



Florida Keys Water Watch Newsletter: August

What's New?

The number of Florida Keys Water Watch sites has been growing by the week! As of August 3rd, we have successfully run the workshops to add sites on Boca Chica, No Name Key and others to the list. We now have 20 sites spanning from Key West to Islamorada, and over 50 events (data uploads) in the last few months. We would like to welcome all of our new members and encourage you all to invite friends and family members to participate in the testing with your groups. Most importantly we would like to remind you to keep testing! We are writing a Florida Keys Water Watch manual and a step-by-step guide for the Georgia Adopt-A-Stream website, which will be sent out as soon as possible. FKWW would like to encourage you to reach out to the program director Shelly with any questions or requests for a workshop. Keep up the good work!

Reminder : Refractometers

Remember to calibrate your refractometers so the horizontal line is at 0 parts per thousand (ppt) with distilled water before use! Recently salinity levels have been high in Florida Bay due to the lack of freshwater and high evaporation. To “see” what is happening in our nearshore waters we need accurate readings from our volunteers with their refractometers! Oceanic salinity is 35 ppt, which translates to 35 grams of salts (primarily NaCl) in roughly every 1 liter of water. Many volunteers are frequently recording salinity higher than 35 ppt in their canals.



