

GOALS OF WOOD-LAND-LAKES

- * Promote better woodland management
- * Balance rural and urban land use needs
- * Develop partnerships to address water quality and quantity
- * Increase community involvement in natural resource concerns



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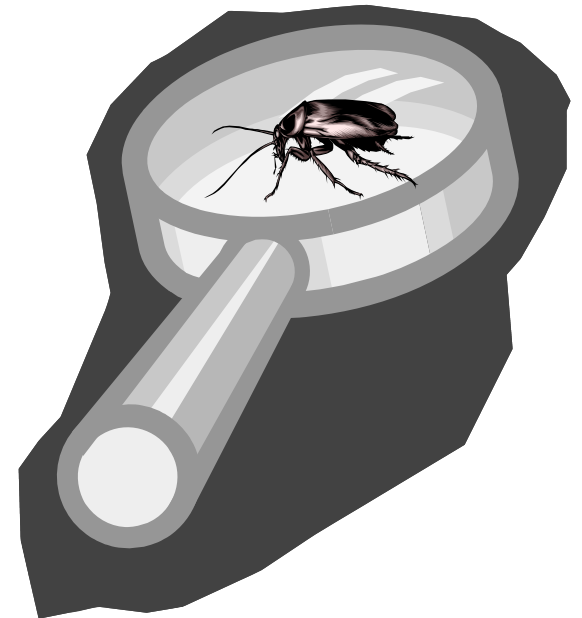
MISSION

Volunteers working together for
responsible stewardship of our
natural resources

Wood-Land-Lakes:

- ◆ Combination of volunteers solving natural resource problems through local involvement
- ◆ Serves DeKalb, Elkhart, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben and Whitley counties
- ◆ Tax exempt organization

VOLUNTEER WATER MONITORING



A GUIDE FOR
YOUR LAKE,
STREAM OR RIVER

Wood-Land-Lakes prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs or family status. (2.03)

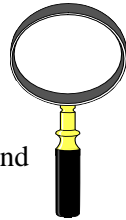
COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why Monitor Our Waters?

- * Measure “health” of water
- * Compare data of waters that affect you
- * Understand how we can play a part in our water quality

What Tests Are Done?

- * Dissolved Oxygen
- * Nitrate
- * Fecal Coliform
- * Total Phosphate
- * pH
- * Turbidity
- * Biochemical Oxygen Demand
- * Temperature
- * Benthic Macroinvertebrates



Where Do I Sample?

- * Choose lake, stream or river to monitor
- * Locate specific inlet(s) or open ditches to lake (SWCD or WLL can help)
- * Prioritize (if more than 1)
- * Find best access site
- * Ask landowner’s permission if sampling on private property

Who Can Volunteer?

- * Any TRAINED adult or student

How can I receive training?

Contact WLL for available training sessions.

Do I have to be trained?

Yes, for data consistency, comparing data with others and increasing accuracy.

Do I need to test for all nine factors?

Yes, to calculate the overall Water Quality Index. Should test at least twice a year.

Can I test for only specific problems?

Yes, it is suggested at 30 day intervals. It’s best to have complete data for baseline information.

Where can I get testing equipment?

Contact local Soil and Water Conservation District to borrow kit.

Can I buy my own kit?

You may be eligible for a grant from Hoosier Riverwatch, which will include a testing kit.

What if results are bad?

Repeat test to make sure of accuracy. Wait 30 days and test again. IF test is “bad,” go upstream and test. Contact WLL for more help or information.

How do I dispose of waste liquid and packages?

Liquids can be mixed with vermiculite (kitty litter) and sealed in plastic bags with other material. Throw away at Tox-A-Way days.

OTHER HELPFUL TIPS

- * Train and monitor in teams. It’s more fun and it’s quicker.
- * Pack insect repellent.
- * Wear washable sneakers or use waders when taking samples.
- * Allow a morning or afternoon to test. With practice, it will take less time.
- * Do Dissolved Oxygen and Fecal Coliforms on-site (or within one hour). Other tests can be done in kitchen or garage within several hours after collecting sample.



GOALS OF VOLUNTEER WATER MONITORING:

- * Get volunteers to know their water better
- * Work at local level with local people if problem arises
- * Meet and share information with other volunteer monitors
- * Maintain consistency with existing programs