We researched the effects of eutrophication on aquatic ecosystems, and the possible methods by which members of the general public can reduce impact. The project used various data sources to learn about the process of eutrophication as well as to discover methods that could be distributed to the general public as methods to reduce eutrophication. Based on the eighty-five responses received approximately 67% of people knew about eutrophication, 47% practice good habits around eutrophication, and 50% of the people who do not practice good habits were willing to change.

**Background**

Eutrophication is the increase in nutrients that aid in aquatic photosynthesis.

Examples include an increase in sunlight, carbon dioxide, and certain fertilizers.

This causes large algae blooms that lead to dead zones.

**Abstract**

**Project Goal**

To examine and mitigate the effects of cultural eutrophication, and to educate the population in hopes to reduce the effects of cultural eutrophication.

**Methods**

Gather Information about Eutrophication:

- What is it?
- What can people do to reduce it?

Create Survey:

- What do people currently know about it?
- What are people doing that can be changed to reduce eutrophication?
- Would people be willing to change their habits?

Analyze Responses/Create Education Plan:

- What do people need the most education on?
- To what extent are people willing to change?

**Eutrophication Data**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Knowledge of Eutrophication</th>
<th>Good Habits</th>
<th>Willing to Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>67%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion**

The general population does not have sufficient knowledge about eutrophication. People are willing to change their habits, and more may be willing to change habits if more was understood about eutrophication.

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**References**


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