

May 20, 2011: Creekwatchers Currents, Volume 4, Issue 3



First Annual ThankQue, Annual Report Card, Outreach Help Needed, and Meet the Monitor

I'm currently hard at work on the annual report card, and I've completed calculating the final scores. The river's overall score tumbled to C+, and the creek bounced up to B-, a reversal of last year's scores.

Nitrogen scores for all regions continue to be problematic. For the second year, Broad Creek scored an F. The lovely Marshyhope Creek has the dubious distinction of joining cousin Broad Creek this year, also scoring an F. The "best" nitrogen score was in the Lower Creeks (a C-). Phosphorous scores improved from last year, but fecal enterococcus scores declined. Clarity and dissolved oxygen scores are comparable to last year's scores for the most part.

Of course, you will be among the first to receive the final report card. Thanks to all of you vet Creekwatchers for your hard work last year and to the new Creekwatchers for your service this year! (I can't say it often enough, but that doesn't mean I can't try.)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Wasden".

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'Quein' on a Saturday Afternoon

The first annual Nanticoke Creekwatchers ThankQue will take place on Saturday, June 18 outside of our office in Vienna, Maryland. We are hoping to bundle the report card launch with the

Dates to remember:

Sampling Period 5: May 31-June 1

Seaford Heritage Festival: May 28

First Annual ThankQue: June 18

Annual Wade-in at Cedar Point Marina: July 12

Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
P.O. Box 111
Nanticoke Inn
Vienna, MD 21869

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Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator
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Que and hope all of you can make it.

Thanks to Stan Shedaker, Creekwatcher and proprietor of Adrenaline High (our office neighbor), for providing a free morning paddle! The trip will last approximately 2-2.5 hours. Kayakers should arrive at the office between 8:30 and 8:45 AM, as the kayaks will launch at 9:00 AM.

The food and post-paddling festivities will begin at noon. We'll have cornhole and coolers. As with the End of Season dinner, we'll provide the entrees and drink and ask that you bring a side if possible.

Please RSVP no later than June 16 and include if you will be paddling and what you'll be bringing.

Seaford Heritage Festival Help Needed

Right now, I'm on my own for next Saturday's Seaford Heritage Festival next Saturday. If any of you have time and would like to talk to booth visitors and chat about Creekwatchers, the Nanticoke, and the Alliance and/or assist with fish printing (and hang out with me), please let me know as soon as possible. The festival officially runs from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, so I'd really appreciate assistance from 12:00 to 4:00 pm, as I suspect that will be the busiest time of the day.

Seaford Heritage Festival

[Governor Ross Mansion and Plantation](#)

1101 N. Pine Street

Seaford, Delaware 19973

10:00 AM to 6:00 PM (Two-hour shifts)

Call or email me to volunteer for this event!

Meet the Monitors: Bob and Bonnie Kijewski



Bob and Bonnie Kijewski are part of the Delaware team of Creekwatchers. (To any concerned parties: Bob insists he's not a Redskins fan.)

How long have you been a Creekwatcher? Bob: Since the beginning. Bonnie: This will be my third year.

What sites do you monitor? Broad Creek in Laurel (BRCR1) and the James Branch (JABR1).

What's an interesting thing about one of your sites? The James Branch isn't tidal. It's covered so you don't get too much impact from sunlight. The lack of algae. In the winter, there's no ice on the James Branch.



Where's your favorite spot on the Nanticoke or in the Nanticoke watershed, and why? Phillips Landing--it's serene and quiet and a nice park.

What's your favorite Nanticoke-related activity?

What do you recommend that visitors do on the Nanticoke and where? Eating at the Georgia House in Laurel. Taking a boat trip on the Nanticoke and going down to the Woodland Ferry.

What's your favorite thing about being a Creekwatcher? Bonnie: I get to be out in nature. Bob: I feel like I'm doing something and always wanted to do something [to help the river].

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