



## **USDA-CSREES 2007 National Water Quality Conference**

5 Stars, 15 students, 5000 Trees

The Red River Mouth watershed covers north-central Powell County, Kentucky. The surface waters of the watershed supply the drinking water for municipal systems in Clay City and Stanton, KY, and for the Beech Fork Water Commission. The Kentucky Division of Water has ranked this subwatershed of the Kentucky River as a high priority for watershed protection. Powell County middle school students, along with resource professionals, assessed the status of the Red River Mouth watershed and implemented a plan to restore a section of riparian area with native floodplain species. Students toured their watershed, taking digital photos and field notes. With this information, students reviewed existing water quality data, collected and analyzed additional water samples, and reviewed aerial photos and maps to formulate a watershed assessment. Students identified potential areas for restoration in the watershed and created a plan for restoring one of these areas. Students worked with resource professionals and a local landowner to implement their restoration plan. Student knowledge was assessed using a K-W-L chart. Students communicated their new knowledge to classmates, teachers, community leaders, and other organizations through news articles and presentations, and participated in a local field day to share their project with the community.

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