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FREE TEACHER WORKSHOPS PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING
OF THE CAUSES OF FLOODING, EROSION AND RELATED POLLUTION PROBLEMS

During the last year many areas of North Carolina and surrounding states experienced considerable damage as a result of flooding and soil erosion. In some instances lives were lost and important habitats for plants and animals were destroyed. Tragically many of these problems could have been avoided if individuals, developers and communities had instituted measures that incorporated a better understanding of the major factors that contribute to their cause. In its "Planning With the Forces of Nature" workshop for K-12 teachers, which will be offered June 22-24, 2005, Pisgah Forest Institute (PFI) staff together with several governmental agencies will relate in practical terms information on runoff, stream dynamics and other processes that influence the cause and degree of the flooding and erosion.

On Thursday, June 23rd, participants will participate in a field trip during which they will see examples of effective means to control storm runoff, restrict erosion during the construction of homes on hillsides as well as modify a creek to limit erosion and other damage within watersheds. They also will be exposed to erosion control and prevention practices that are effectively employed and recommended by the USDA Forest Service. On Friday, June 24th the attendees will engage in a group project during which teams will be given information on one of several environments that has the potential to experience severe erosion, flooding and/or related pollution problems. Working with planning professionals, participants will formulate solutions for these problems and share their recommendations with the entire class so that all the problem areas will be addressed.

In addition to these field and hands-on experiences, each participant will be provided with a notebook containing a wealth of information, including curriculum, terms and processes, so that they can more readily bring this knowledge to their own classroom students. They also will be given pamphlets, books, videos and other teaching aids.

The primary objective of this workshop is to better prepare the next generation of decision makers, who currently are enrolled in public and private schools or home schooling experiences, to avoid or reduce flood and erosion damage in the future.

Those who complete this course are eligible for up to 1.5 CEUs as well as Criteria 3 credit towards their NCEE certification. There is **no charge** to attend this workshop. Participants who reside outside of the Brevard region will be offered free room and board on the Brevard College campus. Those out of town attendees who enroll in the June 19-21 "Air-Not: Effective Pollution Abatement" course, can elect to stay in the college dorm and eat in the cafeteria in on Wednesday evening. For more information, including directions to register, information on this course as well as the other Summer '05 PFI workshops, visit ww.brevard.edu/pfi.

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