



VOLUNTEER NEWS

With the Clinton River Watershed Council



THE UNIQUE NATURE OF CITIZEN SCIENCE

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Clinton River Watershed Council is excited to introduce our new quarterly volunteer newsletter. We will be highlighting our programs, informing you on upcoming events and volunteer opportunities and each issue will include a volunteer spotlight!

Our first edition is all about our Adopt-A-Stream program.

Adopt-A-Stream is one of CRWC's longest running programs, with data dating back over fifteen years. What makes this program so unique is that all this data has been collected by citizen scientists, people who cherish and enjoy the Clinton River and all that the watershed has to offer. If it were not for these dedicated individuals, this program simply would not be possible.

Citizen science is a unique opportunity for people to learn and practice real science, just like professional biologist and ecologist do. Adopt-A-Stream provides a platform for residents of the watershed to get involved and make a difference in the region where they live, work and play. Beyond this, Adopt-A-Stream data is a crucial resource for CRWC and state agencies alike. Having a continuous record of macroinvertebrate communities throughout the watershed can help inform long-term water quality trends. This data is also used to support potential restoration projects and long-term monitoring efforts.

In fact, CRWC is targeting 24 new locations for Adopt-A-Stream monitoring in the coming years. These sites align with completed restoration projects that will help the Clinton River watershed delist as an Area of Concern. The data gathered at these locations will better inform CRWC and industry professionals as to how effective river restoration

techniques are in an urban environment. In many instances, long-term monitoring of restoration activities is nearly impossible, given the amount of time and effort, lack of funding and lack of will-power to do so. Adopt-A-Stream allows CRWC to fill this gap throughout our watershed.

I hope you will join us in this important, exciting, and engaging program. CRWC is always looking for new volunteers to help us collect data and identify macroinvertebrates. Adopt-A-Stream is not possible without people like you, who are motivated and passionate about our local natural resources.



To learn more about how to get involved in the CRWC's Adopt-A-Stream and become a volunteer email contact@crwc.org