

Water Board's Clean Water Team Offers Free Calendar

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Water, or the lack of it, has the attention of just about everyone in the state lately – but there's a lot to know and appreciate about all the aspects of this precious resource.

The Clean Water Team at the State Water Resources Control Board has a great way to get familiar with the many facets of water in California: a 2014 online calendar that lists the various water events, commemorative days and opportunities to volunteer to monitor and improve the rivers, lakes, streams and the ocean. And it's free, available on the Internet.

The calendar is available in two versions, one with visible interactive links to the organizations sponsoring the events and one without. It features pictures of volunteer citizen monitors taking water samples and aquatic scenes from around the state.

The calendar serves two purposes: it highlights the importance of California's surface waters, and celebrates the state's citizen monitors who volunteer to improve and protect water quality by using applied science to monitor the state's waterways.

The calendar can be downloaded for free, either with or without the web link addresses being visible: With web links visible –

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/docs/cwt/volunteer/cal2014url.pdf Without –

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/docs/cwt/volunteer/cal2014.pdf

The Clean Water Team is the citizen monitoring program of the State Water Board. The team's Citizen Monitoring Coordinators work statewide to provide technical assistance and guidance, training, and loans of equipment to volunteers in citizen monitoring programs and watershed stewardship organizations.

Citizen volunteers work through a variety of organizations to monitor water quality in streams and rivers throughout the state. Activities include collecting water quality data, evaluating fish habitat, counting birds, or making visual observations of stream health. Community and resource managers use monitoring information to better protect California's waters.

For more information or to volunteer for a community-based monitoring program, visit the Clean Water Team's web page at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/cwt_volunteer.shtml

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