



CLEAN WATER TEAM: WATERMARKS- THE CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER FOR CITIZEN WATER QUALITY MONITORING

What is it?

Watermarks: The California Newsletter for Citizen Water Quality Monitoring is a new communication and outreach tool produced by the Clean Water Team. This newsletter replaces *CURRENTS: Citizen Monitoring Program Newsletter of the California State Water Resources Control Board*, which was last published in 2006. The first bi-annual issue of *Watermarks* (Winter/Spring 2012) was published in collaboration with the Council for Watershed Health; subsequent issues have been published solely by the Clean Water Team.

Citizen monitoring is a valuable resource that produces monitoring information needed to protect water resources. It encourages stewardship of watersheds and informs concerned citizens about potential water quality issues. California citizen science volunteers help support the State's Watersheds Stewardship through projects that aim to reduce and prevent water pollution. *Watermarks* highlights these volunteer-based monitoring and restoration projects, informs citizen monitoring groups about available tools for their monitoring projects, and recognizes those individuals committed to protecting California's natural resources through citizen science programs. The newsletter also contains watershed education articles and serves as an outreach tool for volunteers and collaborators.

Why is it important?

Community involvement through citizen monitoring is an important part of watershed stewardship. *Watermarks* provides a vital communication link among citizen monitoring programs and others. The National Water Quality Monitoring Council's Volunteer Monitoring News website links to the *Watermarks* newsletter, which helps broaden the scope of communication between California's citizen monitors and those throughout the United States and abroad.

How will this information be used?

The Clean Water Team envisions *Watermarks* to continue as a bi-annual newsletter and serve as a communication and educational tool for the citizen monitoring and watershed stewardship communities.

Watermarks: The California Newsletter for Citizen Water Quality Monitoring can be found at the [Clean Water Team newsletter](#) website.

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