**Session 5A: Incorporating Volunteer Monitoring into Water Quality Monitoring Programs**
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## Citizen Based Stream Monitoring Program in Wisconsin

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The Wisconsin DNR has created the Citizen Based Stream Monitoring Program to help address water issues around the state. The Department does not have the resources to monitor all streams across the state so citizens are asked to help fill in the gaps. The idea is that only with sufficient information can the Department and citizens alike take action to protect and manage streams in Wisconsin. The many motivations citizens have to monitor streams are reflected in the DNR's multi-tiered program.

Our talk will focus, first, on the program as a reflection of diverse citizen interests in monitoring, as well as an intention by the DNR to increase citizen engagement on water issues. We will then highlight the positive outcomes of citizen monitoring efforts on the East Branch Fond du Lac River. A quick review of other monitoring projects around the state will help place this example into context. Lastly, we will discuss the "lessons learned" from two perspectives, that of program coordinator and volunteer.

Notes: