WORKBOOK

Black Creek
BIOBLITZ

The Pee Dee Land Trust would like to thank you for taking the time to participate in the Black Creek Bioblitz!

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

WEATHER: _____

GROUP: _____

Contact Information:
843.667.3229 | www.peedeelandtrust.org

Black Creek
BIOBLITZ

@ Dargan Preserve an Ambassador Landscape of the **Pee Dee Land Trust**

Special thanks to Wells Fargo Foundation and Duke Energy Foundation
for supporting the Black Creek BioBlitz Project.

DO YOU LIKE TO EXPLORE?

When you walk outside, there is a whole world filled with birds, insects, trees, plants and other types of organisms that contribute to the ecosystem surrounding you. These organisms and their environment make up our life support system. For example, pollinating insects pollinate flowers which in turn produce things such as fruits, vegetables, and even fibers used to make clothing. All organisms contribute to the ecosystem in some way and to maintain our life support system, we need to protect them. In order to do so, we need your help!

Citizen Scientists are people like teachers, parents, and even you, who conduct scientific research with or without a professional scientist to help the greater good. Today, you get to become a citizen scientist by helping our team collect data on the biodiversity found at the Dargan Nature Preserve through the Black Creek BioBlitz!

DRAW A PICTURE OF YOUR BIOBLITZ EXPERIENCE!

YOU MIGHT WANT TO DRAW YOUR FAVORITE FIND OR ANYTHING YOU FOUND BEAUTIFUL IN NATURE TODAY!

WHAT IS A BIOBLITZ?

A BioBlitz is a large survey of a designated area to find as many living species as possible in a designated amount of time. Anyone can participate in a BioBlitz, including scientists, students, teachers and other community members! BioBlitz programs are a wonderful way to surround yourself with nature and raise awareness of the biodiversity around you.

While a BioBlitz is typically done over a 24 hour period, you will participate in a mini BioBlitz where you and other groups will conduct surveys on different days in 1-2 hour segments. Eventually, the individual data collected will be combined from all groups to complete the Black Creek BioBlitz program.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

In addition to boosting your interest in nature and conservation through your involvement in the BioBlitz project, this information will allow us to better understand the ecosystem found in the Oak-Pine Forest and more generally, the coastal plain ecoregion. In time, we can compare data collected at the site and see how biodiversity changes due to seasonal changes or even changes in climate and pollution. Additionally, this data will help conservationists and policy makers better understand how we, as professionals and citizen scientists, can help reduce our footprint on ecosystems and organisms within them to help maintain our life support systems.

BEFORE WE START, PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- The plot number and GPS location needs to be documented on ALL of the data sheets
- Have someone take a photograph of your findings.
- Make sure you have the proper field guides to help you identify each organism.
- Once you think you have properly identified the organism, find your leader or expert naturalist to help verify your identification.

Take a few moments to reflect on your time at the preserve. List 5 words that describe your experience.

1._____

2._____

3._____

4._____

5._____

Write a paragraph detailing your experience and how you can help keep the world natural.

BIOBLITZ WORKBOOK

Currently, the Dargan Nature Preserve has no known invasive species. Invasive species are organisms which are not native to a particular ecosystem and whose presence is harmful or may be harmful.

Describe what may happen if an invasive species (such as a plant or animal) is introduced to the property.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

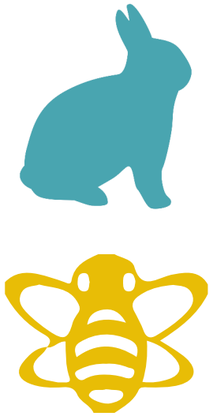
Finally, natural disasters such as tornadoes, floods, and fires can cause major disturbances in ecosystems which can influence the biodiversity among them.

How do you think an event, such as the recent flooding in South Carolina and past tornado events, helps reshape the ecosystem?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

A FEW REMINDERS FOR THE ORGANISMAL GROUPS:

- Amphibians: Frogs, salamanders, etc.
- Birds: Woodpeckers, vultures, etc.
- Fish: Striped bass, common darters, etc.
- Invertebrates: Dragonflies, butterflies, spiders, etc.
- Mammals: Beavers, raccoons, deer, etc.
- Reptiles: Snakes, turtles, lizards, etc.
- Fungi: Mushrooms, yeast, molds, etc.
- Plants: Woody or herbaceous



**Please refer to the proper field guide when identifying organisms. Leaders and naturalists are here to help and are essential to properly identifying species.*

DATA COLLECTION

ITEM	Plot #	Total # Found	Common Name	Order/Family
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				

DARGAN NATURE PRESERVE ECOSYSTEM REVIEW:

Circle the abiotic factors and underline the biotic factors in the list below.

Light **Trees** **Salinity** **Temperature** **pH**

Fungi **Precipitation** **Moss** **Soil** **Birds**

List 2 abiotic (non-living) factors which affect growth of trees and shrubs in the Oak-Pine Forest.

_____

_____

_____

List 2 biotic (living) factors which affect the growth of trees and shrubs in the Oak-Pine Forest.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

DARGAN NATURE PRESERVE ORGANISMS REVIEW:

Document and describe one organism that you observed which was found at the property.

If you had to choose one, circle your favorite group from the list below.

Mammals **Fungi** **Amphibians** **Fishes**

Invertebrates **Reptiles** **Plants** **Birds**

What characteristics separate your favorite group from other groups listed?

Genus/species	Characteristics	Verified (Name of Expert)	GPS Location

DATA COLLECTION

ITEM	Plot #	Total # Found	Common Name	Order/Family	*Genus/species*	Characteristics	Verified (Name of Expert)	GPS Location
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								
21								
22								
23								
24								