LONG-TERM GOALS

- to publish and distribute a final version of the *Living Streams* curriculum after feedback from the round 2 pilot project
- to have the *Living Streams* curriculum endorsed by the Alabama Department of Education and used statewide and regionally
- to have science education interns across the state routinely certified in AWW stream biomonitoring as part of their curriculum
- to have AWW citizen monitors continue to work with teachers as local experts for stream biomonitoring and the *Living Streams* curriculum statewide
- to produce additional modules of the *Living Streams* curriculum according to Alabama Course of Study standards, incorporating AWW protocols for water chemistry and bacteriological monitoring
- to have a comprehensive *Living Streams* curriculum incorporated into schools statewide as a key strategy for the long-term protection and restoration of water resources in Alabama

GETTING INVOLVED

If you would like to participate in the *Living Streams* project as a teacher or community volunteer, please contact one of the following:

Alabama Water Watch
Dept. of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures
Mrs. Jenny Fuller
250 Upchurch Hall
Auburn University, Alabama 36849
Ph: 1-888-844-4785
www.alabamawaterwatch.org

Auburn University
Dept. of Curriculum and Teaching
Dr. Charles Eick
5040 Haley Center
Auburn University, Alabama 36849
Ph: 334-844-6788
www.education.auburn.edu

Troy University
Dept. of Biological and Environmental Sciences
Dr. Janet Gaston
225 McCall Hall
Troy, Alabama 36082
Ph: 334-670-5659
www.troy.troy.edu

ENHANCING AQUATIC SCIENCE EDUCATION IN ALABAMA

...through partnerships between

Alabama Water Watch

and the

Departments of Curriculum and Teaching

at

Auburn University

and

Troy University

FOR CITIZENS

- Alabama Water Watch is a statewide citizen volunteer water quality monitoring program based at Auburn University.
- More than 240 community groups have participated in AWW, and have cumulatively tested 1,800 sites on 700 waterbodies statewide.

- About 20% of AWW monitoring groups have been educators and their students.
- AWW water quality data and other information are available online for a variety of educational and analytical purposes.
- Many citizen groups are interested in environmental education, and working with local teachers and students.

THE PARTNERSHIP

A one-year grant from the AU Environmental Institute (www.auei.auburn.edu) in 2004 allowed AWW and the AU Department of Curriculum and Teaching to:

- develop the *Living Streams* curriculum, based on AWW stream biomonitoring protocols and modified to meet Alabama Course of Study standards
- certify teachers and AU education interns in AWW biomonitoring protocols
- pilot the *Living Streams* curriculum in four schools by teachers and AU science education interns
- connect AWW citizen monitors with students and teachers at streams to teach field portion of curriculum

Funding from the USDA-sponsored Tallapoosa Watershed Project (www.twp.auburn.edu) in 2005 allowed continued work on *Living Streams* including:

- revision of the *Living Streams* curriculum based on teacher, intern, and citizen monitor feedback from the pilot project
- partnership with Troy University to expand the scope of the project
- certification of new teachers and Troy University/AU science education interns in AWW stream biomonitoring
- round 2 pilot project of *Living Streams* by new teachers and Troy University/AU science education interns

FOR TEACHERS

- Aquatic science curricula can provide innovative, hands-on activities that reinforce math and science skills of the Alabama Course of Study.
- The Departments of Curriculum and Teaching at Auburn University and Troy University graduate several science educators each year who stay to teach in Alabama.
- Pre-service teachers from both universities do internships in classrooms throughout Alabama and can assist teachers with piloting new, aquatic science curricula.

- Teachers can benefit from working with a variety of resource people from agencies and the community who are ready to connect with classrooms and share their experiences with students.
- By communicating with universities, teachers may access the latest science curricula and the opportunity to pilot new materials and approaches with science education interns and local experts.