

Quality Control Instructions

Shale Gas Volunteer Monitoring Program

Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) is pleased to provide quality control (QC) assistance to volunteers who monitor streams throughout Pennsylvania – a service partially funded by the Consortium for Scientific Assistance to Watersheds (C-SAW).

Quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) procedures are an important part of a stream monitoring program, and should be followed consistently to help ensure the credibility and quality of the data being collected. ALLARM helps volunteers implement QA/QC procedures in a variety of ways, including duplicate sample analysis, where volunteers collect and send a water sample to the ALLARM laboratory for analysis.

Here's how the ALLARM Quality Control Program works:

Monitor:

Conducts stream monitoring as usual

Collects a water sample and records the results on the OC Form

Sends the water sample and the QC Form to ALLARM

ALLARM:

Analyzes the water sample using the same and other equipment

Compares the results between the monitor and ALLARM

Sends the analysis and comparison results to the monitor

For specific directions, please see the Quality Control Form on the back of this page. Remember to:

- 1. Label the QC bottle with your name, site name, and the collection date and time.
- 2. Fill the QC bottle completely with stream water and close the lid tightly to avoid leaks.
- 3. Pack a small box with your water sample and Quality Control Form and mail it to ALLARM.

If you have questions, please contact: Jinnie Monismith, ALLARM Assistant Director

monismij@dickinson.edu

717.245.1021

ALLARM will notify you with the analysis and comparison results within one month of processing your water sample. Thank you for monitoring Pennsylvania streams and participating in ALLARM's Volunteer Monitoring Quality Control Program!

For more information on ALLARM, please visit www.dickinson.edu/ALLARM.



- 1. Fill out the label on your QC bottle.
- 2. Enter the stream and face upstream. Rinse your QC bottle and cap three times fill the bottle with stream water, then pour the rinse water out downstream. Next, fill your QC bottle completely with stream water and close it tightly with the cap.
- 3. Record your results in the boxes below.

Parameter	Units	Replicate #1	Replicate #2	Average Result
Conductivity	μS/cm			
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L			
Stage	feet			

4. Fill out the information in the boxes below.

Monitor Informati	on	Sample Information	
Monitor Name		Site ID or Name	
Mailing Address		Stream Name	
		Latitude Coordinate	
Email Address		Longitude Coordinate	
County Monitored		Collection Date	
Affiliation (if applicable)		Collection Time	

5. Pack a small box with your QC bottle and this QC Form and mail it to:

ALLARM
Dickinson College
5 N Orange Street

Carlisle, PA 17013