

Volunteer Monitoring Program Updates



Susan Libes

Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Luncheon 2019





Topics



Briarcliffe Acres
New Program

Lake Dogwood





• Murrells Inlet

• Surfside Beach

Watershed plan implementation progress evaluated by volunteers

• Waccamaw River

WACCAMAW RIVERKEEPER VAEKKEEPER Aftermath of Florence. Record low DO's. Bad odor. SC DNR reports of fish kills.

Couple of sampling events with "high" E. coli.

• Logistics and personnel changes





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	ENTERO level								
WAC-09A		2008 to 2012		2013 to present	2008 to present				
200	>104 MPN/100 mL	14	%	19%	18%				
	>500 MPN/100 mL	29	%	3%	3%				
	Total count	9	3	483	576				

nd Strand Happening marcliffe Acres Briarcliffe Acres

2003-2005: Spot sampling in lakes for fecal bacteria. →*Low levels reported*.

2009-2010: Watershed-scale microbial source tracking. → Human sourced bacteria were present in BA swash during wet and dry conditions.

2012-2017: Groundwater study. \rightarrow Water table near the swash was often high enough to intercept septic tank leach lines.

2015: Study comparing BA and White Point swashes. → Both contribute to downstream impairment at WAC-09A.



Sept to Nov 2015

Wet Weather Sampling from Sept to Nov 2015



Volunteer Monitoring Sampling Sites





Lake Dogwood in Surfside Beach



Turbidity (NTU)

Data collected between May 27, 2010 and Mar 12, 2019



Highcharts.com



E. Coli (CFU/100 mL)



Highcharts.com

Conductivity (µS/cm)

Data collected between May 27, 2010 and Mar 12, 2019



Highcharts.com

Lake Dogwood in Surfside Beach





- ✓ Watershed plan approved
- ✓ Grant funding
- ✓ BMPs installed
- ✓ BMPs assessed

VM program

EQL & Woolpert

More on the way?

New webpage





How the Waccamaw River water quality levels look now after Hurricane Florence

by WPDE | Thursday, November 15th 2018



Thanks to volunteers like this group, the Waccamaw Riverkeeper is able to test water quality on the Waccamaw River from Waccamaw Lake to Winyah Bay. (WPDE)

14 12 12 10 10 0 Dissolved Oxygen(mg/L) 0	Jan 9	Jan 0	Jan 0	Jan 0		Jan 0	Jan 0	Jan 0			Jan 1	Jan 1:	Jan 1		Jan 1	Dec 1	Dec 1	• # • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
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The Waccamaw experienced a pretty significant fish kill post Hurricane Florence. As I'm sure you are aware the DO in the late summer can get very low and become fatal for fish. They can't tolerate levels below 2.0mg/l for very long. With all the flooding and excess organic nutrient load caused our water quality to deteriorate quickly and in some spots there was nearly no oxygen at all. I had readings near Longs, SC at 0.1-0.3 mg/l and 0.3-0.5mg/l near Conway.

.....With the flooding being so extensive it was nearly impossible to get estimate, but easily tens of thousands of fish died. At any rate, it wasn't a complete die off and we plan to monitor the situation this summer to get an idea on the magnitude of the kill.

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1/17/19









Logistics and personnel changes Migration to new web site is complete

- Let us know of any dead links
- New Murrells Inlet webpage to highlight watershed planning
 - Why, what, when, where and who
 - Highlight VM program
 - Includes spotlight articles and a video!

Many new volunteers

- Briarcliffe Acres
- Waccamaw River particularly Team 4

AJ is moving on!

- Search to replace
- Increased role of grad students