



Cobb County Green School Initiative Annual Report 2019/20

The Cobb County Green School Initiative is a cooperative effort between Cobb County Water System, the Cobb County Parks and Recreation Natural Resources Unit, and Keep Cobb Beautiful. The initiative was designed to recognize Cobb County schools who demonstrate a commitment to environmental education. To qualify as a Green School, a school must have at least 5 teachers receive Green Classroom designations, by completing 5 lesson plans or projects in each classroom that help students learn about and protect the environment.

22 schools received Gold status designation, with at least 15 green teachers:

Addison Elementary, Baker Elementary, Bullard Elementary, Bells Ferry Elementary, Belmont Hills Elementary, Blackwell Elementary, Chalker Elementary, Compton Elementary, Ford Elementary, Frey Elementary, Keheley Elementary, King Springs Elementary, Lewis Elementary, McCall Primary, McCleskey Middle, Murdock Elementary, Nickajack Elementary, Simpson Middle, Sope Creek Elementary, Still Elementary, Tritt Elementary, Vaughan Elementary

8 schools received Silver status designation, with at least 10 green teachers:

Cheatham Hill Elementary, JJ Daniell Middle, Kemp Elementary, Norton Park Elementary, Pickett's Mill Elementary, Pine Mountain Middle, Rocky Mount Elementary, Timber Ridge Elementary

8 schools received Green status designation, with at least 5 green teachers:

Austell Elementary, Copper Middle, Due West Elementary, Garrison Mill Elementary, Green Acres Elementary, Hillgrove High, Pitner Elementary, Shallowford Falls Elementary

2 schools had teachers certifying their classroom as Green Classrooms:

Lovinggood Middle and Fair Oaks Elementary

In total, 38 schools received the Green School designation for the 2019/20 school year. These designations represent the work of 628 teachers who reported 16,160 hours of environmental education for 26,859 students.

Standout Green Activities

The variety and creativity of lessons submitted this year was astounding. The most detailed activity log submissions included a description of what students learned, and an outdoor component where students were able to apply concepts using their campus as a learning lab. Some experiences included measuring plant growth, observing insect patterns as they pollinated flowers, finding cracks forming in dry soil, observing materials used by birds building their nests, and identifying minerals found in the rocks and red clay that sparkle in the sun - all useful in every strand of learning. These outdoor lessons provided connections between students and curricula using the world they see and walk through every day. Way to go (outside) green teachers! It's not always easy to coordinate outdoor lessons, but the benefits are proven to be worthwhile.

The most common green activities included classroom recycling, turning out the lights, and not allowing the faucet to drip. These are great practices and should always be considered. Several teachers took this common practice a step further and implemented great lessons that included research about why recycling and conserving energy is important, looking at energy and water bills from home, counting single use items at lunchtime and finding ways to reduce what needs to be recycled by replacing them with reusable items. The amount of energy consumed to produce single-use items can add up to much more than the amount of energy your classroom lights use each year. The opportunities to find routine teachable moments that make a big impact like these are endless.

Other notable activities included learning to read maps to assess Lake Allatoona and the Chattahoochee River, where we get our drinking water from, determining how these water bodies might get polluted and what we can do to protect our water resources. Many schools included green-themed relay races, recycled material jewelry making, seed growing, gardening for bees and butterflies, hanging bird feeders, letter writing campaigns, measuring fuel economies, and many more. Several music and physical education teachers creatively found ways to incorporate green concepts into their lessons, using lyrics, nature sounds, and games that included recycled materials.

You as teachers are community leaders. The example you provide to your students helps shape them as individuals, how we treat each other, and how we treat our natural resources. Your work is vastly important, and this initiative recognizes you for your amazing efforts. Thank you for participating in this initiative and becoming a certified Green School for the 2019-20 school year.

