



Greetings, Potential Monitor!

Thank you for your interest in our LagoonWATCH program. You can access our LagoonWATCH page through Marine Resources Council's webpage at [www.lovetheirl.org](http://www.lovetheirl.org). Use the pull-down tab labelled "Science" and click on the "Find out more" button. This will take you to the LagoonWATCH page where you can find a map of our current monitoring locations and links to Excel spreadsheets of recent monthly data.

MRC's LagoonWATCH program is a Citizen Scientist water quality monitoring program that began in 1991. Volunteer Citizen Scientists take weekly water samples from "their" site along the Indian River Lagoon and run chemical tests for pH, salinity, and dissolved oxygen levels and record observational data. Monitors then enter their testing results into an on-line interactive database that allows for monitors and others to graph data to see trends at a specific site, at several sites simultaneously, or even Lagoon-wide over varying timeframes. Having a computer (laptop or desktop) is required.

We ask monitors to make a **year-long commitment** to weekly monitoring.

Training is conducted at the Lagoon House in Palm Bay and takes approximately 1.5–2 hours. New monitors equipped with a test kit, a procedures manual, and all other supplies necessary to do their water quality testing.

LagoonWATCH has citizen scientists along the Indian River Lagoon from New Smyrna Beach in the north to Jupiter Inlet in the south. They are a dedicated group of volunteers — one "founding" monitor has been sampling since LagoonWATCH began in 1991!

Monitors typically pick their own sampling site. Many live directly along the Lagoon and have a dock from which they collect their water samples. Others live near public access points at parks or boat launches where they can monitor. Some sample at locations along causeways. Several former monitors would even take their canoes or kayaks to sample directly from the middle of the Lagoon or paddle upstream in some of the Lagoon's tributaries.

Still interested in becoming a LagoonWATCH monitor? If so, contact Kara Woods, LagoonWATCH Coordinator at [kara@mrcirl.org](mailto:kara@mrcirl.org)

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kara A. Woods".

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