

USING BROCHURES TO COMMUNICATE BIOMONITORING RESULTS: A QUICK YET INFORMATIVE WAY TO LOOK AT YOUR WATERSHED

Kristen Pavlik

Tetra Tech, Inc., 10045 Red Run Blvd., Suite 110, Owings Mills, MD 21117-6102

Biographical Sketch

Kristen Pavlik is an aquatic biologist for Tetra Tech, Inc. and is the technical lead on the implementation of a countywide biological monitoring and assessment program. She has been involved in monitoring network design, field sampling, laboratory sample processing, data management, QA/QC, and report writing. She also has substantial experience in translation of data and assessment results to public information useable by audiences of more varied technical backgrounds.

Abstract

Many Maryland counties have begun incorporating biomonitoring results into their land-use planning activities. When field crews sample, landowners may ask how they can obtain a copy of the sampling results for their property. Unfortunately, the reports on this data are often long (with hundreds of pages in appendices alone), hard for the public to understand, and difficult to access.

Prince George's and Howard counties are solving this problem by producing a series of brochures with the results for each sampling year by watershed. These easy to understand, easy to access brochures provide a fast, excellent resource to teach the public about the watershed in which they live.