

Mobile Area Water & Sewer System (MAWSS) News Advisory

Release date: May 5, 2010

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Students Learn Environmental Stewardship at Water Festival



Photo: watershed

Students built a watershed then learned how their activities can affect water quality during the Mobile County Water Festival held April 28 at Christ United Methodist Church.

Pictured are Castlen students Destiny Russell, Rebecca Moore, Dalton Warden, Aliyah Croon, Tyciana Dees, Anna Chaisson and Destinee Casey

Fourth graders from Mobile County Elementary Schools learned first hand how their actions can impact water quality at the second annual Mobile County Water Festival held April 28 at Christ United Methodist Church. The water festival is an educational event that provides hands on activities where students learn about their community's water, where it comes from, how to keep it clean, and how activities in a watershed can affect water quality. Participating this year were classes from Eichold-Mertz, Collins-Rhodes, Tanner Williams, Castlen and Gilliard Elementary Schools. Students from Baker High School and Bryant Career Technical Center assisted with activities.

"The students had a fabulous time," wrote Castlen Principal Pam Adams. "They couldn't stop talking about the trip. In fact, I just had another watershed conversation this afternoon. The trip sparked many observations and good conversations!"

The festival is made possible by a grant from the Gulf Coast Resource Conservation and Development Council, Shell Oil and the collaborative efforts of organizations including Mobile County Soil and Water Conservation District, Coastal Alabama Clean Water Partnership, Alabama Coastal Foundation, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Alabama Forestry Commission, USDA – Farm Service Agency, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and Mobile Area Water & Sewer System (MAWSS).



Photo: 2girls gauge
To learn more about the water cycle, students decorated rain gauges that will measure rainfall. Castlen students Destiny Russell and Hayleigh Parsons decorate their rain gauges at the Mobile County Water Festival.



Photo: Tanner Williams
Mobile Area Water & Sewer System mascot Willie Water, an advocate for clean water, greeted students from Tanner Williams Elementary School as they arrived at the Mobile County Water Festival. From left to right are Timothy Burke, James Ward, Travis Dunn and Chance Hinton.



Photo: Castlen Filtration randy

Randy Shaneyfelt with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) oversees students from Castlen Elementary School as they try to remove oil from water, one of several hands on activities at the Mobile County Water Festival held April 28 at Christ United Methodist Church. Students pictured are Douglass Richardson, Ashton Curry and Shae Johnson.