

Instructor

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Course Dates:

The course will open on March 3, 2015. The instructor will monitor and participate in discussions, answer questions, and be available to participants on a regular basis **for two weeks after the course begins**. Assignments are expected to be completed within that two week period. Course materials will remain open to participants indefinitely, for review and reference.

Course Goals and Objectives:

Participants will:

1. Understand the broad water policy context in order to be able to explain it to a citizen
2. Describe water governance in relation to being a Master Water Steward.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the stormwater permitting system and how citizens are a critical part of meeting the permit.
4. Understand civic engagement and how the water steward can engage and encourage others to engage in civic action, related to Master Water Steward work.

Assessment

- All participants will be expected to complete all Learning Activities listed for each course within two weeks of the opening of the course dates
- All participants are expected to participate in the Discussion forums for each course, as directed in the Course Materials Modules.
 - Contribute at least one original posting that responds to the discussion prompts in the course.
 - Respond to the postings of at least two colleagues in the course with a thoughtful, substantive response.
- All participants will be expected to successfully pass an online quiz, with a score of at least 90%

Course Description:

In this course, we will learn how water is governed. A natural resource as important as water is governed by an understandably complex set of regulations. Most of these regulations have been enacted in response to a crisis, or imminent threat, to public waters. Very seldom have we as a society acted in advance of a water crisis.

We'll look at water policy from the top down- first federal water policy, then state, watershed district and finally, how YOU can be most effective at influencing local water policy where you live. You will work through the following concepts related to Water Policy and Governance: Water Policy basics and

context for Master Water Stewards work, Total Maximum Daily Loads, Brief history of Water Governance, Stormwater permitting, Tools and resources

How to begin:

All Master Water Stewards courses have a very similar course navigation scheme. You will notice the following documents:

Welcome and Introduction- You are here! This is where you will find the syllabus, the learning goals, objectives and course description, and any other materials that provide information on the course and its structure. Make sure to read this document carefully- it will help you get started, and keep you from getting lost as you go through the course.

Modules- All the learning activities are here for each course. Each set of modules will have learning activities you will need to complete in order to complete the course. Many of these will ask you to post information on the Discussion Forums

Discussions- All the discussion forums are in this area. Each of the courses in the Master Water Stewards program will make use of discussion forums. All students and instructors are expected to participate in discussions, and we think you will find these to be a rewarding part of the program. Our goal is to provide plenty of opportunities to learn from each other through discussions.

Once you have thoroughly read this document, go back to the Course Materials page on the Master Water Stewards web site, and select Module One from the list for the this course.