Applying Science with Data Collection

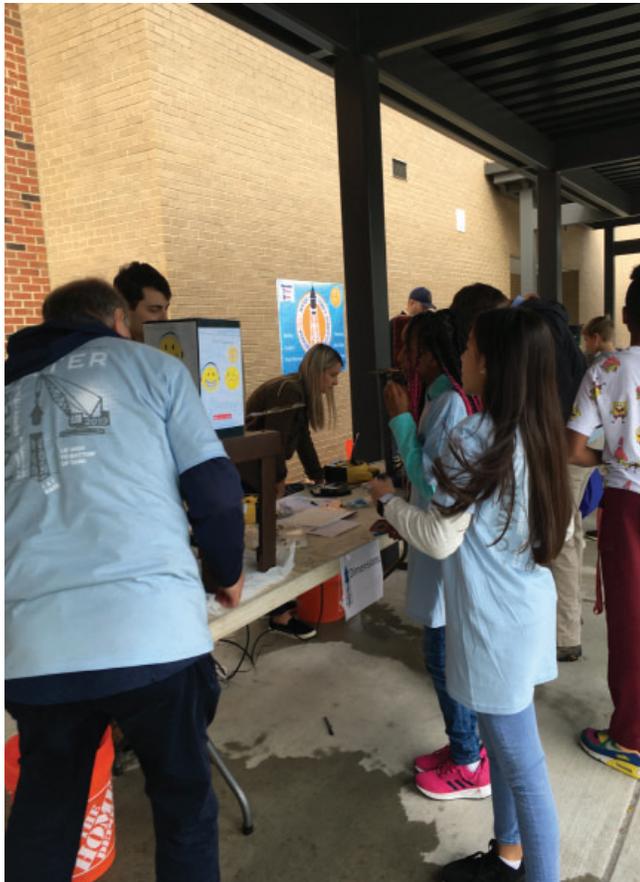
Tritt Elementary students measuring stream velocity at their Adopt-A-Stream site. Each month the class walks to their officially adopted stream site in a nearby neighborhood (pictured below left).



A student from Tritt Elementary School measures dissolved oxygen levels in the Willeo Watershed. Stream Monitoring includes testing the water for temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, conductivity, and visual changes. They always leave it better than they found it by picking up litter!

Using the Campus as a Classroom

1st Graders at Addison Elementary go outdoors in search of animals, animal signs, and habitats. They make 2 simple bird feeders -- one to hang at school on their walk and one to take home. They understand that they are helping increase the resources (food during winter) in the bird's habitat.



Participating in a Regional Competition

Students from eight middle schools participated in the 2019 Model Water Tower Competition held at East Cobb Middle School last November. A student from Cooper Middle School has her model tower checked by judges for proper dimensions.



In Search of Solutions

Students from Vaughan Elementary toured their campus searching for evidence of erosion. Only rain should go down the storm drain!



Green School Partners

The Green School Initiative partners (Cobb County Water System, Cobb P.A.R.K.S. Natural Resources Unit, and Keep Cobb Beautiful) presented a variety of lessons to students this year, including PARKS third grade Georgia series, Watershed's Ecosystem's and Adaptations, Brooke & Branch Puppet Show, Adopt A Stream, Snakes of Georgia and Their Adaptations, Filtration Station, and KCB's Adopt a Mile program.

Green School Teachers 2019/20

Addison ES - GOLD

Sherreen Bahr
Debbie Burdett
Allison Gillenwater
Jennifer Hudson
Laura Kloos
Julie Knobbe *
Heather LeCroy
Patricia Leith
Carley Mehall
Lindsay Phillips
Charlie Piper
Kelly Rose
Holly Ross
Kristin Shildneck
Carolyn Stoddard
Mandi Westbrook

Austell ES - GREEN

Heather Chancellor
Danell Custred
Edward Hunker
Whitney Sutherland
Penelope Weber
Ashlee Williams

Baker ES - GOLD

Melissa Allen
Sandra Aufderheide
Debbie Chranowski
Miska Davis
Sandra Fortune
Kimberly Hutcheson
Loren Kelly
Karen Kennard
Monica McCarthy
Stephanie Shamblin *
Emiley Myslicki
Jana Phillips
Liz Schneider
Paula Stirkas
Monica Wright

Bullard ES - GOLD

Kendra Berry *
Heather Clarke
Ginny Coalson
Peggy Curtis

(Bullard continued)

Katie Greene
Megan Hall
Joanna Heller
Stephanie Hicks
Amanda Hill
Christine Hipsher
Elizabeth Kauffmann
Megan Kittrell
Michele Kuykendall
Bonnie McKinney
Katie Oden
Kim Oden
Wade Okuno
Tracy Prator
Diana Rockefeller
Regan Robinson
Jennifer Rogers
Jennifer Scaggs
Rebecca Smith
Amanda Strickland
Lynn Tomlin
Emily Zolan

Bells Ferry ES - GOLD

Theresa Bass
Randa Burden
Melissa Dillard
Cindy Maner
Dina McPherson
Paul Tyler Morin-Harris
Julile Monyague
Keelan Morhaus
Lindsey Morin
Elizabeth Nastasi
Katelin Robinson
Kim Sigsbee *
Ashley Tappan
Angela Titus
Kristy White
Valerie Wisniewski

