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07/11/1989 - Project Field

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PROJECT FIELD

CHARLESTON, IL--Twenty-one area educators recently participated in Project FIELD, a special environmental program at Eastern Illinois University.

Project FIELD is part of a nation-wide effort to assist in the improvement of the teaching of science in elementary and secondary schools. This is the second year that project director, Dr. Marilyn Lisowski, Associate Professor of Elementary and Junior High Education at Eastern, was awarded funding for the program.

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The teachers, who were selected on a competitive basis to participate in the project, explored a variety of environmental conditions, dilemmas and problem areas.

"Their inquiries on waste management and recycling may have begun while they were surveying conditions at the county landfill and recycling center, but their learning is being extended to examinations of the problems associated with natural resource use worldwide," she said.

The participants also ventured into a coal mine and stone quarry. Samples of activities and instructional units were developed specifically for these field investigations, Lisowski said.

In addition to the field-based excursions, the teachers participated in laboratory activities, curriculum planning sessions, and in special lectures from community, state, and university personnel.

A resource guide and activity manual will be authored by the participants and will be made available to participants' colleagues and school districts.

"With the 20th year anniversary of Earth Day near, these teachers will be leading area youth to increase awareness, action, and stewardship for our planet Earth," Lisowski said.

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Note to Editor (Times Courier): Mary White, a teacher at Mark Twain School, was a recent participant in Project FIELD.