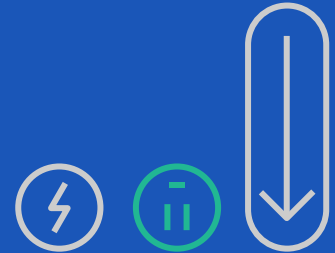




Energy Education Environment



NEED Youth Awards Foundations
Project • April, 2022
Cedar Shoals High School, Athens GA



About the Cedar Shoals Energy Education Team

The Cedar Shoals Energy Education Team's mission is to educate, save energy, and conserve the environment for future generations. Completely founded and run by students amidst a pandemic, our first year as a team was tough. Despite the hardships we faced due to the restrictions of the world wide pandemic, we still achieved our goals to the fullest extent. With the help of our 15 team members we managed to aid the community and the environment by volunteering in multiple city wide events, participating in community land conservation projects, and cleaning up our local rivers.

Cedar Shoals High School
Athens, GA
Sponsor: Brittany Bluemenstock





The Three Es



Photo from us at Hilsman's Hilfest



Photo from us at Clarke Middle School's Science Night



Photo from us at Hilsman's Hilfest



Energy

Our first focus was to conserve energy and spread energy conservation techniques.



Education

Our second focus was to educate our community to save energy and conserve the environment.



Environment

Our third and final focus was to conserve and clean up our environment by recycling and removing litter.

Goal 1: Educate our community on energy conservation

When it came to the core of our team's beliefs, education and energy is what we saw. The team unanimously agreed that educating the community on energy conservation was the best way for us to make a difference. With this mind, we made some smaller goals to achieve our main goal:

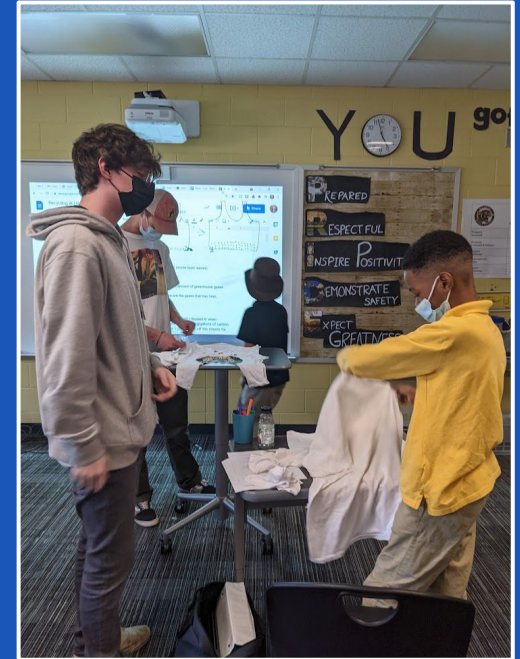
- Educate at least 400 people/100 households
- Attend as many events as possible to further our reach
- Collaborate with our local middle schools to educate them on energy efficiency for at least 50 collaborative hours



Goal 1: Educate our community on energy conservation

Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, we managed to successfully reach and surpass the goals we set for ourselves. By attending events and bringing education everywhere we went, our team:

- Educated ~700 people
- Educated ~225 households
- Taught energy efficiency at 2 city wide festivals
- Taught energy efficiency at 5 school related events
- Educated middle school students bimonthly throughout the year in collaboration with the Hilsman Science Energy Adventure Team



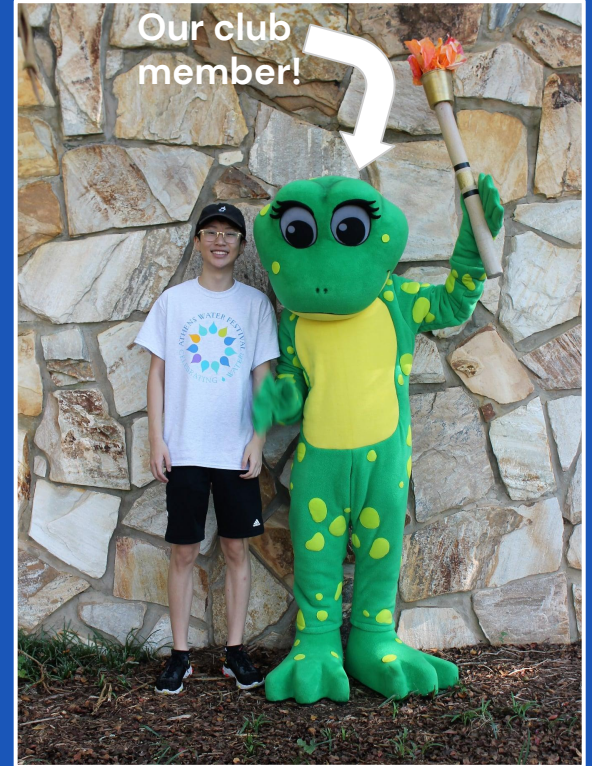
Goal 2: Volunteer within the community

When it comes to assisting our community, we decided the most effective way for our team to accomplish our second goal was to volunteer and educate ourselves and our community whenever an opportunity presented itself:

