

# Pollution in Our Watershed

## Materials

- 1 page of white typing paper per team
- 1 page of card stock per team
- permanent markers of multiple colors; washable orange marker
- tape
- spray bottle
- water

## Instructions

1. Crumple a piece of white paper lightly. This will look like a topographical map.
2. Use permanent markers to outline and define various areas in the watersheds using appropriate colors such as:
  - Black or brown—mountains
  - Green—agricultural areas
  - Blue—rivers, lakes, streams, ocean
  - Gray—urban areas and buildings
3. How many watersheds are in your model? *Remember what watersheds are? Water runoff creates **watersheds**, a continuous ridge of high ground forming a divide between two different drainage basins or river systems. It is the region enclosed by such a divide and draining into a river, river system, or other body of water.*
4. Using a washable orange marker, “spray” pesticides on the crop areas by making lots of dots and streaks over the green agricultural areas
5. Tape down the four corners of the crinkled paper onto a larger piece of card stock. To give the watersheds model a variety of elevations, the paper should not be taped completely flat.
6. Now it will rain. The teacher will walk around and spray each map with the water using the spray bottle.
7. Observe the movement of pesticides/pollution (orange water) from the fields to the streams, rivers, lakes and ocean. Document what you observe, how do the pesticides effect your model?

### Resources:

<http://teachers.egfi-k12.org/lesson-plan-pollution-in-our-watershed/>