Belmont Hills ES - GOLD

Nerlie Alexandre
Kimberly Benson
Stephanie Bookout Sullivan
Danielle Cox
Alessandra Cresto

(Belmont Hills continued)

Trudy Crider
Amy Hall
Jordan Hirst
Hayleigh James
Crimson Jones
Shante McClendon
Natarsha Miller
Jamie Sims
Elise Specht
Gina Trickett
Melissa Weatherford *
Kristen Yarrington

Blackwell ES - GOLD

Abigail Ammons
Tom Brown
Laurie Bradford
Elisabeth Chandler
Kathryn Collins
Tiffany Croffard
Ginger Frierson
Garcy Griffith
Patti Griffith *
Amy Hays
Isaiah Hunter
Melissa McKeehan
Katie Nelson
Mary Pope
Laurie Wheeler
Hannah Vitale

Chalker ES - GOLD

Cynthia Adam
Ashley Bartho
Berlinda Bell
Moly Clark
Jamie Carberry
Deborah Duncan
Keisha Gordon
Bellamy Hulse
Jennifer Hunter
Jan Zant
Karen Kraeger
Laura Pitner
Susan Rhone
Laura Richards
Amy Scott

Green School Teachers 2019/20

(Chalker continued)

Michelle Sessions

Cheatham Hill ES - SILVER

Brittany Duckworth

Ashley Graziano

Leigh-Ann Hull

Heba Mohsin

Lindzey O'Brien

Christie Orton

Roxanne Spinks *

Toni Sutherland

Julie Traylor

Cindy Wagner

Compton ES - GOLD

Tiffany Bagwell

Bernadette Buonocore *

Marissa Conrad

Jessica Davis

Lauren deBruyn

Stirling Driver

Courtney Engstrom

Elizabeth Evans

Katie Gonzales

Sharon Harmon

Tara Harris

Cheryl Hawkins

Donna Heetland

Lauren Hendricks

Heather Kirkus

Victoria Knowles

Lisa Leiva

Erica Matthews

Kelly Meyer

Amanda Paccione

Nancy Palmer

Karen Ricketts

Jessica Sellers

Lindsay Sexton

Patrick Stevens Jr.

Katie Young

Amanda Whitaker

Ashley White

Lauren Wiseman

Cooper MS - GREEN

Nicole Dancause

(Cooper MS continued)

Crystal Mast *

Geoffrey Gillie

Diane Goldberry

Candace Groves

Daniel Harbert

Daniell MS - SILVER

Susan Cronin

Marianna Foxwell

Gail Gigantino

Cara Hawkins

Frances Hebb

Kerri Hirsch

Caitlin Humphreys

Kimberly Hunt *

William Jackovich

Ammu Nair

Kanika Nolasco

Rick Parker

Jane Wilson

Due West ES - GREEN

Susan Braddy

Jeanne Coleman

Maureen Friese

Michelle Lankford

Francine Lawrence

Kirsten Perla *

Kristin Poole

Molly Torch

Fair Oaks ES

Elizabeth Dunlap

Ford ES - GOLD

Katie Abrams

Julie Barnett

Stephanie Beckett

Linda Campisi

Teresa Cheatham

Kristina Crimm

Rachel Dutton

Cynthia Edwards

Bonnie Fleming

Mary Garrett

Rebecca Goodman

Renee Hess

(Ford continued)

Melissa Hosey

Craig Hurley

Denise Keasler

Bonnie Joiner

Nancy Justen

Kara Kalra

Kim Kunst

Jennifer Leclair

Tiffany Leguizamon

Bramlett Micklow

Ashley Miller

Libby Mitchell

Mrs. Rivera

Bethany Snyder

Shirley Trammell

Emily Webb

Frey ES - GOLD

Melissa Barnhart

Lisa Brandon

Beth Crawley

Maggie Elmore

Jordan Fleming

Elizabeth Gulley

Amy Hays

Katie Hurley

Amanda Lassiter

Marianne Massey

Phyllis Musial

Carol Nikin

Denise Orr *

Julia Rutledge

Kimberly Sanders

Ashley Sherman

Brittany Sims

Libby Tucker

Joanna Vaughn

Megan Willis

Lauren Wills

Garrison Mill ES - GREEN

Sharon Golden

Daurian Hogan

Sylvia Jud *

Sabra McGinnis

Melissa Orf

Green School Teachers 2019/20

Green Acres ES - GREEN

Ginger Hendrix
Nettie Hopkins
Angela Kapella
McKay Martin
Dung Nguyen *

Hillgrove HS - GREEN

Cecily Abernathy
Nikki Bisesi
Christina DeLeon
Allyson John
Sarah Mereness

Keheley ES - GOLD

Katie Biello
Denise Black
Roop Chatha
Kimberly Comai
Kelly Davis
Cheryl Dillon
Stacey Fisher
Wendy Greenwald
Cindy Grupp
Marquita Huggins
Amy Judd *
Kristin Killian
Stephanie Lawson
Laura Lindsey
Brandy Medlin
Beth Midkiff
Charlotte Perez

