



Re-engaging Your Volunteer Monitoring Organization



Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Two-hour Webcast

Eastern: 1:00p.m.–3:00p.m.

Central: 12:00p.m.–2:00p.m.

Mountain: 11:00a.m.–1:00p.m.

Pacific: 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

Are you a volunteer water monitoring coordinator who wants to keep your program strong and active for years to come? If so, take a moment to think about your group's dynamics and structure. Have you achieved what you initially set out to do? Has the momentum of the group faded? Are you wishing that someone else would step up and share the burden of leadership activities? If these questions resonate with you and/or your program, then this webcast is for you!

In the larger watershed community it is common for the energy and number of volunteers to ebb and flow. All too often groups form in response to an urgent issue or have strong momentum in the beginning, but then interest and motivation tapers off. Don't worry, that is part of a natural organizational development progression. There are several ways to assess and address volunteer engagement lulls. This three-part webcast will look at volunteer engagement, efforts, and outcomes at the community, state, and national level.

The first part of the webcast will review go-to volunteer monitoring online forums and resources. The second part will look at volunteer recruitment and retention from the community group level then transition into discussing the findings and action items identified through the Alabama Water Watch 20-year assessment. In the third part of the webcast we will explore how our volunteer monitoring community is doing on a national level by looking at trends, successes, and outcomes. Through this interactive event, participants will learn about tools, resources, and strategies to re-engage their volunteer water monitoring program and celebrate our successes across the nation.



Instructors:



Julie Vastine, Director, Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) – Julie is the director of the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) at Dickinson College. A native of the Chesapeake Bay, Julie enjoys working with community organizations to build their capacity to monitor, protect, and restore water quality in Pennsylvania. Julie has worked in the volunteer monitoring field for twelve years.



Kris Stepenuck, Coordinator, Wisconsin Water Action Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program – Since 2001, Kris has coordinated Wisconsin's statewide volunteer stream monitoring program co-sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Extension and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Volunteers monitor over 500 stream sites across the state for a variety of parameters. Kris is also the Wisconsin representative for the Extension Volunteer Monitoring Network that serves to help volunteer water monitoring programs from across the country share knowledge and resources. She is currently working towards a PhD focused on volunteer water monitoring programs.



Dr. Bill Deutsch, Emeritus Research Fellow, School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences Auburn University and Director, Alabama Water Watch – Bill is the founding director of the Alabama Water Watch, a community-based volunteer water monitoring program that began in 1992 and has certified more than 6,000 citizens who have monitored water at more than 2,200 sites on 800 water bodies, submitting 75,000 data records. Bill also is the president of Global Water Watch, Inc., a nonprofit organization that promotes community-based monitoring in several countries.

Registration: You must register in advance to attend this webcast. Register at the Watershed Academy Webcast website at www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts.

Note: Your computer must have the capability of playing sound in order to attend this webcast. To view archived webcasts, go to www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts

Questions? Please contact Amber Siegel at amber.siegel@tetrattech.com.

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