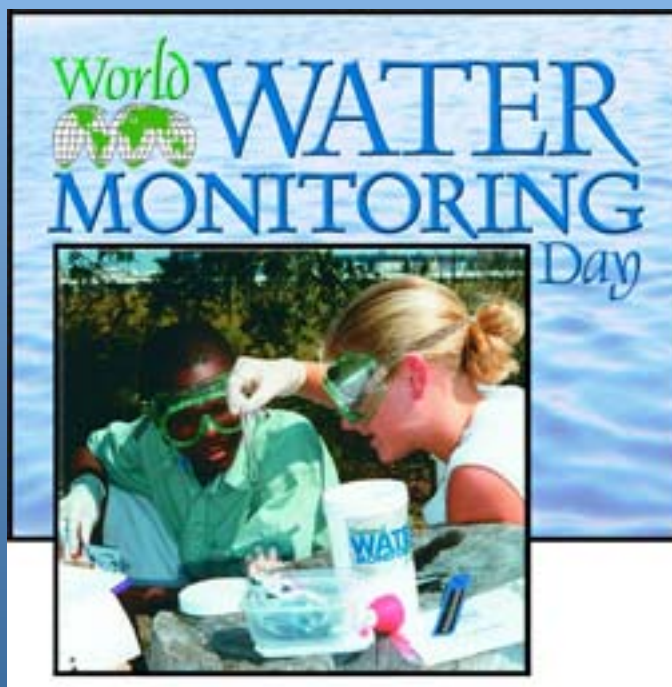




World Water Monitoring Day



NRCS-AZ
Earth Team &
statewide efforts

George Couch
*NRCS Public Affairs Specialist
& Earth Team Coordinator*
www.az.nrcs.usda.gov



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



World Water Monitoring Day

- I. Overview of WWMD**
- II. Why WWMD as Earth Team project**
national & global importance of water quality and fit with NRCS mission
- III. Specifics for making WWMD a successful ET project**



Earth Team is looking for a national Earth Team project





WWMD-Overview

Volunteer monitoring groups, water quality agencies, students, and the general public are invited to test four key indicators of water quality:

- **temperature**
- **pH**
- **dissolved oxygen**
- **turbidity**



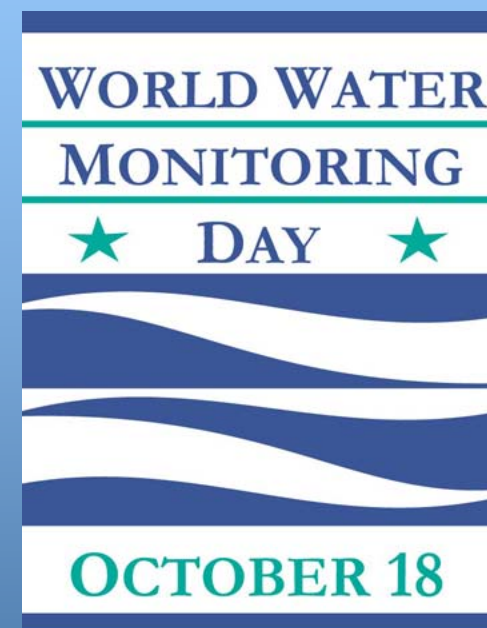


WWMD Overview

➤ Purpose

-A way to educate people about the importance of water monitoring and connect them personally with their local watersheds

-Expands the base of information available about the health of each watershed over time.





WWMD Timeframe & History

- Began in 2002 as way to celebrate 30th anniversary of Clean Water Act
- WWMD is the same date every year: Oct. 18
- Monitoring can take place from Sept.18 –Oct. 18
- 50 countries & more than 5,000 bodies of water monitored in the U.S. in 2004





Water Quality

Water problems close spigots for the biggest city in Arizona - High and dry in Phoenix

-ARIZONA DAILY STAR, Jan. 26, 2005

Tucson discovered Tuesday that it's sometimes good to be at the end of the surface-water spigot as Phoenix Water customers - all 1.5 million of them - were told to boil their drinking water.

