WELCOME!
Monthly EnviroDIY in the DRB User Group Meeting

Online, Thursday March 17, 2022, 2:30-3:30p
*Meeting is being recorded

*Mute unless asking question
These Monthly Meetings

Recordings available at: https://wikiwatershed.org/drwi/
These Monthly Meetings

● Every third Thursday of the month

● 2:30-3:30p

● Zoom link will remain the same: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81881801310?pwd=eUFmbXZLbmRibVcxa1dtNVhzRmNvZz09

● Reminder email one week prior to each month’s meeting
  ○ All are welcome, please share
  ○ And let us know if others should be added
REMINDER

- Attendees include:
  - Groups working in Delaware River Watershed Initiative (DRWI)
  - Groups working in Delaware River Basin (DRB) but not DRWI
  - Folks from outside the DRB

- Stroud Center support via DRWI and C-SAW
Delaware River Watershed Initiative (DRWI)

https://4states1source.org/

Working across four states to protect one shared source of clean water
What is C-SAW?

The Consortium for Scientific Assistance to Watersheds (C-SAW) is a team of specialists who provide free organizational and scientific technical assistance to Pennsylvania-based watershed and conservation organizations.

*C-SAW does not conduct watershed monitoring or assessments. Instead, C-SAW helps watershed organizations do a better job with their own monitoring and assessments.*
Goals for these monthly meetings

- Time to check-in, ask questions, report issues, network, etc.
- **Updates** from the Stroud Center

- **Presentations**
  - **Station Owner/Manager Presentations** – communicate about individual situations, local watershed work
  - **Focus Topic Presentations** – guest presenters talk about technical/ecological/other focus topics

*All of this to support gathering good data and using it purposefully*
Stroud Center project personnel

Stroud Center Facilitators:

David Bressler          Rachel Johnson       Christa Reeves        Shannon Hicks

   Project facilitator  Research Engineer Technician  Northern DRB technician and organization collaborator  Research Engineer, Mayfly and EnviroDIY Inventor/Designer
Stroud Center project personnel

Master Watershed Steward Facilitators:

Carol Armstrong             George Seeds

Master Watershed Steward Program

PennState Extension
Stroud Center project personnel

Stroud Center DRWI Leads:

Dr. John Jackson  Matt Ehrhart  Dr. David Arscott

Senior Research Scientist  Director of Watershed Restoration  Executive Director, President Research Scientist
Stroud Center Perspective – EnviroDIY in the DRB

- **Primary Goal**
  - Support Station owners, managers, and volunteers
  - Use stations for local purposes

- **Secondary Goal**
  - Analyze basin-wide data set
  - Develop tools to characterize and contextualize watersheds

![Image of a classroom setting with students engaged in activities]

![Graph showing correlation between % Developed land and Mean SC (μS/cm) with a Pearson correlation coefficient of r = 0.76, p<0.01]
Today’s Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Stroud Updates
3. Presentations:
   • Survey results
     o Csci and monitoring terminology
     o Salt in tap water results
     o Winter storm salt grab sample prelim results (winter storms)
   • EnviroDIY technology updates – Shannon Hicks
4. Discussion
5. Conclusion
Stroud Center Updates

- Reminder to request assistance via the EnviroDIY Service Request Form
  - [https://wikiwatershed.org/drwi/](https://wikiwatershed.org/drwi/)

EnviroDIY Monitoring Station Service Request Form

Please complete this form with as much information as possible to assist Stroud Water Research Center technicians in troubleshooting your problem. For extremely urgent issues please contact the Stroud Center team directly (rjohnson@stroudcenter.org; shicks@stroudcenter.org; dbressler@stroudcenter.org).

*Please note, station assistance is only available to groups working within the Delaware River Basin.*
Stroud Center Updates

- Reminder on resources available at https://wikiwatershed.org/drwi/
- https://wikiwatershed.org

General Resources

- EnviroDIY Field Visit Data
- EnviroDIY Monitoring Station Help Resources
- Salt Monitoring Resources
- Data and Data Visualization Resources
- Volunteer Management Guidance Materials
- WikiWatershed Toolkit
- Project Updates

Meetings, Workshops, and Conferences

- Monthly EnviroDIY-DRWi User Group Meetings
- User Support Workshops and Trainings
- Conference Presentations
- Watershed Ecology Workshops

EnviroDIY Field Visit Data

EnviroDIY Field Visit Data Form (Online)
Any questions before we move on?
Monthly Presentations

- Survey results
  - Csci and monitoring terminology
  - Salt in tap water results
  - Salt grab sample results (winter storms)

- EnviroDIY technology updates – Shannon Hicks
CSci and Monitoring Terminology Survey

- What words and phrasing do you currently use when referring to the continuous monitoring stations that are distributed throughout the Delaware River basin?

- Do you have suggestions for what this group of stations and other monitoring activities could be called?

- What words and phrasing do you currently use in referring to watershed monitoring efforts done by watershed groups and volunteers?

- If you had your choice, what do you think is the best, most descriptive terminology to describe citizen/community/volunteer/public monitoring efforts?
CSci and Monitoring Terminology

- What words and phrasing do you currently use when referring to the **continuous monitoring stations** that are distributed throughout the Delaware River basin?
CSci and Monitoring Terminology

- Do you have suggestions for what this **group of stations and other monitoring activities** could be called?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continuous monitoring network</th>
<th>EnviroDYI DRW network</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DelaRiver? DelaBasin?</td>
<td>Delaware Basin Mayfly Monitoring Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaware River Basin Citizen Science Monitoring Network</td>
<td>Impact study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware River Basin Stream Water Quality Monitoring Network (DWBSWQM)</td>
<td>Mayfly is a perfect appellation for the whole system, or any part of it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaware River Basin Water Quality Coalition</td>
<td>Mayfly Stream Stations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware River Basin water quality monitoring partnership</td>
<td>Monitoring network comprised of mayfly stations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware River EnviroDYI Network</td>
<td>Delaware Water Quality Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware River water quality monitoring</td>
<td>Something with Stroud in the name!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware River Watershed Community Stream Monitoring Program</td>
<td>Stream Pulse Monitors</td>
</tr>
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<td>Delaware River Watershed Water Quality Assurance</td>
<td>Stroud Center water monitoring program for the Delaware River Basin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware watershed</td>
<td>Stroud Continuous Water Monitoring</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRB Enviro DIY program, or DRB Mayfly program sound good to me</td>
<td>Stroud EnviroDIY Mayfly Logger Water Quality Monitoring Program</td>
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<td>DRB EnviroDIY sensor network</td>
<td>Stroud Mayfly Water Quality Sensors (for the Delaware River Watershed)</td>
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<td>DRB Mayfly Water Quality Network</td>
<td>Stroud Supported Delaware River Basin Monitoring Program</td>
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<td>DRB Monitoring Network</td>
<td>Stroud’s DRB Watershed Monitoring Program</td>
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<td>DRB monitoring stations</td>
<td>StroudSense in the DRB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRB stream monitoring network</td>
<td>Water Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRB/Stroud Data Stations</td>
<td>Water Quality Agents of the Delaware River Basin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EnviroDIY Network</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

“Environmental work needs to rethink language...not that it should be advertising sloganeering...but sharper, less encumbered.” -survey participant
CSci and Monitoring Terminology

- What words and phrasing do you currently use in referring to *watershed monitoring efforts done by watershed groups and volunteers*? (multiple choice)
CSci and Monitoring Terminology

- If you had your choice, what do you think is the best, most descriptive terminology to describe citizen/community/volunteer/public monitoring efforts?

Survey participant: I think "volunteer monitoring" fell out of favor because "citizen science" was a sexier alternative, but the use of the word "citizen" is problematic in itself. It is generally accepted that the terms above mean different things, where citizen science is top down and volunteer monitoring is bottom up. We typically say "Community Water Monitoring" to encompass both ideas. Check out this article in Science that expounds on just how confused we all are: https://www.science.org/doi/epdf/10.1126/science.abi6487
https://www.science.org/doi/epdf/10.1126/science.abi6487

Inclusion in citizen science: The conundrum of rebranding

Does replacing the term “citizen science” do more harm than good?

