

January 4, 2013

#### Dear STREAM TEAMs and Water Quality Monitors:

Would you like to learn about the physical, biological and chemical aspects of streams? Have you always wanted to know what those spineless critters are that live in the bottom of the stream? Now is your chance. Enclosed is the 2013 Introductory Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Workshop schedule! The Stream Team's Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring (VWQM) Program is a cooperative program between the Missouri Departments of Natural Resources and Conservation, and the Conservation Federation of Missouri, to involve citizens in water quality monitoring. The objectives of the Program are to inform and educate people about the condition of Missouri's aquatic resources and how watershed activities influence that condition, establish an extensive water quality monitoring network, and provide a knowledge base that citizens can draw upon to be advocates for improved water quality of our streams. As interest and expertise increase, volunteers can receive advanced training to learn more about streams and become more proficient in monitoring.

The workshops are free and consist of six (6) hours of classroom instruction and one-to-two hours on a stream to demonstrate sampling methods, get wet, and learn about aquatic life. The level of material presented is not designed for children; however, older youth accompanied by an adult are welcome. If you have already taken the Introductory VWQM Workshop in the past but would like to refresh yourself with water quality monitoring procedures, please feel free to register and attend. However, please understand, first priority will be given to those individuals attending an Introductory workshop for the first time.

The only requirements for attending a workshop are that you have an interest in water quality, are willing to donate your time to attend the entire workshop and monitor a stream.

Class size will be limited to 30 people per workshop and is filled on a first-come, first-served basis. **To register**, fill out and return the attached form, OR for on-line registration, log onto the Stream Team Web Page (<a href="http://www.mostreamteam.org">http://www.mostreamteam.org</a>). You will be sent a confirmation letter and a map with directions to the workshop location approximately one week prior to the workshop. If you have already attended a Water Quality Workshop and know of others who may be interested, please pass this information along.

For more information contact Susan Higgins, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, <u>Susan. Higgins@dnr.mo.gov</u>, 573/526-1002 or 800-781-1989 (voice mail).

→ To learn more about the aspects of the Introductory Workshop, please see the reverse side of this notice. Now is your chance to learn how we all affect water quality!

### ASPECTS OF VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

#### Goals of the Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program:

- Inform and educate citizens about the conditions of our streams
- Establish a monitoring network
- Enable citizens to make wise decisions
- Halt the degradation of our streams

The volunteer monitoring program is open to anyone who is interested in protecting and preserving good water quality. The only requirements are a sincere interest and concern for streams and a willingness to contribute time for monitoring.

- There are no fees
- There are different levels of involvement and commitment
- This is a flexible program

**Introductory Workshop:** This is the basic level of monitoring that includes visual survey and biological monitoring. The primary emphasis is education about watersheds and the importance of biological monitoring. Citizens will receive training in a workshop setting. All of the following subjects are taught in the classroom and demonstrated at a nearby creek.

#### Volunteers receive instruction on the following:

- Holistic approach to watersheds
- How to conduct stream discharge using a mutually buoyant object, a tape measure, and a stop watch
- How to map a watershed; volunteers get a chance for hands-on mapping and receive instructions on how to map the watershed of their adopted stream
- Volunteers learn how to collect and identify invertebrates and to derive a water quality rating from the invertebrate collection
- How to choose a good site to monitor, and let Program Staff know where you are monitoring
- How to be safe on the creek
- How to fill out data reports

Workshop attendees will qualify to receive monitoring equipment that includes a kick net, vials, invertebrate photographs, forceps and magnifiers. The workshop is taught in one day.

**Note:** Chemical monitoring is not taught until the Level 1 class. You must have attended the Introductory Level class and submitted site selection, stream discharge, and biological data before you are eligible to attend a Level 1 class. Level 1 classes are offered in the late summer and fall of each year.

# Announcing! 2013 Introductory Level Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Workshop Schedule

Workshop Location	Date & Time of Workshop
Warrensburg: University of Central Missouri W. C. Morris Building	Saturday, March 9 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, February 20
Wildwood – St. Louis: Babler State Park 800 Guy Park Drive	Friday, March 15 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, February 27
Wildwood – St. Louis: Babler State Park 800 Guy Park Drive	Saturday, March 16 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, February 27
Springfield: C. W. Titus Educational Facility at Valley Mill Park 2400 E. Valley Watermill Road	Thursday, March 21 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, March 6
Branson: Dewey Short Visitor Center 4600 Missouri Hwy. 165	Saturday, March 23 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, March 6
Cape Girardeau: Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center 2289 County Park Drive	Saturday, April 6 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, March 20
Kirksville: Truman State University Magruder Hall	Saturday, April 13 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, March 27
Columbia: MDC Central Regional Office/Resource Science Center 3500 East Gans Road	Saturday, April 20 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, April 3
Joplin: Wildcat Glades Audubon Center 201 Riviera Drive	Saturday, April 27 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, April 10
Kansas City: MCC – Maple Woods Campus 2601 NE Barry Road	Saturday, May 4 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, April 17

- Registration Form **MUST** be returned by the deadline to be registered. You can register for the workshop on the Stream Team Web Page (<a href="http://www.mostreamteam.org/">http://www.mostreamteam.org/</a>).
- Attendance will be limited to 30 people per workshop.
- **Please bring a sack lunch.** Lunch will **not** be provided.
- > Wear outdoor clothing and bring boots or "river shoes" in preparation for wading into a stream.
- ➤ If you have other questions about the workshop, call Susan Higgins at 573/526-1002.
- Registration confirmation (along with a map to the workshop location) will be mailed to registrants one week prior to the workshop.

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

## VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING INTRODUCTORY LEVEL WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

Location and date of Introductory Level workshop you wish to attend:		
		_
Address:		
City, State, 2	Zip:	_
Telephone N	Number: HomeWork	_
E-mail Addre	ess:	_
STREAM TE	EAM/Organization/School Affiliation:	
If you have a	already decided you want to volunteer with the monitoring program, please fill tion below:	in
Stream you	would like to monitor:	_
County in wh	hich the stream is located:	_
Description (	of the location on the stream where you would like to monitor (e.g. upstream	
from Highwa	ay 70 bridge):	
Return to:	SUSAN HIGGINS WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PO BOX 176	

JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102-0176

\*Please complete an application form for each person wishing to attend. You may also register on-line by visiting the Stream Team Web Page at (<a href="http://www.mostreamteam.org">http://www.mostreamteam.org</a>).

SUSAN HIGGINS WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PO BOX 176 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102-0176