

## Inner City Outings joins Metro Atlanta Group for Adopt-A-Stream Trip



Larry Kloet hands Nancy Wylie testing materials from Peachtree Creek.

On March 10, eight youth from Warren-Holyfield Boys and Girls Club (with four Atlanta Inner City Outings leaders and volunteers) joined the Metro **Atlanta Group--Sierra Club** team that monitors the status of the South Fork of **Peachtree Creek** (Medlock Park in Decatur) as part of **Georgia Adopt-A-Stream**. The kids were great, and it was a delight to hear them oohhhing and aahhing at the critters we found. The outing began with an explanation of how water quality affects aquatic biodiversity, and then the youth were able to see how the temperature, chemistry, and biota of the water are measured. The most fun part was sifting through buckets of leaves and sediment from the creek to find and identify clams and mussels, black fly larvae, aquatic worms, dragonfly and damselfly nymphs, and caddis flies. They also saw several mallard ducks and small fish. The Sierra Club survey team gave excellent explanations of how stream monitoring works, and were very patient with the children's questions. After the survey, there was time for hiking along the stream, skipping rocks, and rummaging through the strange things in the sand before a picnic lunch. In the afternoon, the group hiked to the old **Decatur Water Works**, and enjoyed climbing on the ruins and playing in the creek. After a closing snack at Medlock Park, the group headed back to the Boys & Girls Club.