



EPA'S EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM FOR VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

**A COLLABORATION IN DATA GATHERING
AND USES**

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Purpose

To assist volunteer monitoring organizations in generating data useable by States/Tribes for assessments.

- Provide useable data that agencies might not otherwise have
- Expand coverage of monitored waters
- Identify problem areas
- Increase stewardship

Loan Recipients

- Volunteer Monitoring Organizations
 - New & Experienced
 - Small & Large
 - Watershed associations, Towns, Schools, Universities, State-coordinated programs



Application Process

- Annual announcement
- Announcement content
 - Priority area
 - Criteria for the loan
 - Loan Requirements
 - QAPP
 - Goal to share data with State Agency or Tribe
 - Annual data summaries
 - Upload data to WQX



APPLICATION FOR 2009 VOLUNTEER MONITORING EQUIPMENT LOAN

1. Organization Name, Address, Phone # Lakes Lay Monitoring Program University of New Hampshire 38 Academic Way Spaulding Hall Room G18 Durham NH 03824 (603) 862-3696 or (603) 862-3848
2. Name of Person Responsible for Loan & Contact Information (Phone, Email) Bob Craycraft and Jeff Schloss (see #13 below) (603) 862-3696 bob.craycraft@unh.edu
3. Is this a new or existing monitoring organization? The New Hampshire Lakes Lay Monitoring Program (LLMP) is an existing monitoring organization that initiated volunteer water quality monitoring in 1979. Program successes and outcomes have been documented in EPA publications and the Volunteer Monitor newsletter since the 1990's.
WATERS TO BE MONITORED
4. What is the name of the waterbody and the watershed it is in? <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Do sampling locations have latitude/ longitude data determined by GPS?◦ Attach a map if available. Lake Winnepesaukee (including Paugus Bay) is part of the Merrimack River watershed and includes numerous New Hampshire municipalities. Site coordinates have been determined for current and historical sampling stations that are based on field collected GPS coordinates and, when GPS coordinates were not available, latitude and longitudes derived from topographic maps. New sampling stations on Paugus Bay will be determined based upon conversations with interested monitors and field reconnaissance by UNH staff while the reestablishment of inactive Lake Winnepesaukee sampling stations will also be given priority as volunteer monitors are available (refer to the map of active, inactive and proposed sampling stations on page 5). The Lakes Lay Monitoring Program is currently working with the Lake Winnepesaukee Association to determine the optimal location of sampling locations in Paugus Bay.
5. If a new organization, provide a brief description of your organization, and the purpose of generating monitoring data. Are there other monitoring activities in the same waterbody? Are you partnering with other organizations? NA-see #3 above.
6. If an existing organization, provide a brief description of experience and use of monitoring data. What is the purpose of generating monitoring data, and how is it used? Are you partnering with other organizations?

Loan Evaluation

- Review Team
- State concurrence
- Recommendations to Regional Administrator
- Award equipment to selected groups

Equipment

- Purchased by EPA Region
- \$2,500 max value per loan
- No supplies
- Five-year loans
 - renewed annually
- Signed agreement required



Program Resources

- Funding = \$15,000 - \$30,000/year
- Staff time ~ 0.25 FTE/year
- Total funding over past 4 years = approximately \$100,000

Program Support

- Equipment tagging and tracking
- Tracking organizations
 - data summaries
 - progress reports
- QAPP support
- STORET/WQX data upload support

Progress To-Date

- 43 organizations, 59 Loans
- >40 groups adding new or upgraded methods to meet State data quality requirements
- >20 Additional waterbodies monitored
- Most groups have added sampling sites
- Supports "Hot Spot" monitoring on 3 major rivers
- > 10 groups can now monitor simultaneously with multiple sets of equipment

Progress (cont.)

- >150 New volunteers have joined in monitoring New England waters
- WQX/STORET workshops - 2007, 2009
- To date, six groups have uploaded data to WQX/STORET directly or through EPA/state system.

Equipment Loan Program Video

- [Pembroke Watershed Association video](#)
- <http://www.epa.gov/region1/video/vmelp/pwa.swf>

Additional information

- Announcement 2009:
 - <http://www.epa.gov/region1/lab/pdfs/2009VolunteerMonitoringEquipmentLoan.pdf>
- Program contact:
 - Diane Switzer (Regional Monitoring Coordinator)
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- Presenter
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Questions

