



## Empower

Volunteer water monitors of all ages develop a sense of stewardship within their communities. Active participation and monitoring lead to the respect, understanding, and protection of Indiana's waterbodies now and for future generations.

## Protect

Our many partnerships assist in training volunteers about water and the critical relationship between land use, runoff, and water quality. Youth and adult volunteers are making a difference to protect and improve streams and rivers in their own communities.



# Program Information

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Hoosier Riverwatch is the volunteer stream water monitoring program sponsored by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management Watershed Assessment & Planning Branch.

The mission of Hoosier Riverwatch is to involve the citizens of Indiana in becoming active stewards of Indiana's water resources through watershed education, water monitoring, and clean-up activities.



### Hoosier Riverwatch

IDEM, Office of Water Quality  
Watershed Assessment & Planning Branch  
100 N. Senate Ave., Shadeland Office  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251

(317) 308-3173

[Riverwatch@idem.in.gov](mailto:Riverwatch@idem.in.gov)

[www.in.gov/idem/riverwatch](http://www.in.gov/idem/riverwatch)



# Hoosier Riverwatch

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Volunteer Water Monitoring



# Learn, Monitor, Empower, Protect

**“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” – Margaret Mead**

## Learn

You don’t need a lot of free time or be an expert – the only qualification you need is to care about Indiana’s water! The methods are easy to learn and can be performed by volunteers of all ages. To start a successful water monitoring program, attend a free Hoosier Riverwatch training workshop to learn about water quality and gain hands-on experience and skills. Any interested adult is welcome to attend.

## Monitor

You have the freedom to monitor wherever and whenever you choose, but you will need water monitoring equipment. If you belong to a school, government agency or nonprofit organization, you may be eligible for the Riverwatch Equipment Application Program. Upon completion of training, you will also be certified to borrow testing supplies from a Hoosier Riverwatch loaner site.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q** When and where are workshops held?

**A** Workshops are primarily held between March and October and are located throughout Indiana. A workshop calendar is available online. Print copies are also available.

**Q** What do workshop participants receive/gain from attending a workshop?

- A**
- Hands-on experience assessing water quality using physical, chemical, and biological methods
  - Riverwatch water monitoring manual
  - Riverwatch correlations to Indiana Science Standards

**Once trained participants may also:**

- Teach students how to monitor
- Apply for / receive water monitoring equipment
- Borrow monitoring equipment
- Submit data to the online database

**Q** How do I choose when or where to monitor?

**A** You pick the location and amount of monitoring you would like to perform based on your goals. If you do not have a stream site nearby, you can still educate your students on water quality by bringing samples to the classroom. (Data collected in this manner should not be inputted into the online database).

**Q** Do we have to complete all the tests each time we monitor and submit data?

**A** Although encouraged because it provides a more complete picture of your stream, you may complete any tests you choose. You may also decide whether or not to submit the data to the online database.