

## Ward Burton Wildlife Foundation Next Generation Educational Outreach Program 2019 Summary Report

January 2019 marked the beginning of the Ward Burton Wildlife Foundation's (WBWF) Next Generation Outreach programming. This educational initiative greatly raised the bar regarding the organization's effort to teach Virginia students about the importance of appreciating, conserving, and properly utilizing our vital natural resources, plus the development of individual stewardship responsibilities. Ward Burton, former NASCAR driver and natural resource conservationist, believes one of the primary elements required to sustain a healthy environment, that provides clean air, pure water, food, shelter, and space, is exposing boys and girls to the beauty and value of the great outdoors. To kick off this particular organizational entity, the foundation purchased an eye-catching travel trailer and vehicle to transport the message to schools across the Commonwealth.

During January, February, March, September, and October, the Next Generation Outreach's staff personnel worked diligently to schedule and conduct programs for 19,688 students and teachers in 119 schools across 30 cities and counties. During the first 3-month segment (January, February, and March), the organization focused on Region 8, and included the counties of Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Greensville, Halifax, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward.

In addition, the WBWF visited schools in Amherst, Bedford, Campbell, and Pittsylvania Counties, and the city of Lynchburg. During September and October, the foundation traveled to Southwestern Virginia for programs in the counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Tazewell, Washington, Wise, plus the city of Bristol, Virginia. These programs were presented free to each of the participating schools. According to our 2019 financial records, the foundation's inclusive costs were approximately \$4.00 per student.

While the WBWF exceeded its projected 2019 educational goals, perhaps the most positive aspect was the cards, notes, letters, e-mails, and phone calls received from educators and principals from those schools visited. Many comments referenced how amazed teachers were that we were able to hold student attention throughout the 90-minute sessions - and at no charge. The requests for return sessions stifled any doubts about the effectiveness of the WBWF Next Generation Outreach Program.

Through partnerships with like-minded organizations and corporations, funds were raised and used to offset the costs of bringing this program into the schools. We are extremely grateful to our partners for helping us reach across Virginia. Efforts will continue until every county has the opportunity to participate.

WBWF Educator, Mike Roberts, develops the content for the presentations drawing upon his lifetime of experiences as an outdoorsman, naturalist, wildlife photographer and writer. Much of the content covered in his presentations directly relates to the topics of the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) for grades 3-5. Below is an outline of the SOLs that his program covers.

A vital part of the WBWF Next Generation Outreach Program is conveying America's conservation history to students and teachers, primarily because this educational component is not mandated and few students and teachers are aware of what was required to restore our lost natural resources. This segment, spanning 450 years, includes a review of America's abundant natural resources, including forests, clean water, fertile soil, and wildlife populations, its decimation, and the restoration that occurred through concern from private individuals, conservation organizations, state and federal agencies, and approval of state and federal legislation. In other words, the WBWF includes, in each program, a description of the North American wildlife conservation model - using it as a means of teaching natural resource stewardship responsibilities.

### **2018 Standards of Learning (SOL) Concepts Included in Program**

#### **Living Systems and Processes**

- 3.4 The student will investigate and understand that adaptations allow organisms to satisfy life needs and respond to the environment. Key ideas include
  - a) populations may adapt over time;
  - b) adaptations may be behavioral or physical; and
  - c) fossils provide evidence about the types of organisms that lived long ago as well as the nature of their environments.
  
- 3.5 The student will investigate and understand that aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems support a diversity of organisms. Key ideas include
  - a) ecosystems are made of living and nonliving components of the environment; and
  - b) relationships exist among organisms in an ecosystem.

#### **Earth and Space Systems**

- 3.6 The student will investigate and understand that soil is important in ecosystems. Key ideas include
  - a) soil, with its different components, is important to organisms; and
  - b) soil provides support and nutrients necessary for plant growth.
  
- 3.7 The student will investigate and understand that there is a water cycle and water is important to life on Earth. Key ideas include
  - a) there are many reservoirs of water on Earth;

- b) the energy from the sun drives the water cycle; and
- c) the water cycle involves specific processes.

