

Our Elizabeth River, Our Responsibility

Providing MWEEs and Inclusive Elizabeth River Education

Our children will become hopeful, resilient leaders who innovate and persevere to safeguard our community as our lives change with a changing environment.

The nonprofit Elizabeth River Project engaged 8,908 students and 1,217 teachers from Norfolk, Portsmouth, Chesapeake and Virginia Beach through park and barge field investigations, and teacher workshops. In addition, 34 Environmental Action projects were completed by almost 3,000 students and 71 teachers. Projects focused on reducing flooding and carbon footprint, and opportunities to act as engaged environmental stewards through Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs). Students and teachers represented grades preK-12 in a year of river education. In addition, 54 youth monitored the river quality.



WEEK 1 RESULTS (APRIL 13TH-19TH)

Youth Water Monitoring Test Averages										
Week # - Month Day-Month Day										
	Water Temp.		pH	Bacteria	Nitrates	Phosphates	D.O.	D.O. %	Turbidity	Salinity
	°F	°C			(ppm)	(ppm)	(ppm)	saturation	(JTU)	(ppt)
Main Stem	79	26	8	+	5	1	4	<50%	40	28
Lafayette	75	24	7	+	5	1	4	<50%	100	33
Eastern Branch	88	10	7	+	5	1.5	4	<50%	40	10.5
Southern Branch	85	18.3	6.7	+	5	2	4	<50%	43.3	18.75
Western Branch	72	22	7	+	5	1	4	<50%	40	16
Overall Averages	71.4	21.86	7.14	Positive	5	1.3	4	<50%	52.66	21.25
Rank	N/A	N/A	Excellent	Poor	Good/Fair	Excellent	Fair	Fair/Poor	Fair	N/A

Welcome Youth Water Monitors! Thank you for helping Elizabeth River Project collect water quality data this Spring. Week 1 results look fair to good overall, however dissolved oxygen was on the low side at all sampling locations. Bacteria was also present in all samples/sampling locations. This can be due to runoff from rain events that carries fecal bacteria from animal waste into the river. Please remember to always Scoop the Poop, especially before rain. Keep up the good work on reporting your weekly results!

All schools that participated in a MWEE project are recognized as Resilient River Star Schools and receive recycled glass awards for their trophy cases and certificates for teachers. Projects will be listed on the Elizabeth River Project website and projects that include videos will be included on the ERP YouTube page by the end of the school year in mid-June.



For more information on student projects please visit <https://elizabethriver.org>.