



2008 USDA-CSREES National Water Conference
Sparks, NV

***E. coli* Monitoring in Streams Using Bacteria Test Kits: A Training Workshop**

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Abstract Text:

Contamination of surface water by fecal matter threatens public health and is a common public health concern. While monitoring is important to ensure safe recreational opportunities, reduced state budgets and shortages of state agency personnel make regular monitoring difficult. In 2004, volunteer monitoring programs in six upper Midwestern states initiated a three year CSREES funded project to evaluate five test methods and kits for monitoring *E. coli* bacteria that are suitable for home use. A comprehensive training program was developed. This half day workshop will provide participants with this refined training to use in their own states. Hands-on training will be provided using Coliscan Easygel and 3M Petrifilm methods. Each participant will also receive a copy of the Citizens Monitoring Bacteria manual.