



Workshop Notices!



June 1, 2013

Dear STREAM TEAM and Volunteer Water Quality Monitors:

Enclosed is the 2013 Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Validation Training Schedule.

Data submitted by Level 2 and above Volunteer Water Quality Monitors are utilized at a higher level and are often used to supplement agency data. To ensure that we are providing the highest quality data to the sponsoring agencies and all other data users, the Program is now requiring individuals to have their equipment checked at least once every three years in order to maintain quality assurance and confidence in data collected by Level 2 and above volunteers.

Monitors can attend either one of our regularly scheduled Level 2 trainings or one of the VWQM Validation Trainings. This training is critical to ensure that the volunteers' equipment is functioning properly and their reagents are viable. Individuals who have previously attended a Level 2 or higher training have until the end of 2013 to attend a Validation Training to ensure their data is utilized at these higher levels.

In order to be eligible to attend, you must have previously completed at least a Level 2 workshop. The focus of these workshops will be Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures to improve the quality of volunteer data.

The entire workshop will be held indoors. We will spend time analyzing water samples using the chemical equipment you were issued, **SO BE SURE TO BRING ALL YOUR EQUIPMENT** (including your net, and ensure your pH meter is properly hydrated just before you attend). If you have any expired equipment, bring it as well for replacement and proper disposal. We will also spend time improving your aquatic invertebrate identification skills followed by a short evaluation to help establish baseline information on the accuracy of volunteer biological data.

To register, fill out and return the attached form, OR for on-line registration, visit the Stream Team website (www.mostreamteam.org) and click on the "Water Quality Monitoring" tab. At the bottom of the Water Quality Monitoring page is a link to the Validation Training Page where you will find the registration information. You will be sent a confirmation letter and map and/or driving directions to the workshop location after the registration deadline date. Class size will be limited to 15 people per workshop and will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. **Individuals under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a sponsoring adult in order to attend.**

For more information about registration, contact Susan Higgins, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, 573/526-1002 or 800/781-1989 (Stream Team voice mail).

Announcing!
2013 VWQM Validation Training
Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring
Workshop Schedule

Workshop Location	Date & Time of Workshop
Kirkwood: Powder Valley Nature Center 11715 Cragwold Road	Wednesday, July 17 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. <i>Register by Monday, July 3</i>
Blue Springs: MDC Burr Oak Woods Nature Center 1401 NW Park Road	Wednesday, July 24 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. <i>Register by Monday, July 10</i>
Sullivan: Meramec State Park Visitors Ctr. 115 Meramec Park Drive	Saturday, July 27 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. <i>Register by Monday, July 17</i>
Springfield: MDC Southwest Regional Office 2630 N. Mayfair Avenue	Thursday, August 1 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. <i>Register by Monday, July 17</i>
Columbia: Boone Electric Cooperative 1413 Rangeline Street	Wednesday, August 14 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. <i>Register by Monday, July 31</i>

- Registration Form **MUST** be returned by the deadline to be registered. You can register for the workshop on the Stream Team website (www.mostreamteam.org).
- Attendance will be limited to 15 people per workshop.
- Bring all of your chemical monitoring equipment and any invertebrate specimens you would like assistance identifying.
- **If you have other questions about the workshop, call the Stream Team 800# (800/781-1989).**
- Registration confirmation (along with a map to the workshop location) will be mailed to registrants prior to the workshop.

Presented by:
Missouri Department of Conservation
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
and
Conservation Federation of Missouri