

# Enviroscape Presentation TEACHER INFO SHEET

**\*\*Please read carefully prior to classroom presentations.**



## What is the Enviroscape?

The Enviroscape is a scaled-down model of a watershed that enables students to visually learn about the hydrosphere through a speaker-led presentation. Topics covered include water quality, stormwater runoff, nonpoint source pollution, watersheds, river basins, and stewardship.

## How does the presentation meet goals and objectives for 8th grade science?

The presentation directly correlates with the Strands for Earth Systems (8.2) and Earth & Human Activity (8.3): “Understand the hydrosphere and the impact of humans on local systems and the effects of the hydrosphere on humans.” More specifically, the presentation covers the following topics:

- ◆ Point and nonpoint source pollution and the impacts on water quality
- ◆ What a watershed and river basin are and how they function
- ◆ The many factors that influence the health of our waterways (i.e. temperature, nitrogen, turbidity, etc)
- ◆ Stormwater runoff and water quality issues affecting our local creeks and waterways
- ◆ The importance of wetlands and estuaries
- ◆ How humans impact water quality and how poor water quality impacts humans
- ◆ Stewardship and personal responsibility for protecting our water resources

## When will I have the Enviroscape Presentation in my classroom?

The Enviroscape Presentation is integrated into the 8th grade science curriculum in New Hanover County Schools. Dates and times for presentations are scheduled by the NHC Schools Science Lead. You will receive a copy of the schedule near the start of the Fall or Spring semester. Classroom presentations are scheduled based on instructor availability, therefore Enviroscape presentation(s) may or may not occur during the same timeframe you are teaching the Hydrosphere Unit. However, the Enviroscape presentation is an excellent introduction or refresher for your classes.

## How should I prepare my classroom for the presentation?

Please have a low table available to set up the Enviroscape in front of the class. We will ask you to arrange students in their chairs around the Enviroscape in a semi-circle (shorter students in the front) so that every student can see the presentation. Please have paper towels and sink access (if available) for cleaning up after the presentation.

Each presentation lasts approximately 1 hour, but will be adjusted for shorter class periods. If class periods last longer than 1 hour, teachers are responsible for having additional activities for students to do during the rest of the class period. *See below for resources.*

## Where can I find resources and activities related to the Enviroscape Presentation?

Extensive resources such as writing & oral presentation prompts, pollution games, science fair project ideas, schoolyard walk-a-bout activities, river basin info, etc. can be found online: [www.wilmingtonnc.gov/enviroscape](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov/enviroscape)

\*Teachers may be asked to provide feedback after the presentation(s). You may receive an email with an anonymous online evaluation survey after all your science classes have had the presentation. ***We value your feedback!***

## **Enviroscape Program Contacts** ~The following agencies collaborate to deliver presentations to 8th grade science classes:

City of Wilmington Stormwater Services:	Jennifer Butler, <b>Enviroscape Program Coordinator</b> , 910-341-5895 (w), 910-264-8181 (cell), <a href="mailto:jennifer.butler@wilmingtonnc.gov">jennifer.butler@wilmingtonnc.gov</a>
NHC Soil & Water Conservation District:	Dru Harrison, 910-798-7135 (work), 910-231-5171 (cell), <a href="mailto:drharrison@nhcgov.com">drharrison@nhcgov.com</a>
Cape Fear River Watch:	Hannah Nystrom, 910-762-5606 (work), 785-506-1561(cell), <a href="mailto:hannah@cfwrw.us">hannah@cfwrw.us</a>