

# Volunteer Stream Monitoring Training Manual 2019



HOOSIER  
RIVERWATCH



*Education  
Monitoring  
Preservation  
Improvement*

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT





Indiana Department of Environmental Management

[www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch](http://www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch)

[www.HoosierRiverwatch.com](http://www.HoosierRiverwatch.com)

The original training manual was developed by Hoosier Riverwatch staff in 1997. This manual represents many revisions and updates, and is the tenth edition. Special thanks to Lyn Crighton, Lisa Ritter-McMahan, Katie Hodgdon, Jan Sneddon, Mandy Burk, Jeff Muse, Gwen White, and Sarah Hippensteel for their contributions through the years. The beautiful large-scale graphics were created by Sarah Beth Lauterbach, unless otherwise indicated.

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Password: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Site ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Org ID: \_\_\_\_\_

# Welcome to Hoosier Riverwatch

## About the Program

Hoosier Riverwatch is a program of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Office of Water Quality. The program began in Indiana in 1996 to increase public awareness of water quality issues and concerns by training volunteers to monitor stream water quality. The State of Indiana has a surface area of approximately 36,532 square miles. There are over 100,000 miles of rivers, streams, ditches and drainage ways in Indiana. In addition, there are approximately 35,673 miles of surface waterways in Indiana greater than one mile in length.

**The mission of Hoosier Riverwatch is: “To involve the citizens of Indiana in becoming active stewards of Indiana’s water resources through watershed education, water monitoring, and clean-up activities.”**

We accomplish this mission through the following goals:

- Educate citizens on watersheds and the relationship between land use and water quality.
- Train citizens on the basic principles of water quality monitoring.
- Promote opportunities for involvement in water quality issues.
- Provide water quality information to individuals or groups working to protect water resources.
- Support volunteer efforts through technical assistance, and providing monitoring equipment, networking opportunities, and educational materials.

Hoosier Riverwatch staff will assist you and your organization in understanding the importance of protecting local streams. Voluntary participation is the key to success of any statewide stream monitoring and education program. This manual provides information to help you begin a successful water quality monitoring program.

For more information about Hoosier Riverwatch, a schedule of upcoming workshops, or to sign up for an electronic subscription to our *Riffles & Pools* newsletter, go to: [www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch](http://www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch) or contact us at:

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*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,  
committed citizens can change the world.  
Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”*

MARGARET MEADE



A State that Works

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