



Estonoa News

2016—2017 Newsletter

Newsletter Designed by: Emmily Woods & Kendra Woods

A Brief History



During the Spring of 1999, Appalachian Ecology student, Stevie Sabo chose to investigate a forgotten lake, Lake Estonoa. His project encompassed the lake's history, present condition, and his desire to return it to its pristine self.

During the Fall of 1999, Nikki Buffalo adopted the project, identified the lake as a wetlands & convinced the Corps of Engineers to federally certify her. Nikki's quest to protect the newly named wetlands began to gain interest and soon became a project undertaken by her Appalachian Ecology & Physics classes.

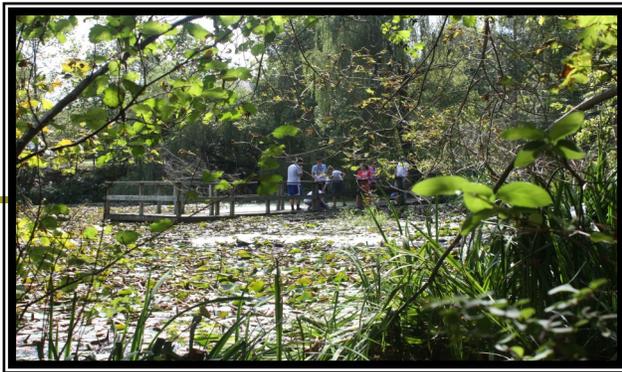
For 17 years, from semester to semester, our project has been handed from one group to the next.

Our goal, as Team Estonoa, is to enhance our little corner of the world.



Additions to Estonoa

- ◆ A new contributors board has been added to Estonoa. It is located in the meadow beside the basement.
- ◆ Team Estonoa has completed a memorial garden in-front of CHS "In Memory "of a former teacher.
- ◆ Flatwoods Job Corps is replacing footbridges, the dock AND span bridge.
- ◆ Team Estonoa assisted with the Environmental Youth Summit (3/19/2016) and the 4th Annual Environmental Symposium (5/14/2016).



Environmental Symposium

Team Estonoa assisted with the 4th Annual Environmental Symposium on May 14th, 2016. The symposium was offered to educators within Virginia and facilitated the development of hands-on learning techniques that supplement the delivery of Virginia SOLs while focusing on the Clinch River watershed. During the day-long event, educators in Virginia had the opportunity to participate in experiential learning techniques that can be translated to the classroom, as well as sessions where experts discussed various aspects of our watershed. This symposium was financially supported by Dominion Resources and the Virginia Department of Forestry. Next years symposium is currently in the planning stage!!





Dominion Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries & The Nature Conservancy unite with Team Estonoa to monitor the growth of baby mussels in the Clinch River

Fourth Cycle Update:

Team Estonoa members in conjunction with Dominion Resources, VDGIF & TNC began the fourth cycle of the project on May 31, 2016. Seven silos containing 16 mussels were deployed at the Town of St. Paul's Blue Bell Island on the Clinch.

Team Estonoa members monitored the mussels monthly for growth and viability throughout the summer of 2016. Castlewood and St. Paul fourth grade students have been selected for educational outreach and will be invited to participate in early the October's release.

The purpose of the mussel project is to collect usable data and increase public awareness concerning the importance of freshwater mussels. Being filter feeder, an adult mussel can filter a gallon of water an hour — thus being nature's water treatment facilities!!!

**Castlewood & Eastside High School
Team Estonoa**

Team Estonoa

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Mission Statement

Team Estonoa will initiate and coordinate projects that improve the Wetlands Estonoa environment and educate the community concerning the importance of watershed management regarding our water resource—the Clinch River.

Vision Statement

Team Estonoa has and will continue to develop a learning center on a wetlands area located in the center of St. Paul, VA. The center will promote the study of a wetlands ecosystem and encourage the preservation of a natural resource. Local citizens, Castlewood Elementary and High School students, Eastside High School students, and individuals from the surrounding area will have access to the Wetlands Estonoa Learning Center.

“Let us not be so concerned with leaving a better Earth for our children that we forget to leave better children for our Earth.”