As the scientific community, like society more broadly, reckons with longstanding challenges around accessibility, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, we would be wise to pay attention to issues and learn from emerging in debates around citizen science. When practitioners first placed the modifier “citizen” on science, they intended to signify an inclusive variant within the scientific enterprise that enables those without formal scientific credentials to engage in authoritative knowledge production (1). Given that participants are overwhelmingly white adults, above median income, with a college degree (2, 3), it is clear that citizen science is typically not truly an egalitarian variant of science, open and accessible to all members of society, particularly those underrepresented in the scientific enterprise. Some question whether the term “citizen” itself is a barrier to inclusion, with many organizations rebranding their programs as “community science.” But this eschews a term that has long referred to distinct, grassroots practices of those underserved by science and is thus not synonymous with citizen science. Swapping the terms is not a benign action. Our goal is not to defend the term citizen science, nor provide a singular name for the field. Rather, we aim to explore what the field, and the multiple policies it serves, might gain or lose by replacing the term citizen science and the potential repressions of adopting alternative terminology (including whether a simple name change alone would do much to improve inclusion).

A more fruitful way forward, rather than focusing on name changers, is to focus on approaches that increase inclusion—that is, to enable all people to feel that the identity they hold belongs and authentically influences the culture, values, and future of the field. To lend weight to these approaches, we recommend increases in funding for community science and the subset of citizen science and science more generally that address the interests, concerns, and needs of members of society historically and currently underserved by science.

Co-opting language

The term citizen science has come to have two intertwined meanings. The original, narrower definition, coined in the mid-1990s, refers to projects led by institutions guiding decentralized data collection by volunteers often unknown to each other yet sharing the common goal of advancing scientific research (4). These projects number in the thousands, and even a single project can engage millions of people (4). The second definition arose later as a kind of “big tent” concept to refer to highly varied projects across many disciplines.
CSci and Monitoring Terminology

- Stroud Water Research Center current terminology decisions, per survey and internal discussions:
  - The general work: “Community Science”
    - Explanation:
      - In the U.S. “citizen” can imply exclusivity according to legal status
      - “Volunteer” does not include professionals, which are also a part of CScience
  - The current network: “EnviroDIY in the Delaware River Basin”
    - No consensus, so remains “EnviroDIY in the DRB” until consensus can be reached (possibly as network expands beyond EnviroDIY)
Salt in tap water survey

Instructions – Delaware River Basin Survey of Salt in Tap Water

Overview
The following is a protocol for documenting salt levels in tap water as represented by the concentration of chloride ions (Cl\textsuperscript{−}). Measuring electrical conductivity is also recommended as it can provide additional explanatory information and is directly related to chloride concentration. Questions? Contact David Bressler (dbressler@stroudcenter.org)

Equipment/Supplies
- Chloride QuanTab® Test Strips, 30–600 mg/L, or other chloride measurement method
- Conductivity meter (e.g., Haaner DiST™3 Waterproof EC Tester)
- Conductivity meter calibration solution (e.g., 1413 µS/cm Conductivity Standard)
- Data entry form: Delaware River Basin Survey of Salt in Tap Water

Method
The basic method:
1. Acquire some tap water from a house or building/office. *Note: if a water softener is being used, please take the sample from an outdoor tap that is not treated with the softener.
2. Measure chloride using test strip (or other method, note method below is for Hach QuanTab strips).
3. Measure conductivity (make sure to calibrate the meter beforehand).
4. Enter this information along with the address of the tap water location and water source information into the data entry form (to find the source of your water check your local water utility’s website).
5. After you submit the data form you will receive a confirmation email with a record of your data and with a link for viewing all data that have been submitted, viewable as a spreadsheet. Summary graphs and maps may be available at a later date.

Chloride strip usage. Follow directions provided by the manufacturer (on back of bottle). The basic process is to stand a test strip vertically in about an inch of tap water (in any plastic or glass container), wait several minutes for the horizontal yellow line at the top of the strip to turn black, then read the test strip and use the chart to translate results into a chloride concentration (mg/L). Note that the chart conversions may vary slightly between bottles.

Conductivity meter usage. Calibrate the meter using conductivity calibration solution and measure conductivity.

National Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Chloride (mg/L)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPA Secondary Drinking Water Regulation</td>
<td>250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA Drinking Water Advisory on Sodium</td>
<td>46-95*</td>
<td>30-60 mg/L Sodium (Na\textsuperscript{+}) recommendation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA Drinking Water Advisory on Sodium “low/no sodium diets”</td>
<td>31*</td>
<td>20 mg/L Sodium (Na\textsuperscript{+}) recommendation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Estimate based on atomic mass units of Sodium and Chloride (NaCl): Na=23, Cl=35; note other salts such as MgCl\textsubscript{2}, CaCl\textsubscript{2}, and KCl not considered.

https://www.epa.gov/ohs/drink-water-regulations-and-standards/
Salt in tap water survey
Salt in tap water survey

Chloride in tap water in the DRB

*Note, <32 mg/l Chloride strip readings recorded as 16 mg/l

EPA low salt diet threshold for Sodium 20mg/l
(*31 mg/l Chloride = ~20 mg/l Sodium)

Approximate Sodium level (mg/l)

Individual Household Taps

*Estimate based on atomic mass units of Sodium and Chloride (NaCl): Na=23, Cl=35; note other salts such as MgCl₂, CaCl₂, and KCl not considered.
https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/drinking-water-regulations-and-contaminants
Salt in tap water

- Cruz et al. 2022. Impacts of Road Deicing Application on Sodium and Chloride Concentrations in Philadelphia Region Drinking Water

![Graphs depicting sodium and chloride concentrations in tap water for each of the three study residences.](image-url)

**Figure 3.** Graphs depicting: (a) weekly sodium concentrations (mg/L) in tap water for each of the three study residences, and (b) weekly chloride concentrations (mg/L) in tap water for each of the three study residences. *Note.* No samples were collected from Pottstown on 19 November 2018 and 30 March 2018, and Philadelphia on 10March 2019.
The survey continues…
  * If you don’t have Chloride test strips but would like to participate give Dave Bressler (dbressler@stroudcenter) an address and he’ll send you a test strip or two.

Keep in mind: Salt has contaminated groundwater and surface water – it is a year-round issue.
Winter storm salt in urban DRB streams

- Selected urban streams targeted for winter storm salt data collection

Grab sample, chloride measurement, and conductivity measurement

Samples being processed but some chloride data currently available: NEXT TWO SLIDES
Winter storm salt in urban DRB streams

- Incomplete results

Chloride in DRB streams during/after winter storms, 2021-22

Baseflow Chloride (mg/l)

Highest winter Chloride (mg/l)
observed (but many data points outstanding)

EPA acute criterion 860 mg/l
Winter storm salt in urban DRB streams

- Incomplete results (sites <1000 mg/l)

![Graph showing chloride levels in DRB streams during/after winter storms, 2021-22.](image)

- EPA acute criterion 860 mg/l
- Highest winter chloride (mg/l) observed (but many data points outstanding)

Reference
Winter storm salt in urban DRB streams

- Full results to be presented at a later date
Technology updates

- Shannon Hicks technology updates
Future meetings

- April, 2022 – Broad scale analysis, summarization, and interpretation of EnviroDIY in the DRB monitoring network data, Diana Oviedo
Mentors currently available

- Carol Armstrong (MWS), mnem.np@gmail.com, 610-659-7477
- George Seeds (MWS), geoseeds@verizon.net, 484-886-9586
- Rachel Johnson (Stroud Center), rjohnson@stroudcenter.org, 973-557-8995
- Christa Reeves (Stroud Center)(in the north, situational), christa@musconetcong.org, 727-520-5849

*Anyone else interested? If so get in touch with Stroud Center or Carol or George*
Next month’s meeting will be on:

Thursday April 21, 2021
2:30-3:30p
Onward!

Stroud Water Research Center, EnviroDIY-DRWI contacts:

- David Bressler, dbressler@stroudcenter.org, 410-456-1071
- Shannon Hicks, shicks@stroudcenter.org, 610-268-2153 x267
- Rachel Johnson, rjohnson@stroudcenter.org, 973-557-8995
- Christa Reeves, christa@musconetcong.org, 908-537-7060

Master Watershed Stewards, EnviroDIY-DRWI contacts:

- Carol Armstrong, mnem.np@gmail.com, 610-659-7477
- George Seeds, geoseeds@verizon.net, 484-886-9586