



Land/Sea Grant National Water Conference
Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Workshop
Hilton Head, SC
February 24, 2010
8 – 10 am

Community-Based Water Monitoring Programs: Things to Consider Before Getting Your Feet Wet

Workshop Goal: To help new program coordinators get their programs up and running, and to provide direction to those considering starting a volunteer monitoring program.

Workshop Objectives:

1. Create a strong program foundation by discussing questions to consider BEFORE monitoring starts (the WHY, WHAT, WHERE, WHO, etc. of volunteer monitoring),
2. Discuss the need to match monitoring protocols to water resources needs, and the program's available resources,
3. Outline steps to follow to develop an effective monitoring strategy,
4. Be aware of, and able to access resources available to assist with the volunteers monitoring programs.

Detailed Draft Agenda

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| 8:00 - 8:10 AM | Overview of workshop goal and objectives – Linda |
| 8:10 - 8:20 AM | Introductions (participants) |
| 8:20 - 8:50 AM | Panel Presentation re: “The Big Picture” of volunteer monitoring based on each program's experience. What are we hoping to accomplish through volunteer monitoring? What kinds of data are generated? What long-term applications exist for data? (What's in it for me?!), how the program is funded and what questions need to be asked to ensure that the program is meeting its goals? The tiered approach to volunteer monitoring should also be introduced. (Frank, Adam, Kris, Linda) |
| 8:50-9:30 AM | Group Exercise: Create new volunteer monitoring programs. Groups will be provided with basic questions to be answered, budget, and other resources available. |
| 9:30 – 9:40 AM | Where can you find information to help answer these questions? – Overview of the Guide to Growing - Elizabeth |
| 9: 40 – 10:00 AM | Answer participant questions |