

END-OF-GRANT REPORT

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Project Results

We were able to establish an ongoing mentorship with the Tektronix Environmental Quality Lab. The biology class was able to visit the lab, get a facility tour, and have the chemist visit our classroom on four occasions to help us do lab work. Seven students were able to visit the lab on an almost weekly basis to assist our baseline study and extend their study into some questions generated by the students and the chemist. Please read a student's description of working with Tektronix on the following page.

The plant collection we made in our science classes is the start of our school's herbarium. We're sending you the list, not the plants. The water testing results are summarized on a following page. The "display" of our efforts is a video, a visual journal of the Westside Light rail coming to our neighborhood.

These were our completions. We did not meet all our intentions, nor did we spend all the money we had planned to. As I explained in my letter requesting an extension, there have been some changes beyond my control. My room was remodeled, my teaching schedule was changed, the construction limited our access to the wetlands, not to mention the number of glitches possible when putting a film together.

Yet even though we were short of our intentions, the students have been involved and learning about those two wetlands. The experience at Tektronix has been invaluable. The artistic cooperation to shoot, edit, and lay on the sound was noteworthy... Your goals have been met: young folks have been studying their environment and involved in a community effort.

I would like to make another request. The last of the school year was so unbelievably hectic that the film is not in its final form. Putting the last sound track on, then making two copies, we put a copy over our master! You can get a hint at the quality of our efforts, but I'm not ready to leave it with you as finished. I know you need to get the paperwork done, and I do apologize for the time delays. The kids have asked if we could continue with a part 2 film. We want to continue until the light rail is finished. It may be a school tradition. Is it possible to spend any more of those unused funds?

OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH TEKTRONIX

Over the seventeen months of the grant, seven students were able to travel weekly to the Tektronix Environmental Quality Lab in Building 40. Our entire Biology class was able to get a tour of the facility. Doing work at an industrial chemistry lab was quite an experience for our students of wetland water quality. Here is a student account of their work.

“With the help of the Tektronix Environmental Quality chemist, Ginger Towers, students learned the basics of lab chemistry and data organization skills. We worked with pH, conductivity, and turbidity meters. We also learned other lab basics, such as titration and the making of standards. After gaining a general understanding of the professional lab atmosphere (It was scary stuff), and learning about water testing in a more global sense, we began designing our own experiment involving acid rain, a subject in which we all were interested. We gathered background information and statistics from the results of previous experiments, and focused on the varying affects that sulfuric acid (‘acid rain’) had on the growth stages of a species of fast growing control plants”.

Hall Creek

Plant

Inventory

Common Black Cap
Scientific *Rubus leocodermis*
Family Rose
Location Hall Creek

Common Common Tansy
Scientific *Tanacetum vulgare*
Family Sunflower
Location Hall Creek

Common Common Dandelion
Scientific *Taraxacum officinale*
Family Sunflower
Location Hall Creek

Common Spiraea
Scientific *Spiraea douglasii*
Family Rose
Location Hall Creek

Common Canada Thistle
Scientific *Cirsium arvense*
Family Sunflower
Location Hall Creek

Common Red Berried Hawthorn
Scientific *Crataegus oxyacantha*
Family Rose
Location Hall Creek

Common Bittersweet Nightshade
Scientific *Sloanum dulcamara*
Family Nightshade
Location Hall Creek

Common Scotch Broom
Scientific *Cytisus scoparius*
Family Pea
Location Hall Creek

Common Creek Dogwood
Scientific *Coruees stoloniferd*
Family Dogwood
Location Hall Creek

Common Baldhip Rose
Scientific *Rosa gymnocarpa*
Family Rose
Location Hall Creek

Common Willow
Scientific *Salix spp.*
Family Willow
Location Hall Creek

Common Common Vetch
Scientific *Bicia sativa*
Family Pea
Location Hall Creek

Common Field Horsetail
Scientific *Equisetum arvense*
Family Horsetail family
Location Hall Creek

Common Camas
Scientific *Camassia quamash*
Family Lilly
Location Hall Creek

Common Hop Clover
Scientific *Trifolium dubium*
Family Pea
Location Hall Creek

Common Chicory
Scientific *Chicorium intybus*
Family Sunflower
Location Hall Creek

Common Black Hawthorn
Scientific *Crataegus douglasii*
Family Rose
Location Hall Creek

Common Cascara
Scientific *Rhamnus purshiana*
Family Buckthorn
Location Hall Creek

Common Mouse Eared Chickweed
Scientific *Cerastium vulgatum*
Family Pink
Location Hall Creek

Common Sweet Briar Rose
Scientific *Rosa eglanteria*
Family Rose
Location Hall Creek

Common Western Bleeding Heart
Scientific *Dicentra formosa*
Family Fumatory
Location Hall Creek

Common Comon Teasel
Scientific *Dipsicus sylvestrius*
Family Teasel
Location Hall Creek

Messenger
Creek
Plant
Inventory

Common Vine Maple
Scientific *Acer circinatum*
Family Maple
Location Messenger Creek

Common Bittersweet Nightshade
Scientific *Solanum dulcamara*
Family Nightshade
Location Messenger Creek

Common Sword Fern
Scientific *Holystichum munitum*
Family Common Fern
Location Messenger Creek

Common Western Bracken Fern
Scientific *Pteridium aquilinum*
Family Common fern
Location Messenger Creek

Just down the block-- the light rail meets our wetlands

This video production is presented by students of the Arts and Communication High School. It's our visual diary of the project funded by Metro Greenspaces.

This twelve minute film is the visual record of a two year project to depict the coming of light rail, going over and along Messenger and Hall Creeks. The creeks, typical plants and animals are shown as a 'baseline' or inventory of these two wetlands before the light rail officially arrives. Rather than watching a documentary, what you see is the visual and audio illustration of this "coming", this "meeting" of urban wetlands and mass transportation. The style of this film is in keeping with our Arts and Communication High School and my own vision for building on the talents of the students who have applied to our school.