Grade
8.E.1.1, 8.E.1.2,
8.E.1.3., 8.E.1.4
Earth and Environmental
EEn.2.4.2

For more information, including complete contest guidelines, correlations, entry forms, and awards visit:

www.gastongov.com/NaturalResourcesEducation

Gaston Natural Resources



Additional Conservation Program Resources

WHO: Gaston County Public and Private Schools, K-12th

WHAT: **ENVIROTHON**

Teams of 3-5 students participate in the largest environmental science competition in the nation
(5th-12th Grades)

ENVIROSCAPE

Students learn about our natural hydrologic system and water conservation Practices using an interactive 3-D model
(2nd-12th Grades)

COCOHRAS

Get involved in a citizen science program to track daily precipitation at your school
(K, 2nd, 5th, 7th Grades)

CONSERVATION FIELD DAY, April 15th & 16th

Schedule your class for a half-day at Dallas Park doing hands-on learning about conservation and the environment. Held annually.
(5th Grade)

RESOURCE CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

Students spend five days over the summer learning about natural resources and their management in today's global environment. Housed at NC State University.
(Rising 11th & 12th Graders)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

"Project Wet" "Leopold Education Project" & "Food, Land, and People"
Educator Workshops for EE Credits and CEU's

CONTACT: Erin Lineberger - 704-922-2167 - erin.lineberger@gastongov.com

Gaston Natural Resources

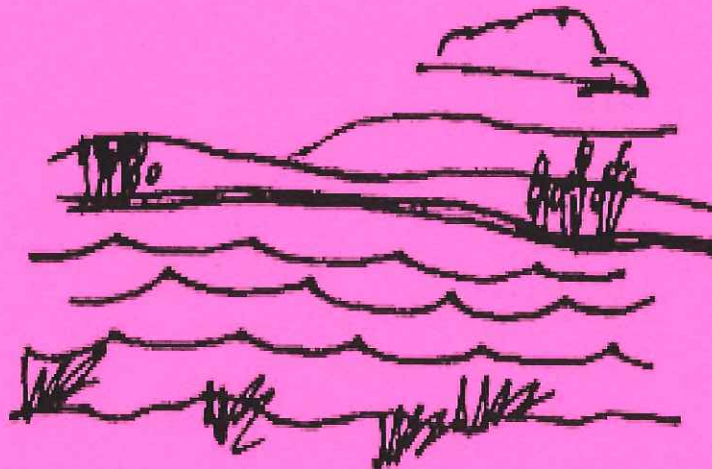


URBAN IMPACTS ON SURFACE WATERS

(Streams, Lakes, Rivers, etc.)

- WHO:** City of Gastonia Public and Private Schools
3rd, 4th and 5th graders
- WHEN:** August 26 – June 9
- WHAT:** Learn the damaging effects that urbanization has on aquatic life in local streams and solutions they can be a part of to reduce these issues in the future.
- GOAL:** Students will look at the characteristics and importance of a healthy stream. They will also compare healthy versus a damaged stream to see the adverse effects that urban growth has on our natural systems. They will also learn the effects that polluted runoff has on our surface bodies of water.
- HOW:** Contact Danon Lawson to schedule an appointment
danonl@cityofgastonia.com or
704-869-1013

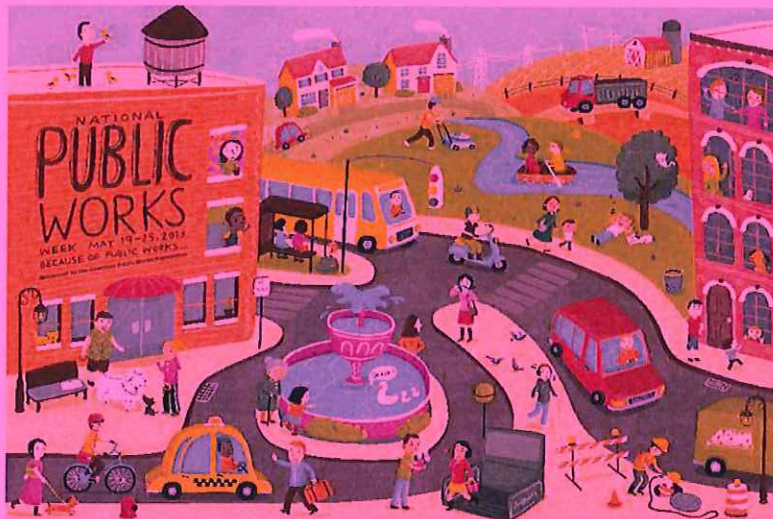
AVAILABLE WITH PRESENTER



Career Fair

- WHO:** Public and Private Schools within the city limits of Gastonia
- WHAT:** Information on the various components of the Public Works and Utilities including engineering, solid waste, streets, stormwater, traffic, transit, water and wastewater services. Students learn about the activities and equipment used by the City.
- Available for Elementary, Middle & High School Students.
- CONTACT:** Contact Danon Lawson to schedule an appointment
danonl@cityofgastonia.com or 704-869-1013
- WHEN:** August 26 – June 9
- GOAL:** To educate students about careers available in the Public Works field and provide a better understanding of the services that the City of Gastonia provides to the citizens.

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School Recycling Resources

The Recycling Guys

Information, games, and resources for elementary-age children.

<http://recycleguys.org/>

RE3.org

Information, activities, and resources for youth and young adults.

<http://www.re3.org>

Gaston County Solid Waste & Recycling

Local information on recycling, hazardous waste, and landfill use.

<http://www.gastongov.com/departments/solid-waste>

EPA – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

National information about recycling and waste reduction.

<http://www2.epa.gov/recycle>