- Collectively volunteered for a minimum of 250 hours on environmental and energy related projects and events
- Collaborate with at least 5 local organizations that are energy environmentally focused
- Further educate ourselves on how to live a greener, more energy efficient lifestyle
- Educate others on how to live an eco-friendly life through community events



Goal 2: Volunteer within the community



Goal 2: Volunteer within the community

CSEET Volunteer results

- Volunteered a collective 281 hours across our 15 members
- Collaborated with 7 different environmental and energy focused organizations
- Furthered our knowledge on how to live a greener and more energy efficient lifestyle through our volunteering efforts with Bob Ratajczak and the UGA aquaponics lab
- We informed over 500 people on ways to save water and energy at the Athens Water Festival



Goal 3 : Spread awareness for storm drain pollution

To help spread awareness about the effects of littering near storm drains on our local rivers, we decided to team up with Community Engagement Coordinator Cecile Riker at the Athens-Clarke County (GA) Unified Government to decal storm drains around Athens.

- Decaled over 5 miles of sidewalk
- Decaled over 100 storm drains



The path across our town of storm drains we covered!

Goal 4 : Cleaning up our community

To start cleaning up our community, our team wanted to ensure that we not only cleaned up, but also put forth measures to educate our community to prevent these things from happening again:

- We achieved this by getting majority of our club out to assist in cleaning up our polluted rivers through Rivers Alive
- Educated those living in high litter zones on effective methods to stop littering by putting pamphlets on 200 doors
- Cleaned up 11 bags of trash along the roads of our local storm drains



Goal 4 : Cleaning up our community



Thank You Rivers Alive Volunteers!

- 188 volunteers
- 3.5 tons of trash & recycling
- 2.9 tons of leaf & limb
- 0.4 tons of scrap metal
- 44 tires

LOVE where you live.
Stop Littering.

A small inset photograph at the bottom of the text box shows a group of volunteers in safety vests working on a car, possibly cleaning or repairing it.

Goal 5 : Encourage and educate our community to recycle

To encourage and educate our community, we wanted to spread awareness about the effects of waste. We wanted to keep our local schools clean by picking up trash and recycling.

- We informed our community on the effects of waste on the environment through the Vulture Festival at the Athens Clarke County landfill, where we educated ~200 people about the importance of a clean environment.
- We assisted in establishing the Hilsman Middle School recycling program



Goal 6 : Restore our community through various projects

In order to restore our community, we wanted to lay out the following goals focusing on education and our local environment:

- Restore and educate our school community through rebuilding our School's Rain Garden
- Educate our local middle school's with interactive tours and activities
- Remove invasive species of plants across 10 acres of conservation land
- Provide new places for our community to be outside and enjoy nature



Goal 6 : Restore our community through various projects

After our year of efforts, we can display the results:

- Restored our school's rain garden, providing an outdoor classroom for our environmental science classes
- Led outdoor tours of the 30x30 conservation land for our local middle schools (Hilsman Middle School and Clarke Middle School)
- Remove invasive species of plants across 15 acres of conservation land
- Provided a place through our school's rain garden and the 30x30 conservation land for our community to enjoy and learn more



Energy, Education, Environment

Despite the restrictions from pandemic, our 15 members managed to educate and assist the community by volunteering and teaching at multiple city wide events, participating in community land conservation projects, and cleaning up our town. This year has served as an amazing opportunity as high school students to get outside and make connections within community. Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, with the help of many, we have learned and shared the importance of energy conservation, effectiveness of education, and the sustainability of a pro-environment lifestyle.



Cedar Shoals Energy Education Team!



Special thanks to everyone who worked with us around the year!

Mrs. Blumenstock, Our Club Sponsor
Mason Towe, ACC Recycling Division/
UGA Waste Reduction Manager

Cecile Riker, ACC Community Engagement Coordinator
John Pickering, 30x30 Program Coordinator

Audrey Hughes, Clarke Middle School SET team sponsor

Laura McGreevy, Hillsman Middle SEAT team sponsor

Julie Throne, Agriculture Teacher at Cedar Shoals

Carly Chandler, Science Teacher at Cedar Shoals

Suki Janssen, Solid Waste Department Director

Bob Ratajczak, Researcher at UGA school of forestry/
natural resources

Stacey Ferrell, Executive Director of Keep Athens Clarke
County Beautiful