

# Senior Environment Corps

## **Environmental Education & Outreach Programs:**

The SEC develops, designs and delivers Watershed/Nonpoint Source Pollution and Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) education programs to the public, for adult and youth audiences. The WQM program includes a field trip to a stream to conduct testing and reinforce the information provided in the classroom. Additionally, the SEC and the North Penn Water Authority conduct a joint presentation on Source Water Protection.

Volunteers use MS PowerPoint slides to educate attendees on Watersheds, Streams, Nonpoint Source Pollution, Earth's Water Supply, The Water Cycle, Water Quality Monitoring, Groundwater & Surface Water Principles, and Water Conservation. Two simulators/models are used to demonstrate and reinforce the principles of groundwater and surface water. Attendees receive contact information for local watershed groups, local state and federal environmental agencies and water related environmental booklets and pamphlets.

The groundwater simulator represents a cross-section of the ground and demonstrates the movement of the water table from draught to flood conditions, how groundwater and groundwater pollutants (represented by food coloring) move from groundwater recharge locations to groundwater discharge locations. It shows how agricultural, commercial, industrial, and residential users effect and are effected by injections into and extractions out of the groundwater system. The model features flowing water to represent rain, a septic tank, an underground storage tank, a lake, a variety of wells, a river, and different earth substances that represent different types of aquifers and aquicludes.

The surface water simulator provides an inter-active experience that allows the participants to see the results of pollutants on the land that migrate into the water supply and how to minimize or eliminate the effect of those pollutants. By participating and viewing the simulator in action, participants learn about the damage done by nonpoint source pollution, its effects on the ecosystem and how they and others can take measures to reduce or eliminate this type of pollution.

Interest in SEC education & outreach programs should be directed to the SEC Coordinator on 215-362-7432 Ext. 224.