Kemp ES - SILVER

Heather Beames
Carla Brown
Mandi DePriest
Ashley Dorsey
Dana Johnson
Melissa McRoberts
Dyanna Motes
Karen Phillips *
Kristi Rose
Gwen Youngs

King Springs ES - GOLD

Mary Bencina
Susan Denny

(King Springs continued)

Beverly Garriga
Rebecca Kriz
Katherine Messinger
Pamela Wilfred
Emily Atkins
Michele Bice
Jennifer Ford
Kristen Hill
Hannah McAlpine
Julie Murphy
Karla Rozier
Kaitlyn Speese
Chelsea Whitesell*
Nichole Williams

Lewis ES - GOLD

Jessica Arnett
Monica Carlton
Debbie Collins
Patricia Dagleish
Laurie Edwards
Lisa Fries
McKenzie Gay *
Ryann Henderson
Laura Layde
Stephanie Moore
Jennifer Nicklis
Kari Reeve
Marylea Remkus
Rebecca Roberts
Donna Sill

Lovinggood Middle

Rachel Ramsey

McCall PR - GOLD

Arlene Ahola
Julianna Beck
Emily Black
Hannah Carmichael
Debbie Carter
Elizabeth Chaney
Tiffany Chauvin-Kalfus
Erin Ciaccio
Mark Cobb
Jenny Cole
Helena Lofton

(McCall continued)

Jordyn Lopez
Rachel Luna
Casandra Martinelli
Maureen Perry *
Amanda Smith
Kelli Stagich
Erin Tompkins
Melissa Usrey
Angela Vasquez
Sharon Wallace
Lori Webber

McCleskey MS - GOLD

Tiffany Benincosa
Julie Benson
Janni Benson George
Rachel Buhler
Samuel Darby
Patrick Heenan
Jeri Henry
Reel Jackson
April LaRue
Alana Lucero
Anna Luther
Kelly Sangster
Annette Simpson *
Jenifer Skelton
Blake Wright
Hanah Zboray

Murdock ES - GOLD

Leslie Bell
Kayla Beshears
Catherine Bruner
Monica Burke
Vanessa Choate
Susan Cochran
Jasmin Coleman
Jennie Dang
Rebecca Detillo
Amy Eubanks
Sara Falis
Heather Frazier
Samantha French
Catherine Gardner
Rosemarie Gondek
Marissa Granger-Cantrell

Green School Teachers 2019/20

(Murdock continued)

Wendy Gutman
Melanie Hilliard
Kate Hixon
Morgan Jasper
Heidi Kastner
Christine Kells
Jennifer Kelly
Margaret-Ellen Laettner
Nicki Marmoll
Meleesa McKenzie
Megan McRoberts
Caitlin Nash
Shelbi NeSmith
Susan Peck
Diana Perdue
Jennifer Pitts
Amy Revelas
Nicole Rothlisberger
Adrianna Ruggiero
Brianna Rushing
MaryMargaret Shepherd
Jamie Smith
Karen Smith
Gail Tate
Liz Taylor
Kelly Thornton
Amy Trembley
Kelly Vonfeldt
Laura Warner
Jennifer Weber

Nickajack ES - GOLD

Yinia Baumhover
Jelisa Blackwell
Kasey Brindle
Terri Davis
Kelly Easom
Dina Espenshied
Virginia Gilmore
Karen Harrison
Deryl Heflin
Anslie Jarry
Amy Karp
Diane Kordel *
Voctor Mateo
Kristine Matthews
Patrick McNally

(Nickajack continued)

April Mitchell
Lara Rice
Kathryn Robbins
Leila Weathers
Nicole Weber
Susan Wolfgang
Kristen Yi

Norton Park ES - SILVER

Gretchen Ayers
Ashley Borland
Robyn Bryan
Sharon Bourne
Nichelle Bryant-Fox
Amelia Gonzalez
Tanekia Love
Candace Piper-Turner
Erica Rabsatt
Ronel Saintvil
Kimberly Ureke
Jiann Yi

