



MEMO

"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."

TO: Utilities Committee

FROM: Paula Vandehey, Director of Public Works *PAW*

DATE: September 4, 2018

SUBJECT: 2018 Appleton Summer Camp.

The City of Appleton's Stormwater Permit has an Information/Education requirement. One of the ways we meet this requirement is by teaming up with Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance for summer camp. Attached are pictures from the 8-week class. The kids had a ton of fun and learned a lot about our water resources. The City paid \$1,150 for this hands-on learning opportunity that reached 23 campers.

Attachments

2018 APPLETON SUMMER CAMP

A Renew Our Waters flyer was provided for all campers each week

Week 1: Storm Drain Stenciling—the campers learned about stormwater runoff, broke up into three teams (with chaperones), were given maps and supplies, and traveled through the park spraying “NO DUMPING DRAINS TO WATERWAY” stencils on their designated drains. The campers were pretty excited with this hands-on opportunity to help educate park goers about stormwater runoff. **(23 campers reached)**



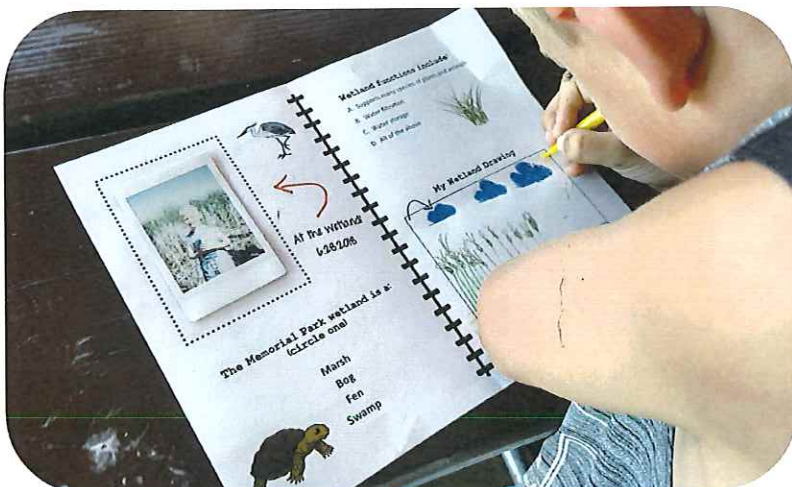
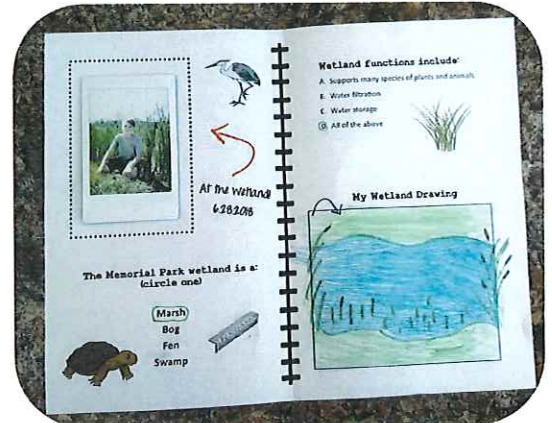
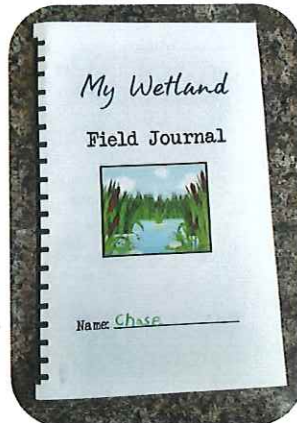
Week 2: Pondering Stormwater

The campers reviewed stormwater runoff pollution issues and then hiked to the park's southeast stormwater pond. Chad talked about how stormwater ponds function and how they help to capture pollutants. Afterwards, the campers did a park cleanup and they all received cleanup t-shirts. **(26 campers reached)**



Week 3: Wetlands

Campers learned about wetlands. They learned about the four main types of wetlands: marsh, swamp, bog, and fen, and learned about the awesome functions that wetlands provide. We demonstrated how wetlands act like sponges using the wetland model, and then walked to the wetlands in the park where the campers had their pictures taken to go in their wetland field journals. (30 campers reached)



Summer Camp: Week 4

This week, campers learned about prairies. We talked about how the roots of many prairie plants go deep into the ground. We discussed how roots help to hold the soil together, how they help prevent erosion, and how prairies provide habitat for lots of different animals. Campers broke up into teams and did an activity where they used tape measurers and chalk to measure and draw prairie plants showing how tall they grow above ground, and how far underground their roots can grow. Afterwards, we walked over to the prairie in the park and grabbed a few petals and leaves to make sun-catchers. The campers were excited to recognize plant species in the prairie that they drew during their activity **(27 reached)**



Week 5: Aliens Live Among Us

FWWA's AIS Coordinator, Chris Acy came to summer camp to teach the campers about invasive species. First, Chris discussed several ways invasive species are moved into new aquatic habitats, and also taught about local invaders using real specimens that the kids could pick up and examine. We next walked over to the urban fishing pond where the campers used view scopes and nets to search for three target species. We're happy to report that no invasives were found. Lastly, the campers worked in groups of three and played a game where they had to match the habitat, impact and origin information for three invasive species on "Wanted" posters. **(28 campers reached)**



Week 6: Dreams of streams

Campers were asked how they could tell if a stream is healthy. They talked about the clarity of the water, how it smells, and whether or not there is garbage present in the water, as indicators for stream health. We next talked about the presence of macroinvertebrates in the water and how their tolerance to pollution varies among species. Afterwards, the students were asked to look for particular species including caddisfly larva, damselfly nymphs, dragonfly nymphs, and a few others, were given nets and buckets, and headed down to the park's stream. They found many things including leeches, worms, and snails, but were very, very, excited when they found a large dragonfly nymph (pictured below). Afterwards, the campers headed back to the shelter to play many rounds of stream bingo--with fun prizes of course!



Week 7: Creepy Crawlers

The campers learned about the characteristics that define insects and separates them from other bugs like spiders, ticks, and worms. We went on an insect hunt and tried out the insect playground container. We provided nets and bug catcher containers for the campers. We also talked about the different types of environments in the park, and what kinds of insects live in the different habitats. Each camper colored their own piece to create a large caterpillar! (20 campers reached)



Week 8: Snakes Alive!

Steve Keller's Traveling Snake Show returned this year to excited campers. He talked about where they live, what they eat, their lifespan, how to care for them, and how to be responsible pet owners. The campers were able to feel real snake eggs, snake sheds, and hold the snakes—they had so much fun!

(30 campers reached)

