

First Announcement, and Call for Papers

Our New England Waters: *Real World Watershed Monitoring and Management Options*

Annual New England Lakes and Watershed Conference

June 9th & 10th, 2017

Kingston, Rhode Island

Hosted by

- URI Watershed Watch
- University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension Water Quality Programs,
- New England Chapter of the North American Lake Management Society, and
- Save The Lakes – Rhode Island's Association for Lakes



Mark your calendar now for this exciting opportunity to meet and learn from Rhode Islanders as well as fellow New Englanders (professionals, lay persons and students) who share your interest in lake and watershed protection. ***Our New England Waters- Real World Watershed Monitoring and Management Options will include sessions of interest to anyone who lives near, loves, or works to protect New England's waters.*** This year's conference will focus on concrete steps at we can take to restore, protect and preserve our favorite waters. It will also be part of the celebration of **URI Watershed Watch's thirtieth volunteer water quality monitoring season** and of supporting volunteer monitoring locally, regionally and nationally.

Conference Format:

- Friday afternoon workshops will provide hands-on activities focused on Identifying Aquatic Invasive Species, Algae, Shoreland Management, and GIS and Web-based Tools for Assessing your Watershed.
- Saturday will feature concurrent sessions focused on a variety of topics of interest to volunteer monitors, lakeshore residents, watershed stewards, and lake and watershed management professionals. There will also be an "Ask the Experts" panel helping to address your questions or concerns. The EPA New England's Mobile Lab will be on-site, giving tours and providing information about harmful algal bloom monitoring efforts.

How to submit presentation or poster summaries:

There are still opportunities available for 20 -30 minute presentations on Saturday. If you would like to make an oral presentation at *Our New England Waters - Real World Watershed Monitoring and Management Options* please submit a brief summary (no more than 200 words) of your presentation. Indicate your choice of topic selected from the list below. Visual presentations (posters) are also welcome on relevant topics. Summaries for either oral or poster presentations **must be received by April 14th, 2017.**

Where to submit summaries:

Please send abstracts via email to emh@uri.edu, and be sure to include "conference abstract" in "subject". Questions may be directed to Elizabeth by phone at (401) 874-4552 or e-mail (emh@uri.edu). Abstracts may also be sent to Elizabeth Herron; Conference Coordinator, Rm 105 CIK, 1 Greenhouse Rd. Kingston, RI 02881. **Preferred session topics are on the next page.**

Session Topics

Algal Blooms – Now What?

In-lake management tools

Innovative fundraising strategies for management

Watershed Management and Protection – Am I hurting my lake?

Landscaping and development for water quality protection

Nutrient/Non Point Source: Issues and solutions

Storm water management

Managing geese

“Septic Socials” – How to talk about waste water management with your neighbors

Water Quality Preservation and Restoration

Restoration/remediation projects

Aquatic nuisance species

Cyanobacteria

Aquatic plants

Algae

Citizen Science/Volunteer Monitoring – What can volunteers do?

Lake monitoring

Stream monitoring

Estuary monitoring

Wetland monitoring

Urban water quality monitoring

Watershed monitoring

Quality Assurance/Quality Control in volunteer programs

Fisheries – How do we make sure The Big Ones will there for our kids?

Near shore habitat importance

Sustainable Fisheries Management

Sponsorship Opportunities:

If your group or company is interested in supporting the conference as a sponsor or in exhibiting at the conference, please contact Elizabeth Herron for additional information (phone 401 874-4552; email emh@uri.edu). Exhibit space is very limited.