### **Earth Resources**

- 3.8 The student will investigate and understand that natural events and humans influence ecosystems. Key ideas include
- a) human activity affects the quality of air, water, and habitats;
  - b) water is limited and needs to be conserved;
  - c) fire, flood, disease, and erosion affect ecosystems; and
  - d) soil is a natural resource and should be conserved.

### **Living Systems and Processes**

- 4.2 The student will investigate and understand that plants and animals have structures that distinguish them from one another and play vital roles in their ability to survive. Key ideas include
- a) the survival of plants and animals depends on photosynthesis;
  - b) plants and animals have different structures and processes for obtaining energy; and
  - c) plants and animals have different structures and processes for creating offspring.
- 4.3 The student will investigate and understand that organisms, including humans, interact with one another and with the nonliving components in the ecosystem. Key ideas include
- a) interrelationships exist in populations, communities, and ecosystems;
  - b) food webs show the flow of energy within an ecosystem;
  - c) changes in an organism's niche and habitat may occur at various stages in its life cycle.

### **Earth Resources**

- 4.8 The student will investigate and understand that Virginia has important natural resources. Key resources include
- a) watersheds and water;
  - b) plants and animals;
  - c) minerals, rocks, and ores; and
  - d) forests, soil, and land.

### **Earth Resources**

- 5.9 The student will investigate and understand that the conservation of energy resources is important. Key ideas include
- a) some sources of energy are considered renewable and others are not;
  - b) individuals and communities have means of conserving both energy and matter; and
  - c) advances in technology improve the ability to transfer and transform energy

The following schools participated in Next Generation Outreach in 2019. Some schools hosted multiple programs on the same day.

8-Jan-19	Mecklenburg	Clarksville Elementary
8-Jan	Mecklenburg	Chase City Elementary
9-Jan	Mecklenburg	South Hill Elementary
9-Jan	Mecklenburg	La Crosse Elementary
10-Jan	Buckingham	Buckingham Elementary
14-Jan	Brunswick	Red Oak-Sturgeon Elementary
16-Jan	Charlotte	Eureka Elementary
23-Jan	Charlotte	Bacon District Elementary
23-Jan	Halifax	Clays Mill Elementary
24-Jan	Lunenburg	Kenbridge Elementary
24-Jan	Lunenburg	Victoria Elementary
28-Jan	Charlotte	RHHS VoAg
28-Jan	Charlotte	Phenix Elementary
29-Jan	Halifax	Sinai Elementary
30-Jan	Brunswick	Totaro Elementary
30-Jan	Brunswick	Meherrin-Powellton Elementary
31-Jan	Brunswick	Red Oak-Sturgeon Elementary
4-Feb	Halifax	Cluster Springs Elementary
4-Feb	Halifax	South Boston Elementary
5-Feb	Mecklenburg	South Hill Elementary
5-Feb	Brunswick	Brunswick Academy
6-Feb	Halifax	Scottsburg Elementary
11-Feb	Nottoway	Crewe Primary
11-Feb	Nottoway	Blackstone Primary
12-Feb	Nottoway	Nottoway Intermediate
12-Feb	Prince Edward	Prince Edward Co Elem
13-Feb	Prince Edward	Prince Edward Co 5-8th grade
19-Feb	Halifax	HCHS VoAg
21-Feb	Campbell	William Campbell Combined

21-Feb	Campbell	Brookneal Elementary
26-Feb	Halifax	Halifax HS
27-Feb	Pittsylvania	Southside Elementary
28-Feb	Appomattox	Appomattox Elementary
5-Mar	Halifax	Sydnor Jennings Elementary
5-Mar	Halifax	Meadville Elementary
6-Mar	Nottoway	Kenston Forest
7-Mar	Charlotte	Patrick Henry Plantation
12-Mar	Greensville	Greensville Elementary
13-Mar	Pittsylvania	Mt. Airy Elementary
13-Mar	Pittsylvania	Gretna Elementary
14-Mar	Halifax	SoBo Elementary
15-Mar	Amherst	Amherst Elementary
15-Mar	Amherst	Elon Elementary
20-Mar	City of Lynchburg	Sandusky Elementary
21-Mar	Pittsylvania	Stony Mill Elementary
25-Mar	Campbell	Altavista Elementary
28-Mar	Henrico	Trevvett Elementary
9-Apr	Cumberland	Cumberland Elementary
9-Apr	Cumberland	Cumberland Middle
10-Apr	Dinwiddie	Sunnyside Elementary
29-Apr	Dinwiddie	Southside Elementary
23-May	Campbell	Rustburg MS
23-May	Campbell	Altavista Combined
3-Sep	Smyth	Marion Elementary
4-Sep	Smyth	Chilhowie Elem
4-Sep	Smyth	Oak Point
5-Sep	Smyth	Saltville Elem
5-Sep	Smyth	Rich Valley
6-Sep	Smyth	Atkins Elem
6-Sep	Smyth	Sugar Grove Elem
9-Sep	Washington	High Point Elementary

