

Title: Volunteer Management and Support

Presenter(s)

Angela Bliss, Kate Reilly, Kris Stepenuck, Cheryl Cheadle

Presentation Abstract

Programs that engage citizens to monitor water resources provide an effective way of reaching diverse audiences and raising awareness of water resource issues. However, sustaining interest and invigoration of citizen monitors requires ongoing volunteer management and support- from volunteers' recruitment to their retirement. Our objectives in this workshop are:

- to share information about identifying target audiences and using best education practices in volunteer water monitoring programs for them to be most successful
- to share information about tailoring programming to meet the needs and interests of that audience
- to demonstrate resources and strategies that are used by existing volunteer monitoring programs to recruit and retain volunteers.

We will provide case studies and hands on opportunities to help participants gain a better understanding of the 5 R's of volunteer management and support: rights, responsibilities, recruitment, recognition and retention.

AGENDA

1:00 Welcome and Introductions (*Kris Stepenuck*)

1:15 Volunteer Management and Support – Setting the Stage (*Kris Stepenuck*)

- Overview of the 5 R's of volunteer management and support

1:35 Identifying Target Audiences and Best Education Practices (*Kate Reilly*)

- Introduction to identifying a target audience and best education practices

2:40 Effectively Communicating with Volunteers - Case Study of Oklahoma Blue Thumb's Leadership Summits (*Cheryl Cheadle*)

3:00 Tailoring A Program to Meet Audience Needs and Interests – Case Study of Georgia's Adopt-a-Wetland Program Curriculum Guide (*Angela Bliss*)

- Introduction to program and its new curriculum guide
- Do an activity from the guide as a model to demonstrate how it applies to the scholastic standards of GA and as a way to market the program

4:20 Supporting Volunteers With Multimedia – Case Study of Wisconsin's Water Action Volunteers Volunteer Stream Monitoring DVD set (*Kris Stepenuck*)

5:00 Adjourn