

CH2MHILL® was invited to Woonsocket Middle School in October, 2013 where staff engaged The S.M.I.L.E* Club, (a pre-college science, technology, engineering, and math academic after-school program for underrepresented students in grades 4th-12th) offering a presentation: Why and How We Do, What We Do.

..... *focus is on the connections between students, their school, and town; they will make detailed observations on the impacts that their small area has on their immediate surroundings, wider community, watershed, and state.

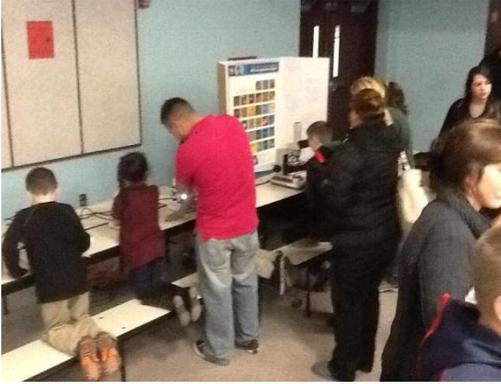


Helping Science and Math come to life, S.M.I.L.E. Club students and faculty engaged in a comprehensive tour of the Woonsocket Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant including the laboratory.

With an invitation to the November 21st **S.M.I.L.E. Family Science Night/Potluck Supper**, CH2M HILL and the community received a look at what the students learned about the wastewater treatment process.



S.M.I.L.E Club students take turns introducing visitors to the wastewater process, complete with process effluent samples.



Students offered visitors a look under the microscope. Visitors were then challenged to correctly identify the microorganism.



A team of students created an outstanding display of what not to flush; including products labeled and marketed "flushable". The team discussed and demonstrated Flushable vs. Dissolvable.



Using a sewer line drawing, middle school exhibitors encouraged visitors to trace the path of wastewater from their home to the plant and calculate travel time. Overheard was, "my poop probably gets to the treatment plant before I get back to my class". In the background you see The Process Game; challenging visitors to correctly sequence 4 photographs taken at the plant: bar screen / primary tank / aeration tank / chlorine contact.



With sustainability in the forefront, a team took turns interviewing visitors in effort to estimate their daily water usage. The team went on to making suggestions on how to significantly reduce household water use and ended with: “You are looking to be less than 100 gallons per day, you can do it”.