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NFS helps Love Chapel Elementary students explore their environment

(Erwin, Tenn.) – Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) helped Love Chapel Elementary students learn more about their environment today. Members of the company's environmental health department were part of a field trip that included a closer look at the biosphere of Erwin's Fishery Park.

"Our company adopted Love Chapel and Temple Hill Elementary schools several years ago and we wanted the third and fourth-grade students of Love Chapel to learn more about their environment," explained Joyce Griffith, NFS Environmental Scientist.

Students toured Erwin Utilities' water treatment plant to learn how towns and cities treat municipal liquid waste and return the water back to the environment. Students also visited Erwin's Fishery Park to learn more about the wetland ecosystems.

NFS paid for rehabilitating the wetlands of the park several years ago. One of the objectives was to reestablish the wetland at Fishery Park was so that it could be used as an ecological learning center for local school systems. The tour showed the students how the rehabilitation has worked to improve aquatic, bird and animal life in the park.

"Before the wetlands were rehabilitated they were nearly devoid of animal life," said Marie Moore, NFS Director of Safety and Regulatory. "By improving the water flow the ponds there have experienced an amazing turnaround. The company is glad that our assistance has made Fishery Park an even better place. For the students, it's a great lesson in ecosystems and how they can be improved."

Students were able to see that by improving the oxygenation of the wetland's water and balancing the nutrient supply that aquatic life were able to flourish. They learned the

importance of streams and ponds and how birds and mammals were able to use the ponds as a source for food, water and shelter.