Benthic Macroinvertebrate Sampling Guide

Guide to sampling benthic macroinvertebrates, a way to judge stream health by what lives on the bottom. Work through the steps in order and keep notes on what you find along the way.

Farm / unit: _____ Date: _____ By: _____

1. Choose a sampling site
2. Gather nets and containers
3. Record site and weather notes
4. Collect samples the same way each time
5. Sort samples in a tray
6. Group organisms by type
7. Use a local key to identify
8. Record results details
9. Return organisms to the stream

YOUR NOTES

TIP Follow a state or volunteer monitoring method so your results can be compared with others.

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