

There are 140 possible points.
How did your school score?

125-140 EXCELLENT!

Congratulations if high points were earned with good erosion control! Sediment is the number one source of pollution, by volume, in North Carolina streams!

105 -124: GOOD

You may have elements beyond your control. But by brainstorming about how erosion can be controlled, and how school staff, students and parents can be educated about not dumping into storm drains, turning off engines when waiting in cars, and not littering, you may be able to tackle some changes to reduce pollution!

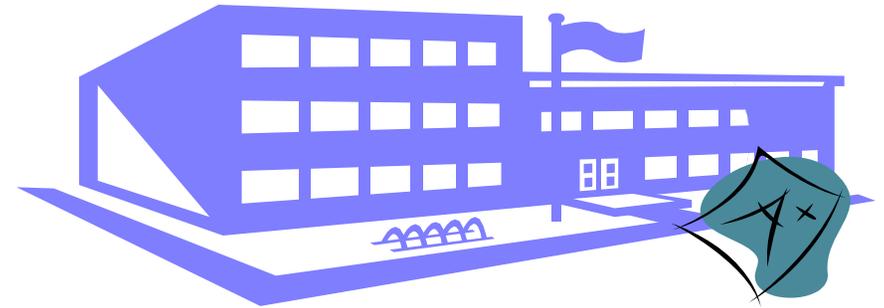
Below 78: TIME TO MAKE CHANGES!!

There are many ways the school can improve their schoolyard health! Share your findings with your teacher, principal and PTA Grounds Committee. If Scouts or other volunteers need a project, perhaps they can help to establish plantings on eroded areas, create paths, build steps on steep slopes, or make a rain garden (be sure to go through the proper school authorizations!). Contact the Town's Stormwater Management Division for technical help and grant information.



TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL
Engineering Department
Stormwater Management Division
Call: 969-RAIN (969-7246)
www.townofchapelhill.org/stormwater

Grade Your Schoolyard



Is your school:
protecting and
conserving
soil and water?

Protecting the air?



Use the following questions
to figure how your school scores!



Before scoring, look at a topographic map of your school campus. Predict where erosion (steep slopes) or pooling water (low areas) could be problems.

Figure out where water drains from the campus and where it goes after leaving campus. Note creeks in the area.

About how much of your schoolyard is covered with an impervious surface?

- *less than 10% - 10
- *10%-25% - 5
- *More than 25% - 0

Score: _____

Downspouts from the roof empty into/onto:

- * underground cisterns for water reuse -10
- *patch of rocks, vegetation, or pavement - 5
- *bare ground near waterway /storm drain - 0

Score: _____

Walkways or paths are:

- *a special design to let water infiltrate the ground - 10
- *an impervious surface like concrete - 5
- *bare ground- 0

Score: _____

Dumpster areas have closed lids, and are clean and free from grease or liquids:

- *Always -10
- *Sometimes - 5
- *Never - 0

Score: _____

Are there patches of bare soil and signs of erosion, where students "cut across" campus or soil has been carried onto sidewalks or parking lots? There are:

- *few bare patches and very little erosion - 10
- *several areas showing erosion - 5
- *large bare patches and eroded areas - 0

Score: _____

Does the school have steep slopes that are eroding or that have gullies with no vegetation in place?

- *None - 10
- *One area - 5
- *More than one area - 0

Score: _____

Are there (non-stream) areas where water stands longer than 3 days after a heavy rain?

- *No -10
- *Yes - 0

Score: _____

How much vegetation is on the school grounds?

- *many trees and bushes - 10
- *trees and bushes dot the landscape - 5
- *areas of mowed or unmowed grass - 3
- *few or no trees and bushes - 0

Score: _____

Irrigation systems do not operate on rainy days (automatic timers), and wet only grassy areas.

- *True - 10
- *False -0

Score: _____

How many storm drains are labeled to prevent pollution and to teach people that drains lead directly to creeks?

- *all-10
- *a few- 5
- *none- 0

Score: _____

Are storm drains clear of litter, mud and plants?

- *all are clear—10
- *most are clear—5
- *none are clear—0

Score: _____

How much litter do you see in and around the schoolyard?

- *none - 10
- *some - 5
- *a lot - 0

Score: _____

Are there bike racks at your school? Are they used?

- *bike racks full of bikes- 10
- *bike racks with a few bikes- 5
- *no bike rack- 0

Score: _____

When parents or buses come to pick up students, vehicles line up and:

- *turn off their engines while waiting -10
- *idle the engines while waiting - 0

Score: _____

TOTAL YOUR SCORES! _____