Georgia Adopt-A-Stream Virtual Water Science Research Session Guidelines

Providing a platform for students and volunteers to share water science research or monitoring projects, receive recognition throughout the water quality monitoring community, and interact with peers and professionals in the field. Selected entries will present at Georgia Adopt-A-Stream's annual volunteer conference.

ENTRY DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021

- **PRESENTATION DATE AND TIME**
  - Confluence is Georgia Adopt-A-Stream's volunteer water monitoring conference. The conference will be held *virtually* on March 15 - 21, 2021.
  - Presenters will be notified of their presentation date in February 2021.
  - Students under 18 require a signed waiver by a parent or guardian.

- **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**
  - Complete the Abstract Submission Form at AdoptAStream.Georgia.Gov by January 15, 2021.
  - Must be high school grade level or above to submit an abstract.
  - Abstracts should not exceed 250 words and are recommended to include the following:
    - Background and purpose of the project/ research
    - Procedure including a brief statement of methods
    - Data/ results of the project
    - Conclusions and/ or a closing statement

- **PRESENTATION GUIDELINES**
  - Presenters will deliver their research live over Zoom.
  - Each presenter will be given 5-10 minutes to deliver an "elevator pitch" of their research, with 5-10 minutes for questions afterwards.
  - Presenters are encouraged to use PowerPoint and visuals in their presentation.
  - Adopt-A-Stream staff will be present at each session to act as a moderator and assist each presenter(s).
  - Presentations should credit other contributors where necessary including the school where the project was completed, advisor, and co-authors.
  - Presentation Guidance is provided at the bottom of this page as an additional resource.

- **EXAMPLES OF PRESENTATION TOPICS**
  - Freshwater ecology
  - Coastal ecology
  - Nonpoint source pollution research
  - Water quality monitoring methods, protocol, or projects
  - Analysis of Adopt-A-Stream or other water quality data
  - Community partnerships in water quality assessment
  - Water quality modeling and/ or mapping
  - Water science education
  - Volunteer engagement in water quality improvement/ assessment
  - Land use and effects on waterways

- Habitat research and/ or assessment in waterways
- Stream restoration or rain garden research

View previous participants' abstracts and posters on the Water Science Poster Presenters page.

Presentation Guidance

Category	Topics for Review
Background/ Methods	1. References. Is a thorough review/citation of background references included? 2. Scope of Study. Is the scope of the study clearly defined? What exactly is being examined? 3. Central Hypothesis. Is it clearly stated? 4. Methods. Are the methods rigorous? Do they support the hypothesis? 5. Observations. Do observations employ analytical methods? Are they accurate and detailed? 6. Variables. Are variables accounted for? Are correlations made?
Results/ Conclusions	1. Summary of results. Does the summary and conclusions adequately address the hypothesis? 2. Analysis. Does the analysis support (proving or disproving) the hypothesis? 3. Larger Context. What do the results mean? Does the presenter relate the project to the larger context? 4. Future Work. Are directions or predictions for future outcomes included?