Oakland University hosted the 11th annual Clinton River Water Festival on Friday, May 19 for fifth grade students from the Clinton River Watershed community schools in Oakland County.

The festival helps students to learn about the central role water and the Clinton River play within the region. This year’s event included students and teachers from approximately 28 classrooms throughout Oakland County.

Each class attended a series of outdoor and indoor presentations by several governmental and environmental agencies on topics that include storm water, water treatment, soil erosion, wetlands, creeks and streams, habitat, as well as sources of pollution.

“The importance of clean water to us, and our future, cannot be overstated,” said Reginald McCloud, director of OU’s Department of Pre-College Programs. “It is our hope that the Clinton River Water Festival will promote and augment many of the environmental lessons taught to children.”

The Clinton River Water Festival is free to schools. Teachers who participate in the educational event are provided with a water resource curriculum guide, which is filled with ideas to further implement a water-based curriculum in the classroom.

For more information, visit the Clinton River Water Festival website.

The winners of the 11th annual Clinton River Water Festival poster contest had their works displayed outside the Gold Room at the Oakland Center.
Students react to seeing an aquatic insect displayed by a presenter during the 11th annual Clinton River Water Festival, which took place on May 19 at Oakland University.

Fifth grade students from the Clinton River Watershed community schools in Oakland County had a chance to see some aquatic insects up close during the 11th annual Clinton River Water Festival, which was held May 19 at Oakland University.