



# Visual Assessment

for StreamWatch Schools  
(Middle 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

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

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

**Land Use Characteristics around or near your stream:  
(Circle term that best describes what you see.)**

<b>Natural</b>	<b>Residential</b>	<b>Recreational</b>	<b>Agricultural</b>	<b>Industrial</b>
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.)**

<b>Tree Canopy</b>	Open (0-25%)   Mostly open (25-50%) Mostly closed (50-75%)   Closed (75-100%)
<b>Woody Debris</b> (Sticks, roots, fallen trees in the stream)	None   Rare   Some   Many
<b>Aquatic Vegetation</b>	None   Rare   Some   Many
<b>Algae</b>	None   Rare   Some   Many

**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

for StreamWatch Schools  
Middle School: Code 5848

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

**Water Temperature:**

\_\_\_\_\_°C

**Nitrate (ppm):**

0 ppm    5 ppm    20 ppm    40 ppm

**Phosphate (ppm):**

1 ppm    2 ppm    4 ppm

**pH:**

4    5    6    7    8    9    10    11

**Turbidity (JTU):**

0 JTU    20 JTU    40 JTU    60 JTU    80 JTU    100 JTU

**Dissolved Oxygen (ppm):**

0 ppm    4 ppm    8 ppm

**Percent Saturation (%)**

<50%    51-70%    71-90%    91-110%

**Coliform Bacteria**

Present    Absent

**Salinity:**

\_\_\_\_\_ ppt