



State Water Resources Control Board

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State Water Board Joins Citizens in National Water Monitoring Day

SACRAMENTO – The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will be cooperating with local watershed groups, citizens and environmental organizations for the first National Water Monitoring Day on October 18, 2002.

National Water Monitoring Day is a nationwide celebration marking the 30th anniversary of the passage of the federal Clean Water Act. The event is coordinated by America's Clean Water Foundation with assistance from several other environmental groups and agencies across the country.

The purpose of National Water Monitoring Day is to take a snapshot view of streams, lakes and coastal waters throughout the United States by inviting citizen monitors, volunteer monitoring organizations, and federal, state, Tribal and local monitoring program staff to evaluate water quality in their local watersheds. These monitors will be able to enter data into a national databank.

Thousands of volunteers across the country have agreed to sample water and report findings on this specific day. While comprehensive testing continues all year, there has never been one specific monitoring day coordinated nationwide.

Volunteers are asked to perform and submit data from four key tests: dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity/clarity and temperature. More experienced monitors may complete more technical analyses such as counting bugs, nitrogen content, phosphorus and speed of water flow.

Water test kits are available at a minimal cost on the Year of Clean Water Web site at:

www.yearofcleanwater.org

Counties throughout the state will participate in monitoring activities during October. For specific monitoring sites. Please contact Erick Burres, Citizen Monitoring Coordinator, at (213) 576-6788 or (213) 712--6862 or e-mail at eburres@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov.

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