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March 6, 2015

Alan and Stan

Well, here we are! It's training and season kick-off month, and we're really getting excited about seeing all of you and sending you on your way with kits and the knowledge to go forth and collect water quality data (and samples)! Spring will be a welcome sight, too, if it ever arrives.

(Maybe next week?)

A big, huge thanks to Alan Kamauff, Frayser Williamson, and Rachael and Stan Shedaker for stepping up and helping me count and cap and bag (and insert zipties into calibrated Secchi lines)! Their help was monumental and ensured that we are fully ready for the NWA's own brand of March Madness!

Frayser and Rachael

I'm also happy to report that JoJo only experienced a minor injury, and although she's undergoing some physical therapy, she is back and will be ready to go during training and the first sampling period and beyond.

I still have not heard from some of you regarding training this year. Please register for the [Eighth Annual Nanticoke Creekwatchers Training and Season Kickoff](#) or contact me if you are unable to attend that day and need to schedule an alternative training. I will be sending reminder postcards via postal mail to everyone next week. Please find the agenda and full details about the training below, and let me know if you have any questions.

wazsig

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## **Eighth Annual Nanticoke Creekwatchers Training and Season Kickoff**

Logo 2



### Upcoming Events:

[\\*\(Rescheduled\) Living Shoreline Workshop at Federalsburg Museum: March 14](#)

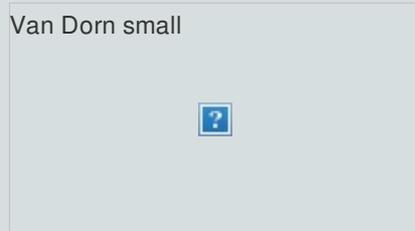
[\\*Rain Barrel Building Workshop \(Blades, DE\): March 14](#)

[\\*Eighth Annual Nanticoke Creekwatchers Training and Season Kick-off: March 21](#)

[\\*Living Shoreline Workshop at Westside Community Center: March 28](#)

[\\*Sampling Period 1: March 29/30](#)

**Training is mandatory for new and returning Creekwatchers.** The primary training will be held on Saturday, March 21 at the Baldcypress Nature Center at Trap Pond State Park. The training will start promptly at 10 AM and will conclude no later than 4 PM. You and/or your partner will pick up your kit on the same day. **If you cannot attend the March 21 training, please let me know as soon as possible. Alternate training is set for Sunday, March 29 (first Creekwatching day of the season) at the Vienna Office. This option should *only* be used if you absolutely cannot make the primary training, as alternate training will have a reduced agenda and fewer staff members available.**



Although it is not mandatory for veteran Creekwatchers to stay for the post-kit handout, hands-on session, **I highly recommend** that you do so in order to **minimize** Sampling Period 1 errors and so that you can help

new Creekwatchers. Depth profiles in particular were an issue for returning Creekwatchers last year, and **I would personally advise all Creekwatchers to stay long enough to use the new water samplers and to review depth profiles.**

Instead of contacting me directly this year, please [register for the training through EventBrite](#). If you Creekwatch as a couple or as a family, you can register everyone at the same time. If you have any questions about the training, feel free to contact me directly.

#### [Eighth Annual Nanticoke Creekwatchers Training and Season Kickoff](#)

Baldcypress Nature Center at Trap Pond State Park ( [Google Map](#))

38.525465, -75.479850

33587 Baldcypress Lane, Laurel, DE 19956

Nature Center Phone: (302) 875-5163\*\*

Saturday, March 21 from 10 AM-4 PM

## **10:00-10:30 Welcome and Orientation**

**Beth Wasden, NWA Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator**

**.0:50 10:30-10:50 Understanding**

## **Water Quality: Enviroscope**

**Lisa Baird, NWA Education and Development Coordinator**

**.1:00 10:50-11:00 Program**

**Partner: RSVP MD (and DE 50+)**

**Valerie Wagner, Lower Shore RSVP**

**1:10 11:00-11:10 Program**  
**Partner: Delaware Technical  
Community College**  
Bethany Krumrine, Instructor, Delaware  
Technical Community College

**1:20 11:10-11:20 Break**

**2:20 11:20-12:20 Working  
through the Protocol**  
Jojo Maturana, NWA  
Chesapeake Conservation  
Corps Volunteer

**12:20-12:50 Lunch (please  
bring a bagged lunch)**

**12:50-1:20 Getting to Know the  
Pro20 and Pro2030**  
Beth Wasden, NWA Volunteer and  
Outreach Coordinator

**50 1:20-1:50 Creekwatchers  
Agreement, Kit Handouts, and  
Inventory**

**1:50-4:00 Water Monitoring  
From Start to Finish**

**4:00 Kick-off and Training  
Adjourned**

Please arrive by 9:50 AM to check-in. Make sure you dress for the weather from head to toe and be prepared to take custody of your kit. Light refreshments, breakfast items, and drinks will be provided. Please bring a bagged lunch.

**\*\*Note that cell phone signal is spotty at the Nature Center. If you have any problems, please call the Nature Center number, as I may not be able to receive your call.**

## **New Creekwatcher Forms--Feedback**

Now that we've exhausted our supply of water resistant datasheets (a sad day, indeed, but please spare your tears as the new datasheets won't be able to repel them), the time has come for **new datasheets** that flow better with changes in protocol made over the past two years. I've split datasheets into two, as they were last year. However, you now have a **Site and Sample Datasheet and a Water Quality Datasheet**. (All of the water quality measurements that you take are now on one form. Site observations, calibration info, and water sample info is on the other datasheet.)

If you are a **returning Creekwatcher** and have a moment, please look them over and let me know if you have any **feedback no later than noon on Friday, March 13**. We will be printing several hundred copies of both datasheets and will not be able to incorporate any suggestions made after this time.

You can view both datasheets at our Dropbox account, although they look a bit wonky in the Dropbox viewer. (The strangeness with some boxes is not present in Office or when printing, so no need to comment about these issues.) If possible, I recommend downloading them and viewing in your own copy of MS Office.

Datasheet downloads:

[Creekwatchers Site and Sample Datasheet](#)

[Creekwatchers Water Quality Datasheet](#)

## **Living Shoreline Workshops Reminder**

LS Flyer 2



We will be offering two Living Shorelines workshops this month. The first is rescheduled from February 21 and will be held on March 14 [in Federalsburg](#). The other will be held on [March 28 in Bivalve](#). These workshops are free and are funded through the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

Speakers will include me, along with reps from MD Sea Grant Extension, the MD Department of the Environment, and contractors (Environmental Concern and Bryan and Sons).

If you own shoreline or belong to an organization that does, this is a great way to learn about living shorelines, how beneficial they are in terms of water quality, habitat, and flood mitigation, permitting, costs, examples of projects, and services provided by contractors.

We are also developing companion publication and multimedia projects that will be available in the late spring.

Registration is required. Please feel free to share with friends and co-workers.

*That's it for this month! Expect to find one Creekwatcher Currents every month in your inbox through November.*

*You're receiving this because you are a 2015 Creekwatcher, a program partner, or a program sponsor. If you would like to be removed from this list, please contact me directly. You may unsubscribe from **all** NWA communications by following the link provided below.*

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