

# What is World Water Monitoring Day?

**It's Fun...** You can do it with your class, family, friends, or other volunteers.

**It's Easy...** You don't have to be an experienced water monitor to participate.

**It's Important...** We all need clean water.

**And Everyone Can Help...** So choose a site and take part.

The need for water is fundamental for all living things. This need knows no boundaries, and it is critical that individuals become aware of the ways in which they can impact water quality.

Recognizing the need to increase public awareness and involvement in the protection of water quality, the Water Environment Federation and its global partner the International Water Association invite you to participate in World Water Monitoring Day.

World Water Monitoring Day is celebrated on September 18 as the beginning of a month-long monitoring window from September 18 - October 18.

Sponsored by:



# WWMD in New Zealand

New Zealand Water and Wastes Association [www.nzwwa.org.nz](http://www.nzwwa.org.nz) is supporting WWMD by promoting the initiative through their membership, networks of the BOC Where There's Water [www.nzwwa.org.nz/wherethereswater.html](http://www.nzwwa.org.nz/wherethereswater.html). Community Environmental Grants programme, and in coordination with the Royal Society of New Zealand-Environmental Action Project (RSNZ-EMAP) [www.emap.rsnz.org](http://www.emap.rsnz.org). NZWWA is a membership organisation with a focus on promoting and enabling the sustainable management and development of the water environment ([www.nzwwa.org.nz](http://www.nzwwa.org.nz)). Where There's Water Community Environmental Grants are administered by NZWWA, and funded by BOC [www.boc.co.nz](http://www.boc.co.nz), with the aim of helping the community understand, maintain, protect and improve their water environment – including streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, estuaries and beaches in urban and rural areas. RSNZ-EMAP is one funding recipient, also able to promote WWMD through their environmental monitoring activities as they enable students to carry out monitoring of their local region in an environmental education context ([www.emap.rsnz.org](http://www.emap.rsnz.org)).



## Join us for World Water Monitoring Day!

Host your World Water Monitoring Day event anytime September 18th – October 18th.

# World Water Monitoring Day

September 18<sup>th</sup> – October 18<sup>th</sup>



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

### Water Environment Federation

601 Wythe Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
+1 703-684-2400  
[www.wef.org](http://www.wef.org)

### International Water Association

International Water Association  
Bezuidenhoutseweg 60  
P.O. Box 90405  
2509 LK The Hague  
The Netherlands  
Tel. +31 70 31 50 797  
[www.iwahq.org](http://www.iwahq.org)

## How to Participate in

# World Water Monitoring Day

It's *easy* and *fun*!

- 1 Register your site** Choose any lake, stream, bay, or other waterbody where you can safely monitor. Register your site at the World Water Monitoring Day website.
- 2 Prepare your monitoring equipment** Use your own equipment or purchase an easy to use test kit via the World Water Monitoring Day website. Each kit contains an informative instruction booklet.
- 3 Monitor your site** Invite others to help you monitor or do it yourself. Visit your site anytime from September 18 through October 18 to test the water. Remember, SAFETY FIRST! (See the World Water Monitoring Day website for safety tips.)
- 4 Report your data** You did the work, so let us know about your water. You can submit your results via the World Water Monitoring Day website until December 18.

## The World Water Monitoring Day Website

You can register a monitoring site, invite others to your monitoring event, purchase test kits, report your data, and find additional details about participating by visiting

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

## Here's what you'll test for...

### Dissolved Oxygen (DO)

Measures how many molecules of oxygen are in the water. Since oxygen is important to fish and other aquatic life (just as it is for people!), higher DO readings support more diverse species and a healthier ecosystem. Low levels of DO can weaken or kill fish and other aquatic life.

### pH (Acidity)

Measures how acidic or basic a liquid is. pH is measured on a scale from 0-14, where 1 is most acidic, 14 is most basic, and 7 is neutral. A pH between 6.5 and 8.5 is favorable for supporting life in natural waters.

### Turbidity (Clarity)

Measures the water's clarity. Debris, sand, silt, and other materials can make the water less clear (more turbid). Turbidity can impact the aquatic ecosystem by affecting photosynthesis, respiration, and reproduction of aquatic life.

### Temperature

Measures the warmth or coldness of the water. This indicator is important because it affects dissolved oxygen, photosynthesis, and the food supply. Waters that are too hot or too cold can have severe effects on fish and other aquatic life.