

ZUMBRO WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

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Now Is the Time to Volunteer for Water Quality

ROCHESTER, MN – The Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) is looking for volunteers who want to learn how to monitor water quality of their local streams or lakes. In conjunction with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the ZWP is ready to sign up new volunteers into the Citizen Stream Monitoring Program (CSMP) or Citizen Lake Monitoring Program (CLMP). These programs are managed by the MPCA, with local coordination provided by the ZWP. New volunteers get a complete monitoring kit, instructions and information, and are able to choose the monitoring site that works best for them.

Citizen monitors provide a valuable role for the assessment of surface waters throughout Minnesota. They monitor the clarity (or cloudiness) of the water, which is used by the MPCA to determine the overall health of streams and lakes. Volunteers usually monitor on a weekly basis, but no strict schedule is necessary. Now is a good time to start monitoring for the spring/summer season. If you are interested, contact us for more information at 507-202-2092, or visit the web site at www.zumbrowatershed.org.

The Zumbro Watershed Partnership is a nonprofit organization whose members include local citizens, other private and nonprofit organizations, federal and state resource agencies, and county conservation districts. Throughout 2008, the ZWP will be promoting water quality awareness through special presentations, educational workshops, stream monitoring, and outreach projects throughout the greater Zumbro watershed.