



Oral Presentation Topics and Writing Prompt Suggestions

The following list of potential presentation topics and writing prompts are meant to assist educators teaching non point source pollution to students in Genesee County.

General Topic Ideas:

Algae	Non Point Source Pollution (NPS)
Automobile Pollution	Nutrients
Best Management Practice (BMP)	Pet Waste
Buffers	Point Source Pollution
Car Washing	Stewardship/Personal responsibility
Erosion	Storm Drainage System
Fertilizer/Pesticides	Stormwater Runoff
Habitat	Water Quality
Human Impacts	Watersheds/River Basins
Litter	Wetlands
Local Waterways (Flint River, Saginaw Bay Watershed, Great Lakes, etc.)	

Writing Prompts:

1. Explore the water quality of the recreational hydrosphere we enjoy in your local town and Genesee County.
2. What are five things you could do in your neighborhood to improve stormwater runoff flowing into the Flint River and the Saginaw Bay Watershed.
3. If I were a raindrop, my journey through Genesee County would be....
4. The best lesson my grandparents or parents ever taught me about the environment is.....
5. Imagine a friend of yours is about to throw a fast food container out the window. What would you tell that friend to persuade him or her not to do that? Why?
6. In 20 years, the water quality of the Flint River will.....
7. If you were a fish, describe your life in the Flint River.
8. How is stormwater runoff connected to the aquatic food web?
9. How does the temperature of runoff affect pond life?

10. Describe a new way to monitor the water quality of a local creek.
11. Describe how humans affect the water quality of Lake Huron and what they can do to change that.
12. Describe the water quality of Lake Huron from a fish, turtle, or alligator's perspective.
13. What impacts does poor water quality have on the local economy?
14. Describe the quality of a creek if people in the nearby neighborhood did not pick up after their pets and threw litter on the ground constantly.
15. Describe your role in helping to protect the creeks and streams in Genesee County.
16. Explain the importance of surface water to you and your family.
17. Describe the impact of poor water quality on recreation.
18. Compare the benefits and risks associated with using pesticides and fertilizers.
19. Describe the watershed you live in, where it drains, and how you could help clean it up.
20. Explain why polluted runoff is a huge water quality problem in Michigan.
21. Explain the effects of excess nutrients in Michigan waters.
22. In your opinion, explain the main water issues in Genesee County.
23. How could we capture and re-use rainwater? For what purposes?
24. How does local and/or state politics effect water quality? Is it positive or negative?
25. The harmful effects of pet waste, who is responsible, and how can we change its effects? How do other communities deal with this problem?
26. How does litter in waterways affects humans, plants, animals, and the food chain?
27. How does stormwater runoff affect ecosystems over time, is it worse than one large toxic spill?
28. Explore the effects of pollution caused by fertilizer and compare these effects from a rural farm and an urban setting.