



Project SOLO

Schuylkill Outdoor Leadership Odyssey

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SCHUYLKILL RIVER
NATIONAL & STATE HERITAGE AREA

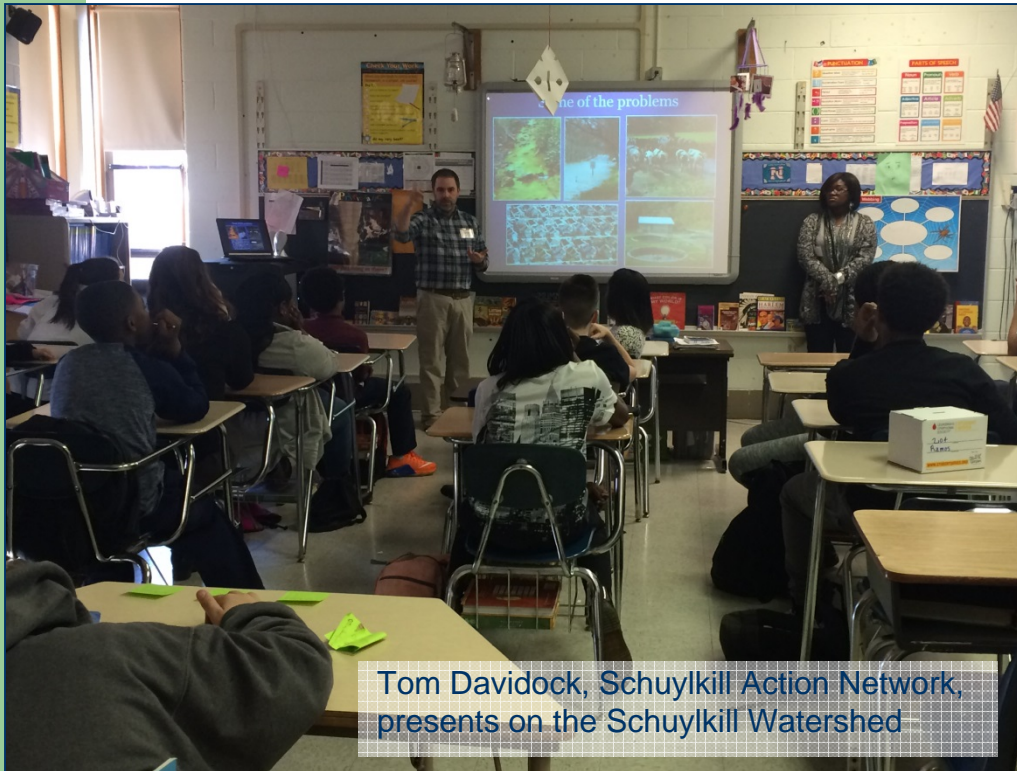
Schuylkill River Heritage Area

- National Heritage Areas use conservation, recreation, education, cultural and historic preservation and tourism as tools for community revitalization and economic development
- Pennsylvania Heritage Area Designation in 1995, National Heritage Area Designation in 2000
- SRHA is managed by the non-profit Schuylkill River Greenway Association

Project SOLO

- 8-12 week program geared at 9th and 10th grade
- Piloted in 2013 with I-Lead Charter School
- Class size has ranged from 12 to 31 students
- Weekly hour-long classes on environmental topic
- Programming conducted in 4 of the 5 counties in the Schuylkill River Heritage Area, with private and public schools
- Funding provided by William Penn Foundation

Mentor Presentations



Tom Davidock, Schuylkill Action Network, presents on the Schuylkill Watershed

Topics Include:

- Schuylkill River Watershed
- Local Flora & Fauna: Horticulture and Biology
- Soil Conservation and Water Quality
- Health and the Outdoors
- Resource Access: Landscape Architecture and Engineering
- Impacts and Consequences: Policy Professionals

Field Trips

- **Service Learning:**
Schuylkill River Trail Cleanups,
Weed Warriors program at Valley Forge National Historical Park
- **Local Parks:**
Gring's Mill Recreation Area,
Wissahickon Valley Park, Sweet Arrow Lake County Park
- **Educational Facilities:**
Reading Public Museum and Neag Planetarium, Fairmount WaterWorks, Nolde Environmental Education Center



Saul High School Students at
Wissahickon Valley Park Cleanup

Field Trips



Kayaking on the Schuylkill River

Outcomes and Evaluation

Beginning and End of Class Survey



1. What is a watershed?
2. *Where does the Schuylkill flow from and where does it end?
3. What has been one of the biggest sources of pollution in the Schuylkill?
4. *How much time do you normally spend outside?
5. *How many of the parks in Berks County have you visited?
6. *Have you ever been:
 - a. Biking?
 - b. Hiking?
 - c. Kayaking?
7. *When you think of a career related to the outdoors, what do you think of?
8. Do you have plans to go to college?

- Increase environmental and cultural appreciation and stewardship through education
- Connect local schools with SRHA partners to spark interest in environmental careers

Thank You!



Students from Bethany Children's Home Kayak on the Schuylkill