The Office of Community Engagement increases awareness of agency programs and processes through educational outreach materials and activities that will enhance students' participation in environmental stewardship, academic achievement in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and spark an interest in STEM careers.

Project WISH Director, Mrs. Lori Genous-Smith stated, “We selected MDEQ's lab because our summer internship was on the topic of Water Quality: Problems and Solutions. Touring the lab provided students with a perspective on what happens at the state level regarding monitoring water quality.”

MDEQ’s employees partner with and engage educators, students, community organizations, and community members in activities to stimulate effective STEM-based learning.

Students engage in various hands-on projects that include mock oil and grease analysis, pH, oxygen, and turbidity levels, and look at living organisms under the microscope to determine the water quality.

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