



Website change:
<https://adoptastream.georgia.gov/>

For 2017, Florida Keys Water Watch has 36 sites & more than 104 water quality data entries into the Georgia Adopt-A-Stream Water Quality Database!!!

Wow! Great job volunteers! The University of Florida IFAS Monroe County Extension thanks you for your dedication monitoring water quality in the Florida Keys!

Annual Recertification

Volunteers must be recertified annually. Georgia Adopt-A-Stream sends email reminders. Contact Shelly and she will come to your site, replace your reagents and calibrate or pick up your pH meter.

If you no longer want to be a Florida Keys Water Watch volunteer, call Shelly and she will pick up your equipment to give to another group.

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Updates

We are working with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in Tallahassee on a study to validate volunteer collected data for dissolved oxygen and salinity. The goal is for Florida Keys Water Watch volunteer data to be used by resource managers here in the Keys and uploaded to the national EPA database (currently in transition from STORET to WIN, Watershed Information Network). LakeWatch and Charlotte Harbor Estuaries Volunteer Water Quality Network underwent similar validation studies for nitrogen, phosphorus, chlorophyll-*a* and salinity.

What does this mean?

The main issues we are working on is updating the data sheets with checks for calibration procedures and proof of chain of custody procedures – i.e., paperwork! What will take the most time is working side-by-side with FKWW volunteers and FDEP staff using Lamotte dissolved oxygen kits and certified YSI ProDS data loggers. If you would like to volunteer to assist – please call Shelly!

Discontinuing pH testing

FDEP has advised us that the data from the pH meters are acceptable only if they are calibrated the day of data collection and then upon return from the field. If you want to continue testing for pH, I will provide you with pH calibration fluid and teach you how to calibrate

before and after. Otherwise, we are planning on discontinuing the pH testing and instead offering the Secchi disk for water clarity measurements. Secchi is an allowable test and has been used since 1865 when invented by an Italian astronomer named – you guessed it – Angelo Secchi!

Website change

Georgia-Adopt-A Stream website change, <https://adoptastream.georgia.gov/> - the kinks are being worked out, please call or email if you have problems.



