Georgia Adopt-A-Stream Water Science Poster 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 Confluence, Georgia Adopt-A-Stream's annual volunteer conference.

ENTRY DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2022

❖ **PRESENTATION DATE AND TIME**
   o Confluence is Georgia Adopt-A-Stream's volunteer water monitoring conference. The conference will be held at Unicoi State Park and Lodge in Helen, GA on March 18-20, 2022.
   o Poster presentations occur during the Friday Social on **Friday, March 18 from 5:00-9:00 PM.**

❖ **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**
   o Complete the Abstract Submission Form at AdoptAStream.Georgia.Gov by January 14, 2022.
   o Must be high school grade level or above to submit an abstract.
   o Students under 18 require a signed waiver by a parent or guardian.
   o 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

❖ **POSTER GUIDELINES**
   o Posters should be made from light-weight material and should not exceed 3 ft. x 3 ft. to allow for easy hanging. Easels will be provided.
   o Poster Guidance is provided at the bottom of this page as an additional resource.
   o Posters should credit other contributors where necessary, including the school where the project was completed, advisor, and co-authors.
   o All posters should be set up by 5:00 PM on Friday and remain on display on Saturday.
   o Adopt-A-Stream will not be responsible for any posters or other items left at display location.

❖ **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND TRAVEL FUNDING**
   o Presenters will receive free registration to the conference and the opportunity to be listed in the conference program. Selected abstracts will also be listed on the Adopt-A-Stream website.
   o A chaperone is required to accompany students under 18. Additional students and chaperones will be required to pay all registration fees.
   o Adopt-A-Stream provides a limited number of stipends to support travel and lodging for students and volunteers presenting their posters at Confluence. Pending funding, stipend application information will be sent to qualified presenters and any accompanying chaperone(s) at the time the poster abstract is accepted.

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

View previous participants' abstracts and posters on the Water Science Poster Session page.
For questions, contact 470-524-5791, 470-938-3341, or AAS@dnr.ga.gov.

POSTER 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?