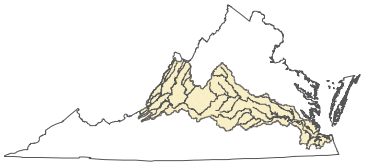
National Water Monitoring Day in Virginia—October 18, 2002

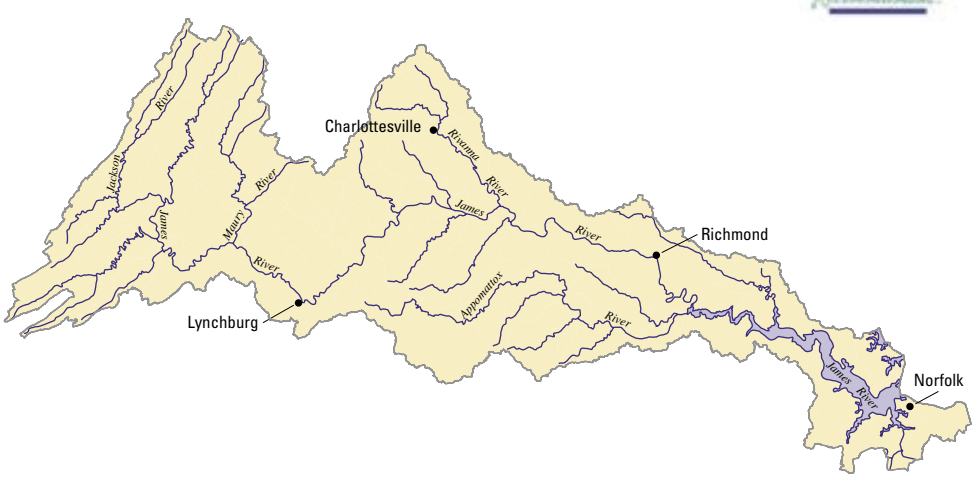
Take a "Water-Quality Snapshot" of the James River Watershed

Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act

On October 18, 2002, volunteer monitors, water-quality agencies, students, and the general public are invited to test the waters across the Nation. Everyone will test for water temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity and enter results into a national database. A limited number of free monitoring test kits are available.



In Virginia, a "water-quality snapshot" focusing on the James River watershed is being organized by a coalition of federal, state, and local agencies.



In Richmond, the Secretary of Natural Resources W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr., along with water-quality agency personnel, school groups, and volunteer monitors will collect water samples from the James River at Tredegar Iron Works. You can observe the activities and visit displays and other educational stations about the James River and Clean Water programs in Virginia on October 18th from 10 am to 1 pm.

How can I participate?

1. Register your monitoring site online at **www.yearofcleanwater.org** as soon as possible. If you need help determining latitude-longitude coordinates for your site, we recommend using **www.topozone.com**
2. Perform sampling on October 18, 2002. If you can't participate that day, sample between Oct. 14-24. *If you're monitoring within the James River watershed and you need a free test kit, call or e-mail Martha Erwin at USGS (see contact information below).You're not required to use the test kit—you can use your existing methods and equipment.*
3. Submit your results for dissolved oxygen, pH, water temperature, and turbidity online at www.yearofcleanwater.org. *If you want to collect benthic data in Virginia for this event, call or email Stacey Brown at Virginia Save Our Streams at brownst1@cs.com*

How will the data be displayed?

- View all data entered into the national database on the Year of Clean Water Web site at **www.yearofcleanwater.org**
- View all data for the James River water-quality snapshot on the USGS Web site at **va.water.usgs.gov**. *If you're participating in the James River watershed, please send a photograph of your monitors and/or your monitoring site to mlerwin@usgs.gov. We'll include it on the Web site.*

For more information, contact:

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