

Missouri Stream Team

Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring

Becoming Certified as an Introductory Level Monitor

Effective January 2021, becoming certified as an Introductory Level Volunteer Water Quality Monitor (VWQM) requires completion of virtual learning and a stream-side field training. Equipment for biological monitoring and measuring stream flow will be provided to volunteers monitoring Missouri streams. In light of COVID-19 and efforts to keep both Program Staff and Stream Team Volunteers safe, field training offerings will be contingent upon current state and local health regulations.

**Step
1**



Complete the Two-Part Virtual Learning

Virtual learning is offered through WebEx Events. Volunteers have the option to participate in the live events or view the recordings at their own pace. Pre-registration is required to participate in a live event.

Part A: WELCOME TO VWQM, SELECTING A MONITORING SITE, AND MEASURING STREAM DISCHARGE Select one of the following	Part B: SAFETY, BIOLOGICAL MONITORING, WATERSHED MAPPING AND ONLINE TOOLS Select one of the following
LIVE 02/23/2021 9:30AM–12:00PM	LIVE 02/25/2021 9:30AM–12:00PM
LIVE 03/09/2021 6:30PM–9:00PM	LIVE 03/11/2021 6:30PM–9:00PM
LIVE 4/10/2021 9:30AM–12:00PM	LIVE 4/11/2021 9:30AM–12:00PM
ON-DEMAND - watch any time on YouTube	ON-DEMAND - watch any time on YouTube



Download or have the following resources accessible during virtual training:

[VWQM Notebook](#) [Blue Bug Card](#) [Key to River Life](#) [Guide to Macroinvertebrates](#)

**Step
2**



Complete the Stream-side Field Training

During the stream-side field training, volunteers will practice all monitoring techniques under the direction of Stream Team staff. Volunteers will receive monitoring equipment at the stream to take home.

To confirm completion of the **virtual training** and understanding of VWQM methods, an online test is required for requesting stream-side field training. This is open note and may be completed as many times as needed to receive a passing score of 90%.



**Step
3**



You are Certified – Collect Some Data!

The Stream Team and VWQM program welcomes volunteers of any background, education, ability, age, race, gender, and locale.

If you require assistance, please contact us at 800-781-1989.

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