

SU Students 'get trashed' for Earth Day

By Kasey Dutrow



Shenandoah University's Wastology class posed with their trash collection.

Shenandoah University partnered with Potomac Riverkeeper Network for two river cleanup events on Tuesday and Thursday, April 19th and 21st. The two cleanups, at Shenandoah University's Cool Springs River campus, were part of a larger Trash Free Shenandoah campaign led by Potomac Riverkeeper Network. The campaign hosted over 60 clean-up sites with various local partners for Earth Day week in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act.

Trash Free Shenandoah is a new campaign for Potomac Riverkeeper Network, however, was born from its successful sister campaign, Trash Free Potomac. Dr. Alyson Degrassi, professor of Environmental Studies, brought both her Wastology, and Community and Regional Studies classes to the clean-ups.



Cool Springs site manager Gene Lewis showed students from the Community and Regional studies class the best spots to collect trash along the banks of the Shenandoah River.

The students were armed with trash grabbers, bags, boots, and waders. “Are you ready?!” shouted Degrassi enthusiastically, “Let’s get in the water!”. The students found a variety of different trash including beer bottles and cans, a lot of plastic bags, several shoes, a pair of shorts, and a large barrel filled with soap. Another interesting find was the number of golf balls. Before being acquired by Shenandoah University for its river campus, Cool Springs was a golf course.

For more information on Potomac Riverkeeper Network or to learn how to get involved visit potomacriverkeepernetwork.org



The Wastology class categorized the type of trash collected as part of an on-going class project.