

March 19, 2011: Creekwatchers Currents, Volume 4, Issue 1



Are You Ready to Creeeeeeeeekwaaaaaatch?!

Welcome to the first issue of the Creekwatchers Currents in the 2011 season! It's an exciting time for me (and I hope for you) as we approach the annual training and the beginning of the Creekwatchers season. We'll be holding our annual Creekwatchers training next Saturday, March 26 in the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance office in Vienna, Maryland. We hope to see you there.

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

Beth Wasden, Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator
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Annual Training

Where: Nanticoke Watershed Alliance office in Vienna, MD (This is the old "Nanticoke Inn" building, which is a large red building across the street from Millie's Roadhouse.)

GPS Coordinates to parking lot: 38°29'7.83"N, 75°49'25.03"W

When: Saturday, March 26 from 10:00 AM to approximately 3:00 PM; please arrive by 9:45 AM to sign in and settle in.

What: The morning will consist of the classroom component and paperwork. RSVP representatives will present information about the program and its benefits. In the afternoon, we will go out in the field and get hands-on with the equipment.

We will provide light refreshments and coffee. Please bring a bagged lunch and a water bottle and/or coffee mug, and be sure to dress appropriately for the weather.

Dates to remember:

**March 26: Annual
Creekwatchers Training,
10:00 AM-3:00 PM
Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
office in Vienna**

**VETERANS ONLY:
March 30: Kit Pickups at
office in Vienna (All day)**

**March 31: Kit Pickups at
Trap Pond State Park outside
of Laurel (4:00 PM-7:00 PM)**

**April 5-6: First
Creekwatchers Sampling
Period of 2011!**

**April 9: Project Clean Stream
at the Nanticoke Watershed
Alliance Office
Help us remove debris from
the tree buffer between the
Alliance office and NRG.**

**Recent Creekwatchers
Outreach:
Laurel Public Library on
March 11
[The Daily Times article](#)**

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

Have You RSVPed?

Please call or email me to let me know if you're attending training or if you will be picking up your kit at the office or at Trap Pond.

Kit Pick-up for Veteran Creekwatchers

If you **do not plan** to attend the training session, please plan on picking up your kit on the following dates:

- Wednesday, March 30 in Vienna from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
- Thursday, March 31 at the Trap Pond State Park Nature Center outside of Laurel, Delaware, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Please contact me if you absolutely cannot pick up your kit at either the training or on one of these dates so that we can make alternative arrangements.



Equipment Update

I'm pleased to announce that we have received a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust that will allow us to outfit the rest of (y)our kits with YSI Pro 20 Dissolved Oxygen (DO) meters. One hundred percent of our kits will feature the Pro 20, and we will be retiring the DO 200 units unless one of the Pro 20s has to be mailed to YSI for repairs.

The Pro 20, which received phenomenal reviews from Creekwatchers

who used it last year, features an auto-calibration, allows you to save data sets, and is easier to use than the DO 200.

Meet the Monitor: Ron Maher

Throughout the year, I'll be spotlighting one of our Creekwatchers in a "Meet the Monitor" segment. I hope you'll find this a great way to learn about the different sampling sites and to get to know your fellow Creekwatchers.

Our first monitor is Ron Maher. (To the right, find a photo of Not Ron Maher. It is instead a photo



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Kit Pick-up Locations:

Nanticoke Watershed
Alliance Office in the old
Nanticoke Inn
building
Vienna, MD 21869

Trap Pond State Park
Baldcypress Nature Center
33587 Baldcypress Lane
Laurel, DE 19956

of a Nanticoke River sea horse discovered last summer. Want to see Ron? Keep reading!)



How long have you been a Creekwatcher? The site (MANA6) has been monitored since the beginning. I began monitoring the second year.

What sites do you monitor? Nanticoke Harbor (MANA6), Bivalve Wharf (MANA5), Wetipquin Boat Ramp (WECR1), and Nanticoke Road/Wetipquin (WECR2).

What's an interesting thing about one of your sites? The Wetipquin Boat Ramp has lots of wildlife. I enjoy watching the pair of bald eagles that nest at the Nanticoke Harbor.

Where's your favorite spot on the Nanticoke or in the Nanticoke watershed, and why? Tyaskin and Wetipquin because of the wildlife and the isolation.

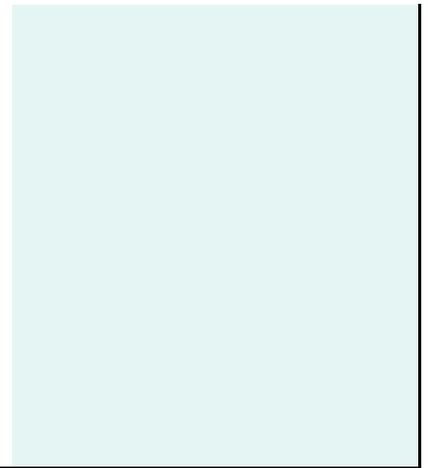


What's your favorite Nanticoke-related activity? What do you recommend that visitors do on the Nanticoke and where? Roaring Point. It's a good spot for fishing. I also enjoy crabbing off the pier, fishing, and boating.

What's your favorite thing about being a Creekwatcher? Being able to see how the river is doing and to know that other people are looking after it.

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