



AAS Community Coordinator Meeting

Tuesday, May 29th, 2018
CRD Brunswick, Susan Shipman Building
1 Conservation Way, Brunswick, GA
2pm – 4:30pm
~ Meeting Agenda ~



2pm – 3:30pm: Meeting

2:00-4:30 PM

In Attendance: Rachel Thompson, Checo Colon-Gaud, Jacob Oblander, Bob Hodgdon, Anna Laws, Seira Baker, Mary Lou Hoffacker

Introductions

Upcoming AAS workshops and meetings listed below.

➤ **Updates from the State Office:**

- Welcome Jana Pearce!
- Confluence
 - **2018 Confluence Overview**
 - 2018: Total registered: 157. Total comp'd registrations: 28. Student registrations: 20 (5 comp'd)
 - Total Silent Auction income: \$1,147
 - Sponsorship 2018 Total: \$1,700
 - Rollover for 2019: ~\$5,000
 - **2019 Confluence Update**
 - Networking opportunity, celebrating achievements, is the current format of the event serving this purpose
 - March 16 or 23 is possibly on hold at GEHC for Con19: Water Drop Dash, State Science Fair
 - First Confluence 2019 Committee meeting date: mid-late July?
 - Location ideas: Unicoi State Park, Emory, Charlie Elliott, Callanwolde, Orvis, 4H centers (Jekyll Island, Rock Eagle), Jekyll Island Convention Center
 - Keynote speaker ideas: bringing in a speaker from out of town vs. a local speaker, additional value? Suggestions: Nicholas Mallos – Microplastics, Chatty Wight Stover (Jen McCoy), Anna George – TNACI, Eve Brantley – Auburn University
 - Event Format: reducing number of sessions, 1 hour session options in addition to 2 hour, door prizes during lunch so that everyone can leave after afternoon session
 - Suggestions:
 - Show performance or film at Friday social
 - Add question to next year's survey: What attracted you to come to Confluence?
 - Keynote speaker during lunch
 - Expanding Confluence to include entire Southeast
 - **Awards update**
 - New Teacher Award
 - Draft shared from Ruth:
 - Excellence in Teaching:
 - Nominee has gone above and beyond at exposing students to the goals of AAS.

- Nominee involves students in water quality testing, watershed cleanups and stream appreciation both in the classroom and in the field
- Nominee has excited students to become involved in protecting their watershed
- Awarding the teacher/class & support them coming to conference?

- Nymph Award rewording

Nominee has participated in the AAS program for no more than two years and has excelled in meeting its goals and promoting improvement and protection of water quality.

- Manual/Website Updates
 - Format review of new manuals
 - Volunteers for Manuals Committee? May have first meeting in July. Potentially Rachel (remote)
 - Don't forget you can "add contacts" yourself!
- Quarterly Newsletters

Please feel free to let us know if you have any ideas for articles or contributions for the newsletter.

- Veteran Trainer point system

James Moore shared ideas from GAWP for point system

- Voucher for one year of recert
- A way for veteran trainers to train new trainers

➤ **Updates from Community Coordinators**

- Glynn Environmental Coalition grant
- Macros not very coastal plain friendly- deviation from AAS protocol (macros are different)
- Links to apps from Checo and Bob
- Send links for conductivity meter to CC for coastal
- Phinizy and others have lost funding, projects halved
- Ogeechee Riverkeeper family fun day and paddle race
- Veteran program with wounded warrior project
- Want to be able to upload photos for AAS (similar to Rivers Alive data submission option). Suggestions- water reporter, flickr. AAS will look into it.

3:30am – 4:30pm: Trainer Recertifications

Upcoming AAS Events

Volunteer Workshops:

Wed, May 30 : New Coastal Train-the-Trainer Workshop

Thu, May 31, 9– 12 : Clayton County Bacterial Monitoring Workshop

Wed, June 6, 6:30– 9p : Cobb County Chemical Workshop

Thu, June 7, 2– 4:30p : Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful Chemical Workshop

Thu, June 28, 9 – 1:30 : Henry County Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Workshop

Events:

Fri – Fri, June 15-22: Georgia River Network's Paddle Georgia, Yellow & Ocmulgee River