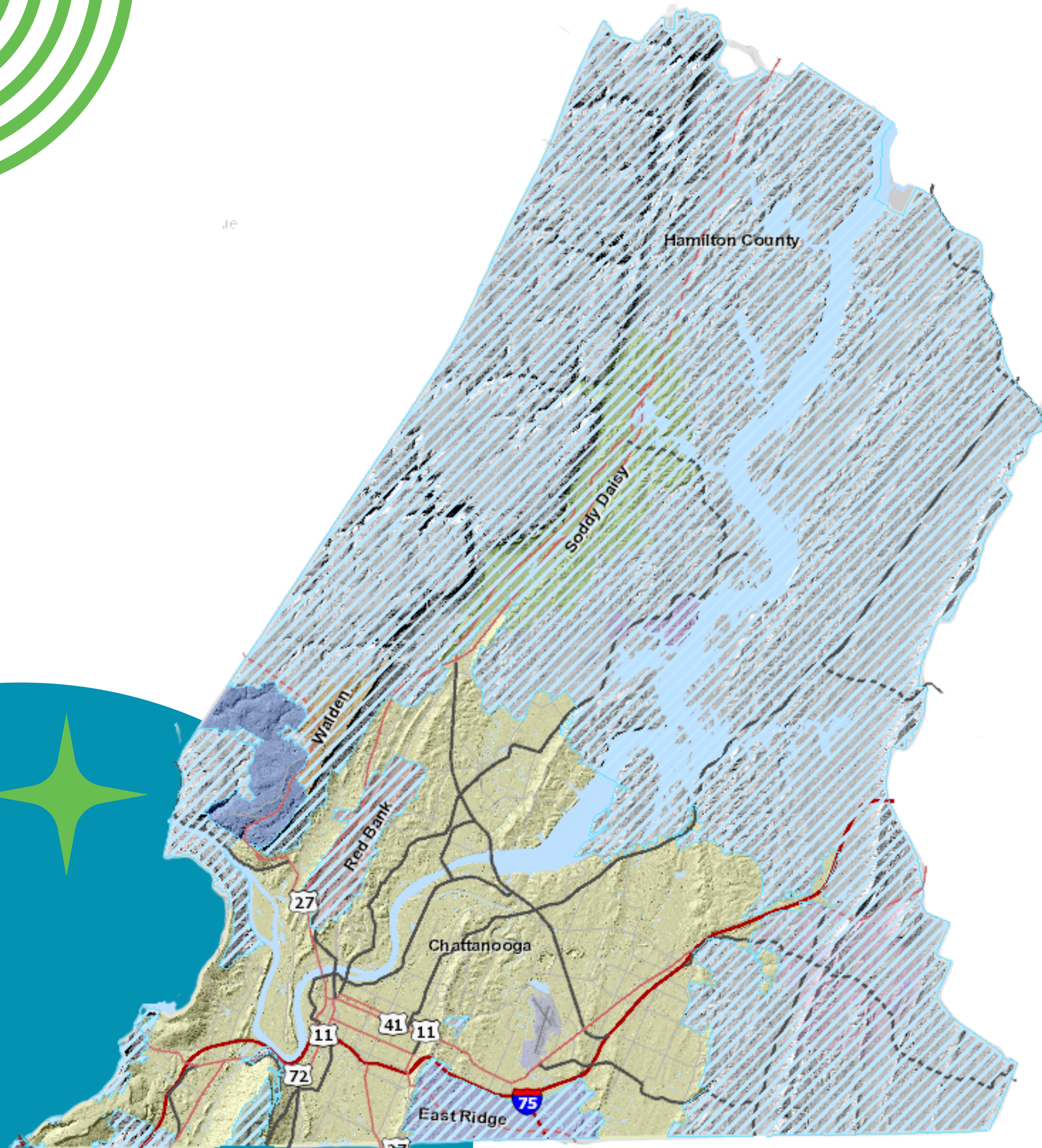


EDUCATION AND OUTREACH YEAR-END WRAP-UP

2024-2025

Hamilton County
Water Quality Program



What was the Program up to in 2024-2025?

Outreach Events

- CSTHEA Homeschool Expo
- Conservation Camp
- TN River Rescue
- Hamilton County Fair
- Nolan Field Trip
- BMP Manual Training
- Soddy Daisy Fall Festival
- Home Show
- SWDW
- Plant Natives Market
- CSAS Class Visit
- Swing into Spring
- 7 WaterWays Spring Field Trips
- Ivy Class Visit
- VW Biodiversity Day
- National Trails Day
- Red Bank 70th Anniversary



Ongoing Outreach

- Augmented Reality Sandbox
- Pet waste stations
- TNSA social media
- Water Quality Program Website
- Pre Construction Meetings

Thank you!

