Transcript for the Earth Force and General Motors Foundation award presentation to Dr. Terry Wilson.

Announcer, Amy Bingham: Dr. Terry Wilson is director of Center for Environmental Education and Sustainability. He has been involved in environmental education for more than 40 years. He says he has learned the trick of engaging students a long time ago.

Student speaking: We have claims, a snail.

Terry Wilson: Ever since I was a school teacher starting out, I saw amazing things happen with children when they got outside, and they got directly involved with things they wanted to learn about as supposed to just reading about it.

Bingham: These students from Potter-Gray Elementary are wading through a watershed lesson and about the environment.

Student interview: We really have just been investigating how the stream works and all the little creatures that live in the stream, and the speed. It’s just been really fun.

Bingham: Lead by Terry Wilson through a partnership with the GM Green program, these lessons at Trammel Creek near Alvaton, challenge young people to tackle water quality issues with hands-on Science.

President of GM, Cave Tatman: No effort like this goes without having someone with the heart and with passion, to do what they do. So this is a way to say thank you and paying for it in the community for guys like Dr. Wilson, do.

Bingham: Wilson’s devotion to environmental education has now garnered him with the Chevrolet award. (people clapping in background)

Wilson: It means a lot to me not only as an individual but having had a chance to work with a lot of really, really neat people. Uh, I also think it’s great for WKU. It’s great for Bowling Green.

Bingham: Dr. Ransdell agrees, calling the award a great distinction for WKU. And for the elementary students, there’s no telling what kind of impact this lesson will have on them.

Tatman: There is students who have never been in the stream, I mean, how cool is that. And now they understand about how a local watershed can impact their quality of life and the environment they live in.

Everybody: Trammel Creek

Bingham: Wilson is one of only twenty educators to be recognized for this award around the country. The Chevrolet Green Educator Award was presented by Earth Force and the General Motors Foundation. With this week View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.