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## Creekwatchers Currents: March 2013

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March 28, 2013



Good morning, Creekwatchers! It's been great catching up with veterans and meeting new folks this year. This year is already proving to be momentous--for the first time since I've been at the NWA (and I believe since the Creekwatchers program started), "Snow" has been selected as a current weather condition. Let's hope that spring hurries up and gets here so that the next sampling period is warmer (and preferably clearer).

I do have a few notes up front based on Sampling Period 1:

1. Please take care with your bacteria samples. Make sure you fill them to the 4-ounce fill line, twirl until tight, and twist the twist-ties together to secure. Transport them in an upright position and place them upright in the drop-off site cooler.
2. In cases of poor weather, always use your best judgment according to your sites, their accessibility, and your comfort level. I know some of you went out on Sunday due to the Monday forecast, which worked well.
3. Felt pens worked fine on our new water-resistant paper in wet conditions, but ballpoint pens did not. (Ballpoint pens do work fine in dry conditions.) I would recommend that keep a Sharpie or your favorite felt pen in your clipboard.

Welcome to all of our new folks, including:

-Mike at Rommel's ACE, who'll be joining ACE's Bryan and Chris at Hearn's Pond

-James, Nicky, and Sharon, who'll be monitoring the northern Marshyhope

-Alice (and family) and Karen, who'll be monitoring a small trib on Delaware's far eastern section of the watershed



### Upcoming Events:

\*\*"Your Water, Your Watershed" Homeowner Workshop in Bethel: April 4

\*Project Clean Stream in Mardela Springs: April 6

\*Sampling Period 2: April 7-8

\*\*"Your Water, Your Watershed" Homeowner Workshop in Hebron: April 11

\*Spring Rain Barrel Workshop with DCPG in Cambridge: April 13

\*Nanticoke River Park Festival in Blades: April 14

\*Salisbury Zoo Earth Day: April 20

\*Sampling Period 3: April 21-22

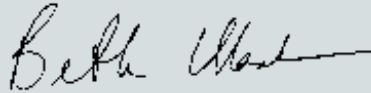
\*Toast to the Nanticoke: May 10

-Kelly, who'll be tackling northern headwaters in Delaware

-New DCPG members Mike, Bob, and Debby, who'll be working with Richard and Dave to monitor the five Fishing Bay headwater sites

Thanks for your hard work, adventurous spirit, and diligence!

Best,



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## Protocol and DO Training PowerPoints

As promised, you can download our "Working through the Protocol" and "DO 101" PowerPoints now from our DropBox. Feel free to use these as refreshers as needed throughout the season.

[Working through the Protocol](#)  
[DO 101](#)

Don't have MS Office? You can also use [Google Drive](#) (Google account required), [LibreOffice](#), or [OpenOffice](#) to view and interact with these files. (LibreOffice and OpenOffice must be downloaded and installed.)

## Meet the Chesapeake Conservation Corps Volunteer, Tyler Walston



Most of you have now had the chance to meet Tyler Walston, Chesapeake Conservation Corps Volunteer from 2012-2013. Tyler keeps the Vienna and Salisbury coolers stocked with ice and picks up all of your water samples on datasheets on Creekwatching Mondays, among other duties.

I originally asked Tyler these questions last autumn. Since then, his Tyler Trail Rededication has been chosen an All-Hands Chesapeake Conservation Corps project. A service project (yes, another Fun with Tyler event!) is scheduled for June 14, the day before the Creekwatchers BBQ and the

Maryland launch of the Five Year Report Card.

### **1. What's the Chesapeake Conservation Corps, and what are your goals are this year as a volunteer?**

The CCC is a program funded by the Chesapeake Bay Trust that gets young adults who are just starting their professional careers to gain experience in environmental and natural resource conservation work. The program employs 26 people, aged 18-25, to work with various organizations throughout Maryland and lasts for one year. My goal for the year is to become involved in the NWA's agricultural outreach programs and to gain experience in developing programs that help to increase volunteerism and stewardship.

### **2. What drew you to the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance?**

I am a lifelong resident of Wicomico County and always enjoyed visiting the Nanticoke River. I developed an appreciation for the river at a young age while camping at the Henson Boy Scout camp. When I learned that the NWA was a host organization for the Chesapeake Conservation Corps, I was excited to have the opportunity to work for an organization that protects the river I enjoy so much. Additionally, I wanted to work with an organization that promotes sustainable agricultural practices.

### **3. Since you have local knowledge and experiences in the area, can you tell us what your favorite place in the watershed is and why?**

My favorite place in the watershed is the Tom Tyler Nature Trail on Old Bradley Road, just east of the Vienna bridge. There are some really great hiking trails there. I have found that the trail is relatively unknown, so I hope that I can get more people to experience it and get them interested in protecting the watershed. I also enjoy taking my kayak out on the river and creeks in the watershed.

### **4. Do you have anything you'd like to share with the Creekwatchers about you?**

I look forward to meeting everyone and working with the Creekwatchers program. If anyone would like more information on what I'm working on with the NWA, I would be more than happy to answer any questions.

You can contact Tyler by emailing [tylerwalston@nanticokeriver.org](mailto:tylerwalston@nanticokeriver.org) or by calling 410.873.3045.

Meet the Monitor will continue in the April issue of the Creekwatcher Currents. Thanks, as always, for your support and service!

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