



## About World Water Monitoring Day

### What is World Water Monitoring Day?

World Water Monitoring Day is an international education and outreach program that builds public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources around the world by engaging citizens to conduct basic monitoring of their local water bodies.

### Background

World Water Monitoring Day is celebrated on September 18. It was initially chosen to be a month later (October 18) to recognize the anniversary of the U.S. Clean Water Act, which was enacted by the U.S. Congress in 1972 to restore and protect the country's water resources. In 2007, the date was changed to facilitate participation in parts of the world where temperatures reach freezing at that time.

### Supporters

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) and the International Water Association (IWA) coordinate WWMD internationally. WEF and IWA receive assistance with planning and promotion of World Water Monitoring Day from many sponsors and partners. Primary sponsors include the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, PerkinElmer, ITT Corporation, CH2M Hill and Smithfield Foods.

### Goals

The primary goal of World Water Monitoring Day is to build public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources

around the world by engaging citizens to conduct basic monitoring of their local water bodies. Many people are unaware of the impact their behaviors have on the quality of their water resources. Conducting simple monitoring tests teaches participants about some of the most common indicators of water health gets them more personally connected to their water resources.

### How Can I Participate?

It's easy and fun to participate in World Water Monitoring Day. Just visit the Web site to register your site and purchase a test kit. You can observe WWMD on any date of your choosing between September 18 and October 18. Reporting data to the program's database allows you to share your experiences with others in your community and keep a yearly record of your monitoring test results. Data is accepted until December 18. In addition to monitoring your local waterway, consider organizing a trash clean up, going on a walk through your watershed or talking to a school group or scout troop about water pollution.

### How is the Data Collected Used?

Water quality scientists use data from more sophisticated monitoring programs to make decisions on the health and management of water resources. The monitoring tests performed by WWMD participants are designed to bring communities together to learn about the importance of monitoring their local water resources and what they can do to help protect them.

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[www.WorldWaterMonitoringDay.org](http://www.WorldWaterMonitoringDay.org)

