

July 2009



Dear Watershed Groups:

The Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJDEP) Volunteer Monitoring Program are again partners in World Water Monitoring Day (WWMD). We are writing to let you know how your organization can become involved too.

Anyone can participate in WWMD! All you need to do is register your monitoring site online; monitor for pH, turbidity, temperature, and dissolved oxygen anytime between March 22 and December 31; and enter your data online. You can either use a WWMD test kit or your own monitoring equipment. Please see the enclosed brochure to find out more.

The NJDEP has limited number of WWMD kits available for free. If you are interested in obtaining a WWMD kit (limit 3 per organization), please let us know by September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Feel free to contact Alyse with any questions regarding this opportunity. She can be reached at 609-737-3735 x27 or [agreenberg@thewatershed.org](mailto:agreenberg@thewatershed.org). If you are interested in learning about the NJDEP's Volunteer Monitoring Program, Danielle can be reached at 609-633-9241.

Thanks,

*Alyse Greenberg*

Alyse Greenberg  
Watershed Institute Program Coordinator

*D. Donkersloot*

Danielle Donkersloot  
NJDEP, Volunteer Monitoring Program Coordinator

# What is World Water Monitoring Day?

**It's Fun...** You can do it with your class, family, friends, or other volunteers.

**It's Easy...** You don't have to be an experienced water monitor to participate.

**It's Important...** We all need clean water.

**And Everyone Can Help...** So choose a site and take part.

The need for water is fundamental for all living things. This need knows no boundaries, and it is critical that individuals become aware of the ways in which they can impact water quality.

Recognizing the need to increase public awareness and involvement in the protection of water quality, the Water Environment Federation and its global partner the International Water Association invite you to participate in World Water Monitoring Day.

World Water Monitoring Day is celebrated on September 18 as the beginning of a month-long monitoring window from September 18-October 18.

Sponsored by:



# Coordinators

World Water Monitoring Day is a program of the Water Environment Federation (WEF) and the International Water Association (IWA). The goal is to increase public awareness and involvement in the protection of water quality around the world.



[www.wef.org](http://www.wef.org)

Formed in 1928, WEF is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization with more than 34,000 individual members and 81 affiliated Member Associations representing an additional 50,000 water quality professionals throughout the world. WEF and its member associations proudly work to achieve our mission of preserving and enhancing the global water environment.



[www.iwahq.org](http://www.iwahq.org)

Through its network of experts in research, practice, regulation, consulting and manufacturing, IWA addresses the unique expressions of global challenges in communities throughout the world to create expanded knowledge and integrated, sustainable solutions. IWA represents 130 different countries spanning all the continental regions, both developed and developing countries.



**Join us for World Water Monitoring Day!**

Host your World Water Monitoring Day event anytime September 18th – October 18th.

# World Water Monitoring Day

September 18<sup>th</sup> – October 18<sup>th</sup>



[www.WorldWaterMonitoringDay.org](http://www.WorldWaterMonitoringDay.org)

## Water Environment Federation

601 Wythe Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
+1 703-684-2400  
[www.wef.org](http://www.wef.org)

## International Water Association

International Water Association  
Bezuidenhoutseweg 60  
P.O. Box 90405  
2509 LK The Hague  
The Netherlands  
Tel. +31 70 31 50 797  
[www.iwahq.org](http://www.iwahq.org)

## How to Participate in



It's *easy* and *fun*!

- 1 Register your site** Choose any lake, stream, bay, or other waterbody where you can safely monitor. Register your site at the World Water Monitoring Day website.
- 2 Prepare your monitoring equipment** Use your own equipment or purchase an easy to use test kit via the World Water Monitoring Day website. Each kit contains an informative instruction booklet.
- 3 Monitor your site** Invite others to help you monitor or do it yourself. Visit your site anytime from September 18 through October 18 to test the water. Remember, SAFETY FIRST! (See the World Water Monitoring Day website for safety tips.)
- 4 Report your data** You did the work, so let us know about your water. You can submit your results via the World Water Monitoring Day website until December 18.

## The World Water Monitoring Day Website

You can register a monitoring site, invite others to your monitoring event, purchase test kits, report your data, and find additional details about participating by visiting

[www.WorldWaterMonitoringDay.org](http://www.WorldWaterMonitoringDay.org)

## Here's what you'll test for...

### Dissolved Oxygen (DO)

Measures how many molecules of oxygen are in the water. Since oxygen is important to fish and other aquatic life (just as it is for people!), higher DO readings support more diverse species and a healthier ecosystem. Low levels of DO can weaken or kill fish and other aquatic life.

### pH (Acidity)

Measures how acidic or basic a liquid is. pH is measured on a scale from 0-14, where 1 is most acidic, 14 is most basic, and 7 is neutral. A pH between 6.5 and 8.5 is favorable for supporting life in natural waters.

### Turbidity (Clarity)

Measures the water's clarity. Debris, sand, silt, and other materials can make the water less clear (more turbid). Turbidity can impact the aquatic ecosystem by affecting photosynthesis, respiration, and reproduction of aquatic life.

### Temperature

Measures the warmth or coldness of the water. This indicator is important because it affects dissolved oxygen, photosynthesis, and the food supply. Waters that are too hot or too cold can have severe effects on fish and other aquatic life.