



## Be a Water Watcher! Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Projects



In a few different books in the Conservation Tales series, you can read about conservation projects and scientific research about aquatic environments. Lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands and oceans are home to a huge number of important species. They are also critically important for humans.

These habitats are so important that there are now groups of volunteers who do water testing all across the country. These groups share their data with each other and scientists, too. “Citizen Science” is a term used to describe projects like these, and YOU can get involved.

Volunteer water quality monitoring is a great way for learners of all ages to help protect their local environment. It is also a way to learn to be a scientist. There are opportunities for any individual to take part in water quality monitoring, but the projects in the list below are great for school classes, community associations, after-school groups, visitors at a nature center, and more!

To help you find Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring projects near you, click on a link for a group in your state or region. The websites can help you find out how to get involved. Just like the people you read about in Conservation Tales books, YOU can make a difference!

State	Links to VWQ Groups
Alabama	<a href="https://citizenscience.org/water-quality-monitoring">Citizenscience.org Water Quality Monitoring</a>
Alaska	<a href="#">Water Quality Monitoring</a>
Arizona	<a href="#">Arizona Water Watch</a>
Arkansas	<a href="#">Arkansas Water Resources Center</a>
California	<a href="#">Water Quality Monitoring</a>
Colorado	<a href="#">Colorado River Watch</a>
Connecticut	<a href="#">Volunteer Water Monitoring</a>
Delaware	<a href="#">Water Quality Monitoring</a>
Florida	<a href="#">Ichetucknee Water Monitoring Projects</a>
Georgia	<a href="#">Georgia Adopt-A-Stream</a>
Hawaii	<a href="#">Hawaii Wai Ola</a> <a href="#">Hui O K Wai Ola Project</a>
Idaho	<a href="#">Water Quality Monitoring</a>

**NGSS Alignment**

**DCIs:**

- ESS3A: Nature Resources
- ESS3C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems
- LS2A: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
- LS2B: Cycles of Matter & Energy Transfer in Ecosystems
- LS2C: Ecosystem Dynamics, Functioning & Resilience
- LS4D: Biodiversity & Humans

**SEPs:**

- Developing & using models.
- Planning & carrying out investigations
- Analyzing & interpreting data
- Using mathematical & computational thinking
- Engaging in Argument from Evidence
- Obtaining, evaluating & communicating information

**CCs:**

- Patterns
- Cause & Effect
- Scale, Proportion & Quantity
- Systems & System Models
- Energy & Matter: Flows, Cycles & Conservation
- Stability & Change

Illinois	<a href="#">Illinois Volunteer Lake Monitoring</a> <a href="#">Illinois Riverwatch</a>
Indiana	<a href="#">Hoosier Riverwatch</a>
Iowa	<a href="#">Iowa DNR Volunteer Water Monitoring</a>
Kansas	<a href="#">Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance</a>
Kentucky	<a href="#">Volunteer Monitoring Programs</a>
Maine	<a href="#">Volunteer River Monitoring</a>
Maryland	<a href="#">Alliance for the Cheseapeake Bay</a> <a href="#">Potomac RiverKeeper Network</a>
Massachussets	<a href="#">State DEP Water Quality Monitoring</a>
Michigan	<a href="#">Michigan Clean Water Corps</a>
Minnesota	<a href="#">MPCA Volunteer Water Monitoring</a>
Mississippi	<a href="#">MWMO Water Quality Monitoring</a>
Missouri	<a href="#">Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program</a>
Montana	<a href="#">MDEQ Monitoring &amp; Assessment</a>
New Hampshire	<a href="#">Volunteer Assessment Programs</a>
New Jersey	<a href="#">NJ Watershed Watch Network</a>
New York	<a href="#">WAVE</a>
North Carolina	<a href="#">EQI Volunteer Water Info Network</a>
North Dakota	<a href="#">RiverKeepers</a>
Ohio	<a href="#">Ohio Watershed Network</a>
Oklahoma	<a href="#">Blue Thumb Stream Protection Program</a>
Oregon	<a href="#">Volunteer Monitoring</a>
Pennsylvania	<a href="#">Watershed Protection</a>
Rhode Island	<a href="#">Volunteer Monitoring</a>
South Carolina	<a href="#">Midlands River Coalition</a>
South Dakota	<a href="#">Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program</a>
Texas	<a href="#">Texas Stream Team</a>
Utah	<a href="#">Utah Water Watch</a>
Vermont	<a href="#">Larosa Partnership Program</a>
Virginia	<a href="#">Potomac RiverKeeper Network</a>
Washington	<a href="#">Washington State Lake Protection Network</a>
West Virginia	<a href="#">Water Monitoring</a>
Wisconsin	<a href="#">Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance</a>
District of Columbia	<a href="#">Alliance for the Cheseapeake Bay</a> <a href="#">Potomac RiverKeeper Network</a>

