

## Watershed Association Offers Free Training

The Upper Guyandotte Watershed Association (UGWA), in conjunction with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, is offering a free Save Our Streams water monitoring training at 9 am on Saturday, October 2. Save Our Streams is a state wide program sponsored by the DEP to coordinate volunteer stream monitoring efforts in order to promote water quality awareness through citizen participation and education.

Stream monitoring is a fun and easy way to learn about our local water resources. Participants use a net to catch aquatic bugs living in the stream bed. Then, they record stream conditions, land uses, and bug diversity. By identifying and counting the different types of bugs, the streams' health can be determined. The information collected is useful to the UGWA in setting priorities and identifying sites for stream restoration projects.

Tim Craddock, from the DEP, will be teaching this training workshop. The first portion of the training consists of classroom presentations and will be conducted at the Mullens Opportunity Center. This will be followed by hands-on training at a site on the Slab Fork in Mullens. Again, this free workshop will begin at 9 am on Oct. 2nd at the MOC and will last approximately 4-6 hours. Refreshments will be provided. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our streams and to be a part of improving the quality of our water. For more information, please call Kelly Jo at 294-6188. See you on Saturday!

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