



Media Release

Learn About Rivers and Lots More in the Free Online Water Quality Monitoring Team Calendar

For Immediate Release, Dec. 29, 2017

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If you are not directly involved with rivers in some way, it's easy to ignore them. Rivers are pretty amazing, however, and here's a way to remind yourself and learn about them: The State Water Resources Control Board's Clean Water Team has just released its 2018 calendar online.

The interactive, downloadable [calendar](#) is free and chock full of dates and events about all things water throughout the year, with a healthy dose of events specifically related to rivers.

Here are some examples:

- International Rivers Day of Action, March 14
- River Rally 2018, April 29 to May 2
- National River Cleanup, May 19
- Colorado River Day, July 25
- World Rivers Day, Sept. 22

The calendar also includes plenty of items about oceans, beaches, estuaries, wetlands, lakes, reservoirs and creeks.; aquatic critters such as frogs, water bugs, trout and salmon; and free fishing days on July 7 and Sept. 1, when people can fish without a fishing license.

Many events and dates in the calendar are less directly linked to water, such as National Invasive Species Week, starting Feb. 26; National Park Week, starting April 21; and California Native American Day on Sept. 21. Some items are just about what makes us all human: International Literacy Day on Sept. 8; National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15; Giving Tuesday on Nov. 27; and Family Volunteer Day on Nov. 17.

All are listed in the calendar, which can be downloaded for year-round reference.

Pictures of volunteers in the field collecting and analyzing water samples lend the calendar a visual appeal, and provide another purpose of the calendar: recognizing the work the volunteers do to survey and document water quality throughout the state.

Most of the calendar entries are interactive: click on them and they open a website where you can learn a lot more about the event and the organizations that sponsor them. Who knows, it may inspire you to wander down to a riverbank, beach or lake and experience them up close.

You might even decide to join the Clean Water Team and volunteer to monitor water quality in your area.



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

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The Clean Water Team is the citizen monitoring program of the State Water Board and is part of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), run out of the Office of Information Management and Analysis. The [SWAMP program](#) collects all sorts of water data and OIMA's mission is to make all this information [available](#) to the public. Clean Water Team coordinators work statewide to provide technical assistance and guidance documents, training, quality assurance and quality control support and temporary loans of water quality sampling and testing equipment to citizen monitoring programs and watershed stewardship organizations.

To learn more about the Clean Water Team or volunteer to monitor water quality with a monitoring group in your area, visit the Clean Water Team's [webpage](#). While there, check out the calendar. It's free, and fun.

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