TYPES OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROJECTS

RESTORATION OR PROTECTION:

Actions that assist in the recovery or preservation of a watershed or related ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed.

Examples include:

- Plant or restore protective vegetation/trees
- Restore a local habitat
- Remove invasive plants
- Clean up litter at local beaches, parks, or school grounds
- Develop a school garden, natural history area, community garden, or other sustainable green space
- Install rain gardens to help manage stormwater

EVERYDAY CHOICES:

Actions that reduce human impacts on watersheds and related ecosystems and offer ways to live more sustainably.

Examples include:

- Refuse/reduce/reuse/recycle
- Monitor and save water in the face of potential drought or reduction in water availability
- Compost food or yard waste
- Research and implement energy efficient strategies or energy alternatives at school and/or at home

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Actions that inform others about how to address community-level environmental issues.

Examples include:

- Give presentations to local organizations
- Organize community events
- Record or broadcast public service announcements
- Share information on social media
- Post flyers in community
- Share posters at community events/fairs/festivals
- Mentoring

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:

Actions that identify and address issues of public concern. Students acting alone or together to protect societal values or make a change or difference in a student's school, neighborhood, or community.

Examples include:

- Present to school principal or school board
- Attend, speak, or present at town meetings
- Write to local or state decision makers or elected officials

"A takeaway that I had from participating in this experience is that I learned how impactful my choices can be towards the environments that I don't see every day, which made me work even harder at being aware of the ecosystems around me and how my choices can impact them."

Student

J. Frank Dobie High School, Houston, Texas