MWEEs + Trees!

Boxerwood Nature Center & Woodland Garden

Lexington, Virginia

Elise Sheffield
Education Director

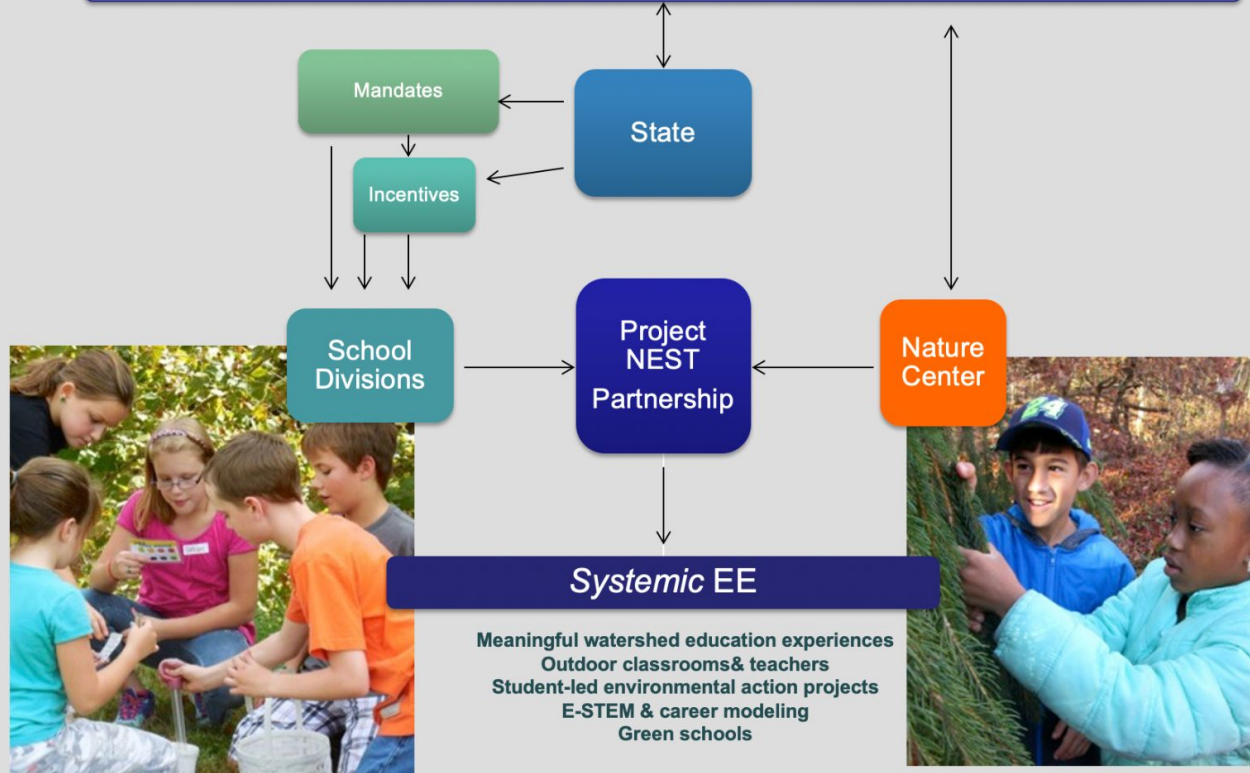BOXERWOOD

To educate and inspire people of all ages to be environmentally successful stewards of the Earth.

Growing Up Green: A Model Public/Private Partnership

Boxerwood Nature Center, Lexington, VA

Conservation of our shared Commonwealth * Environmentally Literate Citizens

Mandates

State

Incentives

School Divisions

Project NEST Partnership

Nature Center

Systemic EE

Meaningful watershed education experiences
Outdoor classrooms & teachers
Student-led environmental action projects
E-STEM & career modeling
Green schools

Project NEST

(Nurturing Environmental Stewardship Together)

PreK: Nature's Stories
Gr. 1: Seasonal Change
Gr. 2: Adaptations
Gr. 3: Habitats/Soil
Gr. 4: VA Watersheds I
Gr. 5: VA Watersheds II
Gr. 6: Human Impact
Gr. 7: Bay Club
HS: Environmental Science

2,800 students annually from
17 pre-schools
7 Elementary Schools
3 Middle Schools
2 High Schools

Buena Vista City Public Schools
Lexington City Schools
Rockbridge County Public Schools

A Boxerwood MWEE Sampler

The Growing Native Project:
An ACTION component of our Gr. 4 & Gr. 6 MWEEs, in partnership with the **Cacapon Institute**.

Gr. 4 MWEEs

Fall - All (20) 4th grades complete a 4-hr. Water Trackers program at Boxerwood

Winter -- All classrooms _invited_ to participate in the Growing Native program, which includes 3 subsequent classroom trainings

Spring
All 4th grades complete a full-day river-based water monitoring investigation

All students plant trees for a 2-year nursery stay

From "Save the Bay!" to trees for our watershed

Spring Plant Day:

Boxerwood brings:
–the bare root trees
–all the planting materials
–1-2 staff educators
–a structured plan!

The School brings:
–the kids (in pairs)
–the managing teachers
(one class per 30 min. shift)

The Math.

17, 4th grade classrooms x 18 students = 306 trees planted in containers each year

Nurseries:
- Boxerwood
- Maury River MS (RCPS)

Grade 6: MWEEs+ 300, 1.5 year old native seedlings ready for replanting each year.

Student decision-making: what to do with "our" trees?

Option #1:
Community Give-Aways

Option #2:
Family-led Community Plantings

3 acres (retirement community), 4 hours, 30 people, 100 native trees

November 22, 2023. Richardson Park & Boxerwood Nature Center : 69 native trees.

Option #3:
School-led, community-based plantings

Option #4: Reforestation Projects

December 2022. Joint project between Boxerwood, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and local property owner. 600 native trees.

COREworks

ABOUT   GET INSPIRED   PROJECTS   OFFSET   NEWS

RIPARIAN TREE PLANTING
MOORE'S CREEK WATERSHED

Next Step: Listing completed tree planting projects with **COREworks**, our carbon offset marketplace.

PROJECT DETAILS

Project: Tree Planting #1: Moore's Creek Watershed

Location: Rx Lane, Lexington, VA

Status: 325 native trees planted December 2021

Project Period: 15 years

Total metric tons of anticipated carbon dioxide emissions (MTCO2eq) prevented: 29 tons

Value: $120 per metric ton

COREworks offsets available for allocation: 29

TOTAL ALLOCATION: 29 OFFSETS

2 allocated

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Thank You!

BOXERWOOD