Pickett's Mill ES - SILVER

Lynn Hahn
Jennifer Kellam
Amanda Lovett
Kimberly McCreary
Megan Mills
Amy Pace
Carolyn Schumacher
Lori Sproat
James Verity
Kristin Wilson

Pine Mountain MS - SILVER

Danny Caylor
Oscar Caldwell
Rhonda Gatch
Kevyn Jefferson
Bryan Jones
Carol Mikus
Demetrius Proby
Jene Singleton
Kelsey Snell
Casey Taylor
Nicholas Waltz *

Pitner ES - GREEN

Tammie Begora
Stephanie Caracelo
Marissa Gaines
Jaclyn Glace
Abby Sandlin
Patty Ucciferri

Rocky Mount ES - SILVER

Autumn Bailey
Julile Barton
Brooke Campbell
Christine Einertson
Kelly Long
Maria Zalles Powell
Kelly Seaman *
Dianna Simmons
Megan Smith
Diana Vargas

Shallowford Falls ES - GREEN

Amy Alfonso
Julie Bannister
Stephanie Burns
Jessica Hood
Catherine Mills
Claire Young

Simpson MS - GOLD

Meredith Argo
Shelley Carr
Katey Crispo
Jacquelyn Cummings
Deirdre McCarthy-Dillon
Marcie Donaldson
Nancy Fish
Richard James
John LaMarca
Vicki Mullis
Emilie Rose *
Dana Tindall
Suzanne Werner
Christopher Whiting
Susan Woyce

Sope Creek ES - GOLD

Carrie Bettes
Jennifer Bradley

Green School Teachers 2019/20

(Sope Creek continued)

Heather DeFoor
Ryan Dunn
Christianne Faughn
Rebecca Gonzales
Robin Griffin
Kathy Harrie
Hannah Hoy
Ida Lowrie
Kathryn McDonald
Mychael O'Brien
Sara Packer
Kirsten Parker
Michelle Patterson
Sherona Pfaff
Christie Roberts
Brooke Sanders
Beth Sette
Sally Seymour
Mark Tartaro
Susan Thompson
Tina Voss
Callan Wetherell
Angie Yim

Still ES - GOLD

Alicia Adams
Debra Auzenne
Robion Bearden
David Brown
Jordan Cantelmo
Lauren Cash
Joi Cox
Danielle Delahoussaye
Emily Dozier
Lynn Dunn *
Samantha Ellison
Kim Gatch
Melissa Hallberg
Lashelle Joiner
Mer Lasko
Carolyn Lyman
Michele McCulloch
Julie McFarland
Amy Meyers
Sydney Oden
Kristi Perry
Bridget Purdy

(Still continued)

Diana Raisner
Audrey Sievers
Miatta Smith
Sheldon Stone
Derric Tucker
Cindy Volckmann
Julie Wacker
Kim Wilkes
Melissa Williams

Timber Ridge ES - SILVER

Kaitlyn Caswell
Laura DeGaetano
Elizabeth Hauenstein
Amy McGinley
Marie Gow
Catherine Murray
Judy Osborne*
Brittany Rosa
Brittany Swain
Stephanie Turco
Laurie Weiner

Tritt ES - GOLD

Leslie Atkins
Molly Baer
Beth Blick
Jennifer Bosma
Kimmie Bower
Laura Cervi
Lauren Cook
David Eichler
Anna Freese
Sarah Gardner
Heather Garrett
Amanda Gillespie
Joey Giunta *
Jennifer Herman
Barbara Kappel
Kim Lamphere
Traci Lavelle
Tina Love
Emily McElwain
Savanah Miller
Kathryn Mitschell
Michelle Moffett
Maggie Paine

(Tritt continued)

Tara Rich
Amanda Smith
Ilene Smith
Terri Stone
Melody Swierski
Charis Swift
Carla Teuchert
Catherine Tommasello
Laura Toomey
Allie Walker
Anne Wender
Trecie Wiggins
Amber Woolley

Vaughan ES - GOLD

Cory Babcock
Nicola Boone
Phil Buben
Jenna Bullis
Julie Chow
Abigail Christensen
Kelli Connors
Jennifer Deck
Kathy Dwornitski
Jennifer Everson
Christy Garvin
Carianne Good
Devin Gunning
Jason LaBroad
Leanne Lloyd
Jennifer Maxwell
Brooke Melton
Karen Meyer *
Nicole Morgan
Kate Murray
Ashley Mushegan
Tracie Perkins
Stacy Pitts
Kristina Porter
Alicia Reed
Taryn Roggow
Mary Beth Ryan
Meagan Saeger
Tracy Sieracki
Liz Sikes
Kirk York

*An * denotes the lead contact*