

Project staff

The program coordinator's responsibilities will be to institutionalize a program statewide for West Virginia. The program coordinator will conduct training workshops for volunteers, teachers, conservation groups and other interested persons in stream water quality. Training will occur wherever a need is determined or wherever a project emphasizing cooperation between watershed partners (i.e.: agencies, citizen groups, business, etc.) is a priority.

WV Conservation Agency (WVCA) employees are occasionally trained as regional coordinators for the program. Regional WVCA offices are equipped with program materials and supplies to conduct training sessions, provide guidance and information for monitors performing QA/QC training checks. In addition WVCA staff will use program monitoring to document the water quality around Best Management Practices (BMP's) demonstration projects.



Regional trainers will provide oversight and assistance to monitors. They will also serve as liaison to the program and help coordinate projects between their region and the program. The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provides funding to the program through the nonpoint source program. DEP staff will also help coordinate projects between the WVCA and the program. The citizens monitoring coordinator will assist West Virginia monitors with questions about macroinvertebrate identification and program procedure and will design the quality assurance/quality control guidelines.

DEP staff will provide technical advice on monitoring techniques and suggest rivers or streams where they need new monitoring stations. The DEP will receive data reports on the program for use in its nonpoint source pollution and general monitoring programs. The DEP may also use the data received in the state's integrated report.

Certified trainers consist of volunteers who show that they are committed to stream monitoring, are well versed in the program techniques, have been monitoring using the WV Save Our Streams methods for a minimum of one-year and have been trained at a trainer's workshop by the program coordinator. These volunteers have been thoroughly evaluated by the coordinator on their teaching methods, field techniques and macroinvertebrate identification skills. They will assist local stream monitors by providing support in pollution problem solving, re-training monitors and checking their data.