

What is Project FLOW?

Project FLOW (Future Leaders of Watersheds) engages youth from economically depressed areas in service projects that restore and protect West Virginia's watersheds. Youth are involved in service projects where they monitor water quality, clean up streams, promote recycling and conduct other environmental activities.

Project FLOW is implemented locally by nonprofit organizations across West Virginia and is administered by the West Virginia Commission for National and Community Service. Project FLOW is funded through a Learn and Serve America grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service.



How Can I Get Involved?

Our goal is to build statewide support for Project FLOW efforts. There are ways for everybody to get involved. Try one of the following:

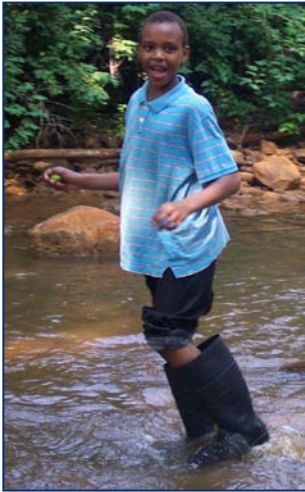
- Apply for a Project FLOW grant (for community organizations).
- Partner with an existing Project FLOW program in your community.
- Volunteer on a FLOW project.
- Donate cash or in-kind goods, such as transportation or food, to FLOW projects.
- Learn more by contacting the WV Commission for National and Community Service.

Contact us!

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West Virginia's
Project
FLOW:
*Future Leaders
of Watersheds*



What Does Project FLOW Do?

√ Improve our environment

In its first two years, Project FLOW participants contributed more than 50,000 hours to the restoration and protection of West Virginia's watersheds. Youth evaluated and assessed hundreds of streams for stream health, facilitated the recycling of hundreds of pounds of refuse, and completed countless other accomplishments.

√ Strengthen our communities

In its first two years, Project FLOW's nonprofit organizations developed dozens of local partnerships that led to new and improved local youth and environmental activities, services and projects.

√ Develop active, competent, responsible and engaged citizens

Project FLOW involved more than 1,100 youth in service learning in its first year and more than 5,000 youth in its second year. Nearly 60 percent were disadvantaged or rural youth.

Survey data suggests that Project FLOW increases youth citizenship. Approximately 89 percent of surveyed youth reported that their involvement in FLOW service projects increased their interest in participating in future projects that serve the community. More than 90 percent indicated that their knowledge of watershed preservation and protection increased.

Where is the Change?

Among hundreds of examples...

√ **A city is more committed to the environment.** Youth involved in Project FLOW through the Oglebay Institute in Wheeling worked with the city council to issue a proclamation declaring April "Earth Month."

√ **A child is more successful.** A middle school student was shy and did not participate in classroom activities until his experience with Project FLOW gave him the confidence to become a leader in environmental projects.

√ **A town is a nicer place to live.** Youth from the Indian Creek Watershed Association in Union received overwhelmingly positive feedback on a mural they painted with local artists.