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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALLING ALL CITIZEN SCIENTISTS!

Help measure water chemistry and flow this spring and summer in downriver creeks.

February 1, 2018, Ann Arbor, MI – The Alliance of Downriver Watersheds (ADW) is seeking volunteers to collect water samples and measurements at local streams this spring and summer. Volunteers will collect samples from the waterways that flow to the Detroit and Huron rivers and Lake Erie. Get outside, meet new people, learn about and help protect our home waters, and collect vital information for Michigan's premier volunteer chemistry and flow monitoring program. No prior experience necessary. Downriver residents are encouraged to volunteer. There is an annual program orientation in March with small teams of volunteers conducting the monitoring throughout the spring and summer months.

Program Orientation (registration required):

Saturday, March 24, 2018

Time: 1:00 to 2:30 PM

Location: NEW Center, 1100 N Main St, Ann Arbor

Learn more and register: <https://www.hrwc.org/volunteer/chemflow/>

The orientation will introduce volunteers to the goals and methods of water quality monitoring in creeks. Topics covered include water sampling, measuring direct water chemistry, estimating stream flow, and program logistics. Hands-on training in field techniques will take place in April during the first week of sampling.

Since 2012 the Huron River Watershed Council has been leading this monitoring initiative for the ADW. The program relies on volunteers to collect water samples and take flow measurements annually from 12 sites on downriver creeks and the Lower Huron River from spring to fall. Water samples are analyzed for nutrients like phosphorus, sediments, bacteria, dissolved oxygen, pH, conductivity and temperature and HRWC's watershed planning staff review and interpret the data. The program shares the findings and trends with the ADW members so that they can investigate, determine the source of and stop pollution, prioritize their on-going pollution prevention efforts and develop programs to address longer term problems.

About the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds: <https://www.allianceofdownriverwatersheds.com/>



The Chemistry and Flow Monitoring Program is coordinated by the Huron River Watershed Council and is supported by more than 45 communities in Wayne, Washtenaw, Livingston and Oakland counties, including the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds. Results direct statewide, regional and community water protection activities. www.hrwc.org.

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