

RIVER WATCHER TRAINING 2016

The training dates and locations are after the description of each description. Contact Nancy Lawler, the MWA Water Quality Coordinator, at nancy@musconetcong.org or call the MWA office at 908-537-7060, to register for classes, or for more information.

Training descriptions

Habitat assessment training covers how to “read the river”, and observe and document the health of riparian areas, banks and streambeds. MWA teaches trainees how to use the EPA Habitat Assessment Survey Tool to assess various aspects of stream health. These assessments can be used to inform community decisions and lead to improved practices which, in turn, can minimize risks to wildlife, water quality and quantity, as well as reduce damage to bridges, roads, houses and businesses from flooding. This training is a great way to begin to understand how rivers work and how to work with natural processes. **March 19, 9am-1pm at the MWA River Resource Center at 10 Maple Avenue in Asbury, NJ**

Chemical Assessment Training introduces four basic indicators of stream health: nitrate concentration, dissolved oxygen concentration, pH, and temperature. The training covers the sources of problems related to these indicators and takes participants through each step of how to perform the tests. The last piece of the session takes “teams” through a simulated crisis to help trainees understand how data is interpreted and used. **March 26, 9am-2pm at the MWA River Resource Center at 10 Maple Avenue in Asbury, NJ**

Biological Assessment Training introduces participants to methodology that helps determine stream health using the presence of sensitive aquatic organisms called benthic macroinvertebrates. Participants will learn how to use professional equipment to collect samples in a stream, identify the organisms and assess stream water quality. **April 9, 9am-2pm in the Biology lab at Warren County Community College, 475 Route-57, Washington, NJ**