



Visual Assessment

for StreamWatch Schools
(High School)

School/Site: _____

Investigator(s): _____

Date & Time: _____

Check off the most accurate description:

Current Weather Conditions

Time Since Last Rain or Snowmelt

Sunny

Light Rain

Within 24 hours

Partly Cloudy

Snow

24-48 hours ago

Overcast

Snowmelt

More than 2 days ago

Unknown

Air Temperature _____

°C / °F

Water Conditions: (Circle the term that best describes what you see.)

Odor	No Odor Musty (anaerobic) Sulfuric (rotten eggs) Sewage Gasoline Other: _____				
Color	Clear Green Blue-green Brown Yellow Gray Other: _____				
Turbidity	Clear Tea-stained Slightly turbid Turbid/Muddy Milky Green "pea soup"				
Surface Coating	Foam Scum "Paint" streaks Duckweed/Vegetation Oil None Other: _____				
Water Movement	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;"><u>Streams</u></td> <td>Slow Moderate Swift Rapids</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Lakes</u></td> <td>Still Ripples Waves Choppy</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Streams</u>	Slow Moderate Swift Rapids	<u>Lakes</u>	Still Ripples Waves Choppy
<u>Streams</u>	Slow Moderate Swift Rapids				
<u>Lakes</u>	Still Ripples Waves Choppy				

Land Use Characteristics: (Circle term that best describes what you see.)

Natural	Residential	Recreational	Agricultural	Industrial
Woodland, natural meadow, wetland	Houses, schools, lawns, roads, construction	Hiking trails, parks, golfing, fishing	Cropland, pasture, livestock, orchards	Plants, mines, power plants, commercial

Stream Characteristics: (Circle terms that best describes what you see.)

Tree Canopy	Open (0-25%) Mostly open (25-50%) Mostly closed (50-75%) Closed (75-100%)
Woody Debris	<u>Type:</u> Free-floating Attached Both <u>Amount:</u> Absent Scarce Moderate Abundant
Aquatic Vegetation	<u>Type:</u> Rooted emergent Rooted submergent Rooted floating Free-floating <u>Amount:</u> Absent Scarce Moderate Abundant
Algae	<u>Type:</u> Biofilm Filamentous Floating Suspected HAB <u>Amount:</u> Absent Scarce Moderate Abundant

Additional Observations / Sketch:



Biological Assessment

for StreamWatch Schools

Macroinvertebrate Habitat Types (check off all that apply)

- Woody debris Submerged logs Leaf packs Aquatic vegetation
 Undercut banks Riffles/Cobble Gravel/Sand
 Other: _____

Benthic Macroinvertebrate Identification & Scoring (check off all that apply)

Sensitive	Less Sensitive	Tolerant
<input type="checkbox"/> Stoneflies <input type="checkbox"/> Case-Building and Free-Living Caddisflies <input type="checkbox"/> Mayflies <input type="checkbox"/> Gilled Snails/Right-Handed Snails <input type="checkbox"/> Crane Flies <input type="checkbox"/> Watersnipe Flies <input type="checkbox"/> Dobsonflies/Fishflies	<input type="checkbox"/> Net-Spinning Caddisflies <input type="checkbox"/> Water Pennies <input type="checkbox"/> Riffle Beetles <input type="checkbox"/> Alderflies <input type="checkbox"/> Crayfish <input type="checkbox"/> Scuds <input type="checkbox"/> Dragonflies <input type="checkbox"/> Damselflies <input type="checkbox"/> Planarians	<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Worms <input type="checkbox"/> Midge Flies <input type="checkbox"/> Black Flies <input type="checkbox"/> Sowbugs <input type="checkbox"/> Leeches <input type="checkbox"/> Clams <input type="checkbox"/> Lunged Snails/Left-Handed Snails/Limpets
<input type="checkbox"/> # of checks x 3 = _____	<input type="checkbox"/> # of checks x 2 = _____	<input type="checkbox"/> # of checks x 1 = _____

Add the three totals from each column for your water quality rating = _____

Water Quality Rating (check off the rating that matches your data)

- Excellent (>22) Good (17-22) Fair (11-16) Poor (< 11)

Additional Observations:



Chemical Assessment

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Chemical Assessment (fill in all data after completing the test)

Water Temperature:

_____ °C

Nitrate Nitrogen:

_____ ppm

Phosphates:

_____ ppm

pH:

Turbidity:

Sample Size (mL) (circle) 25 50

Amount of Turbidity Reagent Added: _____ mL = _____ JTU

Dissolved Oxygen:

_____ ppm _____ % Saturation

Salinity:

_____ ppt