



May 25, 2023

Dear Water Quality Monitoring Volunteer,

Thank you for participating as a volunteer in our 2023 water quality monitoring program! Your sampling site, drop-off location and date for Quality Assurance (QA) are listed below. Please leave your sample(s) at the drop-off point by **9 am** on the sampling day.

This year we will be monitoring water quality **every other Wednesday** from **May 31 through September 6, totaling 8 sample dates**. **If for any reason you will be unable to sample on a scheduled date, please contact us as soon as possible**. This will allow us to find a replacement, so that every site is sampled on all of the sampling days.

This year you will be collecting temperature data each time you sample. When you use your conductivity pen, a water temperature reading will appear below the conductivity reading. Please see Volunteer Protocol and 2023 Conductivity Pen (new) Instructions for details on how to get a temperature reading.

Please read over the Volunteer Information and Monitoring Protocols even if you've sampled with us before. Please remember to **write the temperature, conductivity and turbidity results on your bacteria sample bottle** along with the date and time. Please use permanent marker or pencil! Record conductivity and turbidity results on your data sheet as well and hold onto your data sheet until the end of the sampling season. And we will be collecting samples for Quality Assurance (QA) again this year.

Thank you again for your help with this program! Contact us if you have any questions.

Dan 'rudi' Ruddell, Watershed Scientist
802-345-7470, rudi@whiteriverpartnership.org

Christian Pelletier, Program Coordinator
860-428-6900, christian@whiteriverpartnership.org

YOUR SAMPLING SITE: _____

SAMPLE DROP-OFF LOCATION: _____

YOUR QA SAMPLING DAY: _____

Water Quality Monitoring Volunteer Information

Sampling Dates: Every other Wednesday morning from May 31st – September 6th. Bi-weekly sampling dates include:

- May 31
- June 14 and 28
- July 12 and 26
- August 9, 23
- September 6

Safety: Please be safe!

On the banks – Watch out for poison ivy, wild chervil, and other poisonous plants. If you have to walk through high grass, consider wearing long pants. Be careful when climbing in or around other obstacles such as fences and guardrails, especially if your shoes are wet from being in the water. Banks may not be stable – mind your step.

In the water – Watch out for slippery rocks, sunken trees, and fast currents. Do not sample if the height of the water at the site would put your safety at risk. Only carry into the water what you can safely hold while balancing yourself. It is okay to make more than one trip in.

Equipment:

Your sampling equipment is as follows:

- Turbidity tube
- Conductivity pen
- Sample bottles (1 for each sample date plus 1 extra in case of breakage) and labels
- Ziploc with 1 bottle of distilled water and 2 pre-labeled QA sample bottles
- Data sheet

Monitoring Protocols:

You will be collecting conductivity and turbidity data and a water sample for *E. coli* testing. On your QA date, you will also collect 1 duplicate river water sample and 1 blank distilled water sample to be analyzed for *E. coli*. Please see the attached sheets for sampling procedure instructions.

Please leave your sample at your designated drop off site by **9 AM** on the sampling date so that it can be picked up for processing.

Contacts:

If you have any questions, or if for any reason you will be unable to sample your site on a sample day, please contact:

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Christian Pelletier, 860-428-6900, christian@whiteriverpartnership.org