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Creekwatcher Currents: April 2014

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Good morning, Creekwatchers!

Congrats on successfully completing the first full month of Creekwatching! Things are definitely smoothing out with time and experience, and you're doing a great job. There are a few improvements that can be made, and they are mostly related to water samples (see the TIPS section below). As always, we are available to you for any questions or problems during sampling periods (or in-between).

Funding provided by the



Awesome news to those of you who test seasonally brackish waters (and a reflection of the great work that ALL OF YOU DO). The [Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore](#) has generously awarded the Creekwatchers program the full amount requested (just under \$5,000) under the "Community Needs" grant program. The monies will be used to cover the purchase of additional Pro 2030s and

other equipment, and I've already begun the process of acquiring new equipment from YSI. I will be in touch with Creekwatchers who'll be using these items once I have them in possession and have set them up so that we can set up a supplemental training for you.

Lastly, I will be on vacation from May 20-May 28, so if you need anything during that time period, please contact Amanda or Lisa.

Thank you for your service!

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Creekwatching Tips

There are still a few issues that pop up from time to time, so I'm including a few reminder tips that you should read before going out next weekend.

1. Please remember to write the amount of water filtered on the foil. All



Upcoming Events:

*Nanticoke River Park Festival at the Blades Marina: May 4

*Sampling Period 4: May 4-5

*Federalsburg Soil Testing Workshop: May 10

*Sharptown Soil Testing Workshop: May 17

*Sampling Period 5: May 18-19

*Beth OFF: May 20-28

*[Toast to the Nanticoke](#): June 13

information on the foil should be on the same side.

2. Please remove the snack baggie from the quart baggie prior to depositing your chlorophyll a samples in the dry ice cooler. You can dry out and reuse your quart baggies.
3. Please label your nutrient bottles, Whirl-Paks, and foil with the site code and sampling date.
4. On the Chain of Custody form for nutrient and bacteria samples, PLEASE LEAVE the Lab ID column (far left) BLANK. ONLY Envirocorp uses this line. You should start recording your information in the DESCRIPTION column.
5. Blanks and duplicates will resume next sampling period, but we will skip dupes/blanks during the May 18-19 Sampling Period due to staffing. See below.

Blanks are distilled water samples. Duplicates are regular water samples. Blanks and dupes should be taken at ONE of your sites only, and you should rotate during the season. You should take both a nutrient and a bacteria blank/dupe.

If you have ANY questions about blanks/dupes (or anything), please contact us.

May 18-19 Sampling Period

Amanda will be away during the May 18-19 sampling period, so there will be a few changes:

1. We will not be taking dupes/blanks during this sampling period since Amanda will not be able to help the lab with processing.
2. Ice will be late at the Salisbury and Vienna locations. I will be meeting Lisa in Salisbury with dry ice at 7:45 AM. No one drops off early in Vienna, but for those of you who drop off at Salisbury, please bring a small amount of ice in a baggie and just place your CA samples in the regular cooler. We'll move the sample to the dry ice cooler when we arrive. I will be in touch with those of you who drop off early in Salisbury just ahead of this sampling period to remind you that we'll arrive late.

Creekwatcher Photos

We beg every year, but here goes again--especially if you have a Creekwatcher partner or are part of a team (and even if you aren't, as we dwell in the Age of the Selfie)--PLEASE snap photos of you, your partner(s), and your site during the season. You can share them either via Facebook, email, online cloud services like Dropbox, burning a CD, bringing them by the office on a USB flash drive, etc.



You can check out the photos we've taken and shared on Facebook (NO FACEBOOK ACCOUNT REQUIRED) so far this year:

[Delaware Headwaters](#)
[Rewastico Pond and Creek](#)
[Marshyhope Creek](#)
[Little Blackwater Headwaters](#)
[Seaford](#)
[Barren Creek and Rewastico Creek](#)

That's it for this month! You're receiving this because you are a Creekwatcher in 2014 or are a program supporter. Thanks for your service and support! [Contact me](#) if you have any questions or comments.

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