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### **Helping Shape Careers of Tomorrow- A Teacher's Workshop at Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority**

Teachers from Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Counties visited Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority for a one-day workshop on the operation of a wastewater treatment facility. The program was part of a summer program at Tri-County Technical College. "Western Carolina offers a great workshop for teachers. It gives them the opportunity to explore all careers offered to their students within the wastewater treatment field," said Butch Merritt, Guidance Counselor at Tri-County Tech.

The purpose of the workshop was to provide the teachers with information that will be helpful in guiding students who are currently pursuing 2-year technical degrees toward future employment. In order to understand the types of jobs available in the wastewater industry, the groups participated in activities, toured laboratories and learned about the pretreatment and biosolids processes. The groups also focused attention on management, engineering and administration positions within Western Carolina.

Other activities included a presentation on present and future capital improvement projects. The teachers were also given a tour of the Shop Compound along with a demonstration of how Western Carolina vehicles and equipment are used and serviced. The workshop concluded with a tour of the Mauldin Road Control Center.

Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority celebrates 75 years of environmental stewardship. The organization serves over 400,000 residential and commercial customers in Greenville County and portions of Anderson, Spartanburg and Laurens Counties by operating and maintaining 300 miles of major sewer trunk lines and 11 major wastewater treatment facilities.

Western Carolina welcomes the opportunity to offer plant tours to schools and other community groups. For more information about this workshop or to schedule a tour, please call 299-4036 ext. 2.

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**Photo Caption:** Western Carolina welcomed 16 teachers to the Teacher's Workshop.