Phoenix's treatment plants couldn't safely handle muddy storm runoff from the river systems that supply 90 percent of the city's water.





Global Water Quality

Almost 20% of the world's population still lacks access to safe drinking water because of failed policies, an influential report has concluded. – BBC News, March 9, 2006



- **One billion people without access to clean drinking water**
- **2.6 billion without adequate sanitation**
- **Around 3.1m people died in 2002 as a result of diarrhoeal diseases and malaria, 90% of whom were children**



(Source: UN World Water Report)



WWMD & NRCS

NRCS
Strategic Plan



NRCS Strategic Plan

Clean and Abundant Water:

1 of 3 broad foundation goals

Outcome: *The quality of surface waters and groundwater is improved and maintained to protect human health, support a healthy environment, and encourage a productive landscape*





Customer Focus Groups – Key Findings

11 focus groups across the country
Summer 2005

Findings: Common themes

- 1) Land fragmentation/urban sprawl
- 2) **Water Quality and Water Supply**
- 3) Maintain wildlife populations





WWMD History

- **America's Clean Water Foundation started it in 2002, as a way to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act**
- **Quickly grown to involve 50 countries & more than 5,000 bodies of water monitored in the U.S. in 2004**
- **Arizona had only 5 people monitor 13 sites**





Arizona WWMD

Two parts to Arizona WWMD

- **Earth Team**
- **Partnership/Awareness event**
(Steele Indian School Park)





Steele Indian School Park

- **90 Students from Osborn School District**
- **WWMD kits use to monitor Urban Fishing Lake at the park**
- **Six additional water educational stations**
 - Bio Assessment station
 - Hydrolab station
 - Turbidity & other instrument station
 - Groundwater Flow Model Display
 - Nonpoint Source Pollution, Watershed Model: Well Depth





Steele Indian School Park

**Speakers to highlight water quality issues,
bring media with combination of middle school
students & experts**

- **Ed Moyer**, Director of World Water Monitoring Day, America's Clean Water Foundation
- **Joan Card**, Water Quality Division Director, ADEQ
- **Lisa Young**, Water Technology Faculty, Gateway Community College





WWMD-Results

<u>Year</u>	<u># people</u>	<u># of sites</u>
2003	1	4
2004	5	13
2005	118	58





WWMD-Steps



Register your site on the WWMD website @ www.worldwatermonitoringday.org.



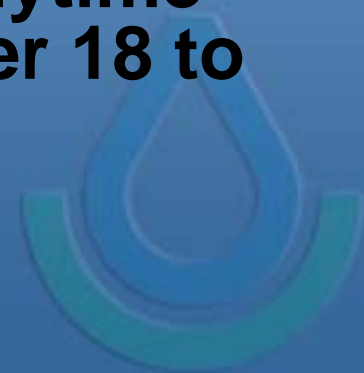
Purchase WWMD Monitoring Kit Each kit contains an informative instruction book and enough materials to repeat up to 50 tests.



Monitor your site. Visit your site anytime from September 18 through October 18 to test the water.



Report your data. Sept. 18-Dec. 18





WWMD Resources

Monitoring kits-\$14.95 each

- State Dept. of Environmental Quality
- Local water company
- Year-end money
- Landcare/Earth Team
- CH2M Hill



Sources of Volunteers

- Conservation Districts
- RC&D
- Girl Scouts (Get With the Land & Water Drop)
- Rotary

State Waters

- Make a book of state water, listed by city/region





WWMD Resources

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Managing Director, Public Communications

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WWMD Resources

World Water Monitoring Day Website

www.worldwatermonitoringday.org

NRCS website

www.az.nrcs.usda.gov/news/wwmd.html

Earth Team

- free water monitoring kits
- book of Arizona waters
- matching Rotary clubs with local waters





Earth Team Goal

Challenge to all states to get 5 Earth Team members & 5 bodies of water monitored in each state

\$75

Potential

Database

Events

Earth Team project





Alex Couch