Acknowledgments

We would like to extend special recognition to all employees who generously volunteer their time for events after hours and on weekends. Their cooperation is invaluable, and we truly appreciate their dedication.

Additionally, we want to express our gratitude to our partner organizations. United by a common mission, we can raise awareness about water quality and stormwater runoff issues, ultimately serving Hamilton County more effectively.

CONSERVATION CAMP

During the 2 day event, Oct. 2nd and 3rd, staff led a hands-on Enviroscape lesson to approximately 300 students, teachers, and chaperones, including public schools and homeschool families.

Other presenters were: Audubon Acres, TDOT, TDEC, TWRA, UT Extension Master Gardeners, U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers, TN Aquarium, TN State Parks (Red Clay), TVA, Cleveland Utility, WaterWays.



Hosted by:



CSTHEA HOMESCHOOL EXPO

The annual curriculum fair hosted by Chattanooga Southeast Tennessee Home Education Association (CSTHEA) was held, July 19th and 20th. It is a great way for us to engage with hundreds of homeschool families in one exciting weekend. Thank you to Cleveland and Bradley county staff for helping with booth coverage.



HAMILTON COUNTY FAIR

The Hamilton County Fair draws in thousands of families from Hamilton County and the surrounding area. It took place over Veteran's Day weekend. Program staff conducted engaging demonstrations featuring the Enviroscape, Wards Floodplain model, and the Topobox (augmented reality sand table). We also distributed promotional items and literature related to stormwater management.



BMP MANUAL TRAINING

The event, held on November 19th, catered specifically to professionals in stormwater design. The presentation focused on updates to the Hamilton County Water Quality Program's Best Management Practices Manual implemented January 2025.

The following key topics were covered:

- Reasons for Change
- Overview of Revised Ordinance & New Water Quality SCM Manual
- Stormwater Quality Treatment
- Downstream Channel Protection
- Downstream Hydrologic Assessment
- Water Quality Buffers



SPRING HOME SHOW

Over three days, February 7th-9th, the Program tabled at the annual Spring Home Show, organized by the Home Builders' Association of Greater Chattanooga. This event attracts thousands of local homeowners and offers a platform to discuss various topics, including pollution prevention, construction best management practices (BMPs), landscaping for stormwater runoff, and more.



NATIVE PLANT SALE



The Native plant sale, March 29th, organized by the Wild Ones Tennessee Valley Chapter offered a wonderful opportunity to connect with hundreds of homeowners eager to integrate native plants into their landscaping.



SAVE WATER, DRINK WINE



Save Water, Drink Wine (and Beer!) is an engaging evening, March 28th, which celebrated the stewardship of area watersheds and networking with local environmental enthusiasts. Proceeds from the annual event benefit WaterWays initiatives including stream restoration, education, pollution prevention, and more.



SODDY DAISY FALL FESTIVAL



On November 23rd, Keep Soddy Daisy Beautiful hosted an event featuring 150 vendors, attracting residents and families from the Soddy Daisy community. Proceeds from the event will support the ongoing initiatives of Keep Soddy Daisy Beautiful, aimed at fostering a cleaner, greener, and more beautiful community throughout the year.

SWING INTO SPRING AT MCDONALD FARM



April 12th, Hamilton County Parks and Recreation organized an event at McDonald Farm to celebrate the arrival of spring. The festivities included baseball, live music, an egg hunt, and a variety of family-friendly activities.



MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL GUEST LECTURES

CSAS



On April 10th and 11th Staff delivered a presentation to five 9th grade Environmental Science classes at Chattanooga School for Arts and Sciences. After the presentation, students conducted a hands-on activity that simulated the biotic monitoring of macroinvertebrates using data sourced from local streams. Participants utilized colored beads to compute the Tennessee Macroinvertebrate Index (TMI) score and then compared their results with those of the Program.

IVY ACCADEMY



On May 12th, Staff members delivered a presentation to three 6th and 7th grade Environmental Science classes. Following this, students conducted abiotic monitoring, examining samples collected from North Chickamauga Creek and compared their results with data from the nearby continuous monitoring sonde.



VOLKSWAGEN CHATTANOOGA BIODIVERSITY DAY



Volkswagen Chattanooga hosted the free Biodiversity Day Expo 2025 on May 17, 2025, featuring wildlife demonstrations and booths from over 30 environmental organizations to highlight the biodiversity of the Tennessee Valley. Water Quality Program gave demonstrations about the impact of development using the Ward's floodplain model.

RED BANK 70TH ANNIVERSARY

On June 21st, the City of Red Bank marked its 70th anniversary with a community-wide event. This celebration aimed to “showcase the people, organizations, and services that contribute to making Red Bank an excellent place to live, work, and connect.” Alongside the usual tabling materials, the program featured a rendering of the upcoming restoration project for Stringer’s Branch.





THANK
YOU

