Watershed Central: A New Gateway to Watershed Information

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

Two-hour audio Web broadcast

Eastern: 1:00p.m.–3:00p.m.  Central: 12:00p.m.–2:00p.m.  Mountain: 11:00a.m.–1:00p.m.  Pacific: 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

A Watershed Academy Webcast

Many communities across the country struggle to find the right approaches, tools and data to include in their watershed plans. EPA recently posted a new Web site called "Watershed Central," a “one-stop” tool, to help watershed organizations and others find key resources to protect their local watershed. Watershed Central helps users find environmental data, watershed models, local organizations, and guidance documents -- and other information depending on the task at hand. It also contains links to watershed technical resources and funding, mapping applications to help find information specific to named watersheds, and includes a “Watershed Wiki” that watershed practitioners may use to collaborate. Join us for this exciting Webcast to learn about Watershed Central including instructions on how to use the new Watershed Wiki. Watershed Central is located at: www.epa.gov/watershedcentral.

Instructors:

Stuart Lehman, Environmental Scientist, EPA’s Nonpoint Source Control Branch, has been with US EPA for just over eight years. Prior to this, Stuart led the Watershed and TMDL Section at Montana’s Department of Environmental Quality and ran the Targeted Watersheds Project at Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Stuart also worked as a Senior Scientist at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and worked for local government in Anne Arundel County in Maryland. Stuart led the steering committee for the development of the Watershed Central Web site.

Kim Balassiano, Information Management Specialist, US EPA’s Office of Environmental Information (OEI), has been with OEI since 2007. Kim spent the prior 14 years in the private sector as a GIS and spatial analysis specialist, primarily supporting US EPA. Kim also worked for two years with a remote sensing company after receiving her Masters Degree in Geography from UNC-Chapel Hill. Kim directed the development of the Watershed Wiki component of Watershed Central and has been a leader in bringing Web 2.0 infrastructure to EPA. EPA now has over 50 blogs and wikis to support both internal operations as well as public collaboration.

Joe Williams, Supervisory Environmental Scientist, US EPA’s Office of Research and Development, National Risk Management Research Laboratory, Ada, OK, has experience with subsurface modeling, decision support and technology transfer related to the management of natural resources. Joe worked closely with EPA’s Office of Water and the Office of Environmental Information to develop Watershed Central to ensure that it included key technical tools. Joe also manages a staff of 11 scientists and engineers conducting research in the areas of watershed management, ecosystem services, and riparian restoration.

The Watershed Academy
The Watershed Academy is a focal point in EPA’s Office of Water for providing training and information on implementing watershed approaches. The Academy sponsors live classroom training and online distance learning modules through the Watershed Academy Web at www.epa.gov/watertrain. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/watershedacademy.

Registration
You must register in advance to attend this Webcast. Register at the Watershed Academy Webcast Web site at www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts. Note: The Watershed Academy is using a NEW Webcast vendor, and your computer must have the capability of playing sound in order to attend this Webcast. To view archived Webcasts, go to www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/webcasts/archives.html

Questions? Please contact Amber Marriot at amber.marriott@tetratech.com.

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