



Mississippi Application

- 1) Large transport of sediment downstream and loss of topsoil from farming make the soil less nutrient-rich. Farmers compensate by adding fertilizers, frequently in the form of chemicals, to the soil, which can then run off when it rains. Excess nutrients in the water can lead to algae blooms that use up dissolved oxygen resources and can cause dead zones where no aquatic life can survive. However, there are many farming practices that improve soil quality and reduce nutrient runoff. Research farming practices that help to control nutrients from getting into waterways.

Extension Activity

- 1) Have students observe streams after a rain storm. Does the color of the water change? What would a stream look like in a watershed with little erosion? What would a stream look like in a watershed with lots of erosion?



Photo Credit: NPS

For more information and for additional activities please visit www.creekfreaks.net/library to download the Holding onto the Green Zone Action Guide.