Co-Created Volunteer Monitoring Approach
ALLARM Background

- Empower communities with scientific tools to monitor, protect, and restore Pennsylvania streams.

PA Volunteer Monitoring

- Rich history
ALLARM History

ALLARM Monitoring Assistance

Data Sources: ALLARM, NYS Office of Cyber Security, PA DOT, PSU, USGS, WVDEP

March 2014
ALLARM Co-Created Approach: Lots of Mentoring!

Community Concern → Technical Assistance (ALLARM) → Monitoring trainings

Communities use data to protect and restore streams → Data interpretation → Data collection & quality verification
Example: Middle Spring Watershed Association

Watershed Issue

Using Data in the Community

Conodoguinet Creek

Middle Spring Creek

SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY
Step 1: Study Design

Issues:
- STP
- Stormwater
- Ag

1. What are your organizations’ major objectives?
2. Why are you monitoring?
3. How will you use the data?
4. What will you monitor?
5. How will you monitor?
6. Where will you monitor?
7. When will you monitor?
8. What are your QA/QC measures?
9. How will you manage & present the data?
10. Who will complete the tasks?
Step 2: Build Capacity
Step 3: Verify the quality of the data

- Split sample quality assurance process
Step 4: Interpret the data
Step 5: Use the data

- STP proposal dropped
- Group removed a small dam
- Received grants to plant riparian buffers
Where are they now?

- Struggled with volunteer retention
- Developed a strategic plan 2010
- Monitoring paused at the end of 2013
- Short-term community projects
- Strong partners!