



2009 CSREES National Water Conference; St. Louis, MO

A New Youth Riparian Curriculum: Holding onto the GREEN ZONE

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Abstract:

This poster will introduce the new riparian curriculum, *Holding onto the GREEN ZONE: A Youth Program for the Study and Stewardship of Community Riparian Areas*. It is the result of a partnership of the University of WI Extension, the Bureau of Land Management, USDA/CSREES, and other public and private organizations to develop a riparian education tool that can be used by natural resource professionals, classroom teachers, and youth leaders across the country.

The curriculum, which includes a youth guide, a leader guide, and a full-size color poster, was created to address the needs of land managers and other natural resource professionals and educators to engage communities in riparian conservation efforts. Curriculum activities are correlated to the National Science Education Standards, the NAAEE Excellence in Environmental Education: Guidelines for Learning, and the 4-H Youth Development Guidelines.

Please stop by to pick up a copy of the curriculum and to discuss how you might incorporate this education tool into your water outreach initiatives.

Impact Statement:

The Youth Riparian Education Initiative, a collaboration of the University of Wisconsin Extension, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, National Riparian Service Team, and a national Extension advisory team, began with an assessment of riparian education to identify gaps. The partners then established a plan to address those gaps, through the creation of a youth riparian curriculum, *Holding onto the Green Zone*. Curriculum materials were pilot tested with land managers and educators, and edited to incorporate reviewers suggestions. Final copies will be available to the public in January 2008.

Category: Watershed Assessment and Restoration

Type of Presentation: Poster Presentation