Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
SWIMS Project Summary

General Project Information

Project ID: CBSM_Upper Rock River

Name: CBSM-Upper Rock River (07090001)

Type: Citizen Based Stream Monitoring

Subtype: Regional or Statewide Coordination

Status: ACTIVE

Start Date: 3/2/2015

End Date: 12/31/2099

Purpose: The Water Action Volunteers Program (WAV) involves citizen monitors in the collection of stream water quality data that may be used by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and their partner organizations. Program goals include building relationships between DNR staff and citizen monitors while assessing streams in need of additional monitoring, restoration, and/or protection. Ultimately, volunteer participation increases capabilities of the DNR and communities to monitor streams, providing water quality information that may be used to make decisions that affect the management of streams throughout Wisconsin.

Objective: The main goal of the WAV program is to preserve and protect Wisconsin's streams and the lakes to which they are connected. Objectives of the program are to educate and empower citizens to share their data, to obtain high quality data useful for DNR decision-making, and to encourage data and knowledge sharing. The process of data collection by Wisconsin residents enhances their understanding of water quality parameters, and in many cases, interests them in assisting with more sophisticated projects, including the collection of additional biological, chemical, and physical site data. Ultimately, the goal is for DNR staff to trust volunteer data results, and therefore utilize WAV data to assist in making management decisions.

Comments:

Outcome:

Study Design: Volunteer stream monitors assess water quality parameters identified in the DNR's Water Resources Monitoring Strategy for Wisconsin. Volunteers may identify their own sampling locations. In some instances, WAV Coordinators, DNR, or county staff may recommend sites based on the need to acquire status or trends information, or other types of monitoring that are priorities. In general, volunteers are asked to monitor from May through October. Advanced volunteers choose primary (P) and secondary (S) sampling dates in advance and note on their data sheets which of those dates they monitored. Volunteers are asked to sample on the primary date unless there are safety concerns about being at the stream site (e.g., tornado, lightning, dangerously high flows) or a personal or family emergency. The goal is to monitor at the same time each month, about 30 days after the last monitoring visit. Volunteers are instructed to enter data into the Surface Water Integrated Monitoring System (SWIMS) database by the end of each month and to immediately report extreme conditions that may be hazardous to aquatic life to their local DNR or County biologist. Parameters measured monthly include: dissolved oxygen (concentration), dissolved oxygen (saturation), streamflow, transparency, temperature (instantaneous and/or continuous measurements), and sometimes pH. In addition, macroinvertebrates (Biotic Index) are assessed twice per year and habitat conditions are assessed once per year. Some volunteers monitor specific conductance, chloride, total phosphorus, E. coli, or other parameters.

QA Measures: For advanced volunteers, a WAV staff person, local coordinator or authorized representative visits with 10% of volunteers annually to conduct side-by-side monitoring. The goal of field QA checks is to check that volunteers are properly calibrating their meters (if used) and following the sampling methods correctly. Staff members conducting QA checks also ensure that equipment is functioning properly and answer any volunteer questions or concerns. A Data Manager runs regular (monthly whenever possible) database queries throughout the field season to evaluate the quality of data entered into the database and follow-up with volunteers to address anomalies that are identified.

People

Name	Role	Status	Start Date	End Date	Organization	Comments
Cicero, Patricia	COORDINATOR	ACTIVE	3/6/2015		Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation Dept.	
Dymzarov, Rebecca	COORDINATOR	ACTIVE	2/13/2019		Rock River Coalition	
Griffin, Lisa A	COORDINATOR	INACTIVE	3/10/2015	3/10/2015		

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Jenks, Jayne	COORDINATOR	ACTIVE	3/6/2015		Waukesha County	
Nagel, Zachary	COORDINATOR	INACTIVE	7/10/2023	9/30/2023	Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation	
Reitzloff, Elizabeth	COORDINATOR	ACTIVE	10/23/2023		Rock River Coalition	
SABAI, ANDREW J	COORDINATOR	COMPLETE	2/16/2018	4/25/2019	GAI Consultants	
SORGE, MICHAEL J	OTHER	ACTIVE	3/5/2015		Wisconsin DNR	
Scherer, Jeanne S	COORDINATOR	INACTIVE	3/5/2015	4/21/2021	UW Extension	
Schlussel, Addie	COORDINATOR	INACTIVE	3/16/2021	10/1/2023	The Rock River Coalition	
Sheehan, Nancy A	COORDINATOR	INACTIVE	12/6/2017	1/10/2019	Rock River Coalition	
Sheehan, Nancy A	TEAM_MEMBER	INACTIVE	3/5/2015	1/10/2019	Rock River Coalition	
Wieder, Marisa	COORDINATOR	COMPLETE	3/19/2021	6/11/2023	Balsam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District	

Project Statuses

Date	Reported By	Status	Comments

Actions

Action	Detailed Description	Start Date	End Date	Status

Monitoring Stations

Station ID	Name	Comments
10035006	Rock Creek at Rock Lake outlet	
10056111	Silver Cr at Country Club Ln	

Assessment Units

WBIC	Segment	Local Name	Official Name
830100	1	Rock Creek	Rock Creek
847600	1	Silver Creek	Silver Creek

Lab Account Codes

Account Code	Description	Start Date	End Date

Forms

Form Code	Form Name

Methods

Method Code	Method Description

Fieldwork Events

Start Date	Status	Field ID	Station ID	Station Name
6/1/2022	COMPLETE		10056111	Silver Cr at Country Club Ln

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7/18/2023 9:10	COMPLETE	OUTLET	10035006	Rock Creek at Rock Lake outlet
	SCHEDULED		10035006	Rock Creek at Rock Lake outlet
	SCHEDULED		10035006	Rock Creek at Rock Lake outlet
	SCHEDULED		10035006	Rock Creek at Rock Lake outlet

Documents

Title	Description	Author	Published	Comments

Budget

Combined Budgets:

Combined WSLH:

Combined Total: $0.00

Funding

Organization	Source	Type	Amount	Start Date	End Date