



EDUCATION AND OUTREACH



Two Chesterfield teachers test a water sample and compare results.

Teacher In-Services

Friends in partnership with Chesterfield County Environmental Engineering provided training to teachers at 4 in-service workshops. Workshops covered water quality monitoring, using water quality data in the classroom and writing grants. Friends also established a technical grant review program for teachers writing environmental grants.

Parade of Lights

Friends sponsored a children's activity at the James River Advisory Council's Annual Parade of Lights. On the bluff at Henricus Historical Park, Friends helped over 75 children and adults decorate holiday cards with recycled holiday magazine cutouts and environmental messages.

Envirothon

Friends provided support to the 2008 Envirothon with the theme: Recreational Impacts on Natural Resources. Friends helped sponsor the aquatics training in partnership with Chesterfield County Environmental Engineering and served as a judge for the oral presentations at the local competition.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION

Chesterfield WaterTrends

In February, Friends partnered with Chesterfield County Environmental Engineering to combine citizen monitoring efforts under one program called Chesterfield WaterTrends. This partnership has allowed for localized trainings, the expansion of monitoring sites and additional monitoring parameters. Friends and EE were able to offer a Volunteer Orientation and Social, 2 trainings (including chemical, physical and biological parameters) and a volunteer appreciation event since the programs inception.

A monitor demonstrates how to read the results of their pH test.



Rain Barrels Workshops

In partnership with Chesterfield County Environmental Engineering, Chesterfield County Cooperative Extension and the James River Soil and Water Conservation District, Friends established a rain barrel program in Chesterfield County. During the year a total of three rain barrel workshops were held and 60 rain barrels were made. This program will continue annually each spring.



Citizens and volunteers work to secure a faucet from the inside of a barrel.

RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT

Manchester High School Riparian Buffer Planting

Friends partnered with Chesterfield County Environmental Engineering and Manchester High School to restore a degraded riparian buffer along Swift Creek near Manchester High School. The planting took place on December 13, 14 and 15, 2007. Over 120 adults, children and students volunteered to plant over 1,500 trees and shrubs.

A volunteer uses a planting bar to plant a seedling



James River Regional Clean-Up

The James River Advisory Council sponsors the James River Regional Clean-Up each June. Friends helps organize the clean-up and coordinates the Robious Landing site. At Robious Landing over 130 people participated. In the clean-up's ninth year, more than 800 people volunteered for the clean-up and cleaned over 75 miles of shoreline and road miles within the James River watershed. A total of 649 bags of trash were collected and 300 bags of recycling.