

West/Southwest Michigan Volunteer Stream Monitoring Planning Workshop
January 17-18, 2006
Ostemo Township Hall, Kalamazoo

Participants' Agenda

Day 1 - 1/17/06

8:30 Coffee, sign in, wake up

9:00 **Welcome, introductions and reason for gathering** (Janice Tompkins, Michigan DEQ, Grand Rapids District Office):

- Purpose of workshop
- Workshop Leaders
- Participants
- Review agenda

9:30 **The Basics of Volunteer Monitoring** (Linda Green & Geoff Dates):

- **National Perspective,**
- **Experience in Other states,**
- **Examples of Data Use**

10:30 **Break**

10:45 **Current status & scope of monitoring & assessment in W/SW Michigan, including your program**

- MiCorps and how it relates to W/SW MI (Ric Lawson)
- Example of ongoing programs in west MI (Corky Overmyer, City of Grand Rapids Environmental Programs Director and Shawn Wessell, Western Michigan Environmental Action Council)

11:50 **Morning wrap up** (Jane Herbert, MSU Extension Land and Water Programs)

12:00 **Lunch**

1:00 **What are the various ways volunteer monitoring data might be used in this region and by whom?** (Small group discussions and reports)

2:15 **Break**

- 2:30** What is needed to create and sustain a local watershed-based volunteer monitoring program? (Small group discussions and reports)
- 3:30** Commonalities and issues to be resolved (Jane Herbert)
- 3:45** Wrap up and charge for Day 2 (Geoff Dates and Linda Green)
- 4:00** Adjourn
Dinner

Day 2 - 12/8/05

- 8:30** Coffee
- 9:00** Recap Day 1: What would an effective and sustainable local program look like? (Geoff and Linda)
- 9:30** Organizational Start-up case studies: (Linda & Geoff)
- 10:00** Break
- 10:15** What is your impetus for monitoring: using a problem situation to start a program: (Geoff and Linda)
- 11:00** What are the steps to consider and in what order?
- Why, what, who (data users), how , where , when: (Jane and Geoff)
 - Things to think about before getting your feet wet (Linda)
- 11:30** Next steps/What excites you most about this project?/Who will stay involved
- 11:50** Evaluation
- 12:00** Adjourn to lunch and informal discussion