9-Sep	Washington	Wataugua Elementary
10-Sep	Washington	Valley Institute
10-Sep	Washington	Meadowview Elementary
11-Sep	Washington	Greendale Elementary
11-Sep	Washington	Abingdon Elem
12-Sep	Washington	Rhea Valley Elementary
12-Sep	Bristol	Van Pelt Elementary
16-Sep	Buchanan	Buchanan Public Library (adult program)
17-Sep	Tazewell	Cedar Bluff
17-Sep	Tazewell	Richlands Elementary
18-Sep	Tazewell	Graham Intermediate
18-Sep	Tazewell	Abbs Valley
19-Sep	Pike KY	Elkhorn City
19-Sep	Dickenson	Sandlick Elementary
20-Sep	Dickenson	Jonnie Deel Library
9/23-27/2019	Buchanan	Buchanan Library (county students were bused to the library)
1-Oct	Russell	Honaker Elementary
1-Oct	Russell	Honaker Elementary
2-Oct	Russell	Castlewood Elementary
2-Oct	Russell	Castlewood Elementary
3-Oct	Carroll	Gladeville Elementary
4-Oct	Russell	Swords Creek Elementary
4-Oct	Russell	Belfast Elementary
7-Oct	Lee	Rose Hill Elementary
7-Oct	Lee	Flatwoods Elementary
8-Oct	Lee	Dryden Elementary
8-Oct	Lee	St. Charles Elementary
9-Oct	Lee	Elydale Elementary
9-Oct	Lee	Elk Knob Elementary
11-Oct	Scott	Rye Cove Intermediate
11-Oct	Scott	Weber City Elementary

15-Oct	Scott	Hilton Elem
15-Oct	Scott	Nickelsville Elem
16-Oct	Scott	Yuma Elementary
16-Oct	Scott	Duffield Elementary
18-Oct	Wise	Union Middle School 5th & 6th
18-Oct	Wise	Union Primary 3 & 4th
21-Oct	Wise	Coeburn Primary and Coeburn Middle
22-Oct	Wise	Wise Primary & JW Adams 3rd & 4th
22-Oct	Wise	LF Addington Middle & JW Adams 5 & 6
23-Oct	Wise	St. Paul Elementary 3-6th

**Next Generation Outreach  
Income - Donations/Grants for 2019**

Shelton Short Trust	\$5,000.00
VDGIF (awarded but not received to-date)	\$10,000.00
VFEF	\$10,000.00
Rocky Boots	\$5,032.22
ALSCO	\$10,000.00
Jerry Epps Landscaping	\$2,500.00
John and Susan Mullin	\$1,000.00
Wells Fargo	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$48,532.22</b>

**January - December 2019 Expenses**

Truck payment for 12 mos. at \$1099.20	\$13,190.40
Educator's Salary for 6 months @ \$4800	\$28,800.00
Scheduler's Salary for 6 months at \$4467	\$26,802.00

Lodging for educator	\$7,607.11
Meals for educator	\$754.96
Misc Expenses to include insurance	\$2,693.08
Fuel for education truck	<u>\$2,642.02</u>
<b>2019 Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$82,489.57</u></b>

**Summary of 2019 School Programs**

Number of school programs Jan-Dec 2019	119
Number of students/teachers reached	19,688
Number of counties/cities	30
Average price per school in 2019	\$693.19

For questions about this summary, please contact our Program Coordinator, Sue Adams, at 434-476-7038.