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Creekwatcher Currents: April 2015

Volume VIII, Issue 2

April 16, 2015

First of all, welcome to new Creekwatchers Jane Fox, John Huberty, MaryLynn Huberty, John Lindinger, and Frank Wilson! The season is off to a relatively smooth start, and thanks to all of you for making that happen.

Second, Meg emailed and said that all of your Sampling Period 1 chlorophyll a samples were perfect! Way to rock it out, everyone.

March was a very busy month, but we have a lot going on in April and May (and beyond). I've listed some upcoming events (including sampling periods) in the right-hand column and have more in-depth information about a couple of them below.

If you are not on Facebook, and that seems to be the majority of you, you can check out some photo albums that we've posted that feature YOU. (NOTE: You do NOT need to have a Facebook account to view these albums.)

[-Creekwatching 2015: Marshyhope Creek \(Henson Scout Reservation\) with Frank Wilson](#)

[-Creekwatching 2015: DE Headwaters and Upper Nanticoke with Jane Fox and John and MaryLynn Huberty](#)

[-Creekwatching 2015: DE Headwaters with Galen Brosius](#)

As the season progresses, JoJo and I will contact you to arrive a time to shadow Creekwatch with you. Due to timing/scheduling, most of my field visits will be in Delaware, while JoJo's will be in Maryland. My goal is for us to get back on-track this year and for staff to shadow Creekwatch with every Creekwatcher team this year at least once.

Thanks for being a part of the 2015 Nanticoke Creekwatchers program. This is going to be a great year, and all of you are a big reason why.

Enjoy this beautiful weather, and Happy Creekwatching!

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Sussex County Partner Meeting on May 6

The NWA's 2015 Partner Meetings will focus on Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) progress in specific counties in the Nanticoke River watershed and also promote the NWA's Partners in Conservation Program. As you know, the NWA aims to work with a broad and diverse group of watershed stakeholders. Our non-advocacy, open communication and dialogue policy makes this possible.

Our first Partner Meeting of the year will focus on Sussex County and will be held from 10AM-2PM at the Seaford Library (near the Ross Mansion on Market St. Extension). [Registration is now open.](#)

For those of you who have been around for a while, you may be familiar with the infamous Watershed Management Plan that former Programs Manager Megan Ward spent a couple of years working on. That document, revised a large number of times, is finally at the printer. We will be promoting this document, along with the Nanticoke River Watershed Atlas, at the meeting, and I'll also be showing some



Upcoming Events:

*Project CleanStream at Cherry Beach (Sharptown): April 18 ([Contact JoJo](#) to register)

*Reclaim Our River: Arbor Day at Blades (DE) Park: April 24

**Salisbury Zoo Earth Day: April 25

Thanks Dan and Jeff for helping!

*Reclaim Our River: SmartYard Workshop at Lakeside Nursery (Laurel, DE): April 25

*Sampling Period 3: April 26-27

NO DUPES/BLANKS

*Abbott's Grill Community Night to Benefit the NWA-- Cinco de Mayo + [Limited Kayak Paddles](#): May 5

*Sussex County Partner Meeting: May 6

*Sampling Period 4: May 10-11

Dupes/Blanks--Mike--MANA1/2

***TOAST TO THE NANTICOKE (to benefit the NWA and its programs and initiatives): June 12**

of your water quality data in the Seaford area that day.

Other presenters will examine WIP progress in the agricultural and stormwater sectors. There will also be an open forum period.

We invite all of you who can to attend this meeting. We'll be providing lunch, courtesy of Abbott's at Broad Creek.

EcoPaddle on June 27



The season may have just started, but we already have our eyes on the first gathering of the season! Once again, the NWA will be working with a number of Reclaim Our River partners to host the second annual EcoPaddle at Phillips Landing. This year, we'll be paddling in the morning (you may bring your own kayak or canoe or borrow one), then ending with lunch. Cultural and natural history interpreters will be on-hand, and we'll be providing water quality demos. Thanks to Adrenaline High/Creekwatcher/world traveler Stan Shedaker for acting as one of those partners and providing boats.

Phillips Landing is also known as BRRC1 in the Creekwatchers program and is one of the four sites on Broad Creek that we monitor. Phillips Landing is also a fantastic place to put in, with freshwater marsh, tree buffers, and angry, tail-slapping beavers patrolling the waters, along with the Power Squadron vessel and Galen's boat.

We invite you to join us on June 27 from 10AM-1PM. The NWA will cover your \$5 fee, along with a guest's fee. Please feel free to share the [EventBrite registration page](#) with anyone who may be interested in attending.

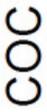
Cinco de Mayo at Abbott's Grill in Laurel

The NWA will be participating in Abbott's Grill Community Day on Tuesday, May 5. Yes, get your CINCO DE MAYO on at Abbott's anytime from 11AM to closing, and Abbott's will give 10% of your imbibage to the NWA!

Thanks to partners at DNREC and Adrenaline High (Stan again!), we will also be offering [limited, guided kayak trips](#) from the Roger C. Fisher Park in Laurel as a thank-you for supporters.

We will be sending out an email with a flyer next week. Please share with friends and families so that we can maximize the ten percent!

Pro Tip--Chain of Custody Form Oopsies (AKA That Blasted Lab ID Column)

 	Client Name:	Nanticoke Watershed Alliance				
	Contact:	Beth Wasden				
	Address:	P.O. Box 111 115 Old Ocean Gateway Vienna, MD 21869				
	Phone:	443-944-1175				
	Fax:	N/A				
	Cell:	see above BETH				
	email:	bethwasden@nanticokeriver.org				
	Laboratory ID	Sample Description	Date of Collection	Time Collected	Collector Initials	Required Testing (COC-14)
		Leave "Lab ID" blank and start with "Sample Description."				Nutrients Bacteria
						Nutrients Bacteria

This year, I'm going to highlight areas where you can go a bit above and beyond or tweak your methods to help the program run more efficiently. Please feel free to [send your tips](#) if you have something that you'd like to share with your fellow Creekwatchers.

The first tip that I'm going to highlight is an issue that came up on Monday at the Seaford drop-off site and occurs a couple of times a year (and not only at the Seaford drop-off). Unlike the Horn Point Chain of Custody Form, the Envirocorp form includes a column to the far left that reads "Lab ID." You should leave this column blank, as Envirocorp uses this to log in your samples when JoJo delivers them. If you haven't had enough coffee or if you're in a hurry, it can be easy to miss

What happens if you arrive at the drop-off site, and someone has mistakenly filled in the "Lab ID" column of the Envirocorp COC Form?

For us, it's best if you log your samples on a blank COC form so that you and anyone dropping off after you will be completing the form correctly. That way, staff will only have to relog the samples on the original COC form with the "Lab ID" filled in. Otherwise, we have to relog *all* samples listed on the incorrect COC form. This saves us some time and helps us get your samples to the lab as quickly as possible.

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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