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06/27/1988 - Project FIELD

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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88-294

June 27, 1988

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PROJECT FIELD

CHARLESTON, IL--Through the woods, by the streams, and in the quarries you'll find 21 area educators exploring Charleston's natural environment this summer. The adventurous group is participating in a federally funded program, Project FIELD, at Eastern Illinois University.

Project FIELD (Fresh Insights for Educational Leadership Development) is part of a nation-wide effort to assist in the improvement of the teaching of science in elementary and secondary schools.

It is funded by the Education for Economic Security Act

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PROJECT FIELD

Program through the Illinois Board of Higher Education, with the Educational Service Center #15 also supporting the project.

Project FIELD has the teachers actively involved in investigating a variety of environmental conditions and sites for the extension of their own understanding of natural processes and to help them guide their students in learning about, in, and for the environment.

The program at Eastern consists of field-based excursions, laboratory activities, curriculum planning sessions, and special lectures from community and university personnel.

Community resource experts included Charleston's Mayor Murray Choate, Andy Cervan from the Soil Conservation Service, Greg Kile from Fox Ridge State Park and Jack McClanahan from the Charleston Quarry.

Site visits are also made at Charleston's Water Treatment Plant, the S&W Recycling Center, the Quarry, Fox Ridge and the reservoir and sites of Charleston's river system.

The program is directed by Dr. Marylin Lisowski and co-led by Dr. Michael Leyden of the College of Education. University faculty members Drs. Larry Janes, Ava McCall, U. Zimmerman and Robert Jorstad also addressed the group on special interest areas of environmental concern.

As a continuation of this summer experience, the teachers will implement within their school systems some to the ideas and activities developed during the course. The teachers

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will also produce an activity guide and directory of resources for their science classes.