

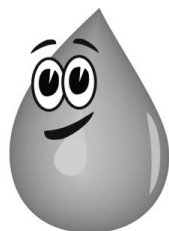
A STEM in the Park

Take Home Activity

STEM

in the **PARK**™

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics



4RLake

We all enjoy fresh, clean water – not only for nourishment, but for recreation and many other uses. This demonstration will serve as a reminder of the things we can do to help keep our waters clean!

Ingredients:

Clear hair gel (or water) = **clean lake**

A pinch of green glitter = **grass clippings**

Mulch leaves and grass clippings to enrich the soil

A pinch of tiny seed beads = **fertilizers**

Be sure to soil test and if necessary, add only the recommended fertilizer in the correct amount.

One brown pony bead = **pet waste**

Picking up after your pets will help keep contaminants out of our water.

Continued on back

Blue food coloring = **soap, car chemicals**

When washing your car at home, wash on the grass. This will help capture the soap and car fluids and prevent them from entering our waterways.

Yellow food coloring = **sunshine**

We need sunshine, but when the sun shines on the contaminants in the waterways it can cause unhealthy things to occur, like harmful algal blooms.

Squishing the baggie to mix up the ingredients = **wind**

The wind causes all the above items to mix and become the “perfect recipe” for a harmful algal bloom (HAB).

To do the activity at home, start with a small bowl of clear tap water. Add the ingredients (pollutants) listed then stir, as the last step (instead of “squishing” the baggie). See what happens to the lake!

***This activity is brought to you by WOOD Soil & Water
Conservation District***

