



Alberta Water Quality Awareness Day – June 5th 2009 Registration Opens on March 31st!

This summer, thousands of Albertans will be working together to create a province-wide snapshot of water quality with **free water testing kits** provided by the Alberta Water Quality Awareness Day program. Interested Albertans will need to register online (www.awqa.ca) for their free kits between March 31st and April 30th. The requested kits will be distributed in early May to interested teachers, youth groups, farmers, ranchers, watershed groups and other individuals to test lakes, streams, rivers and wetlands for basic aquatic health. A high level of interest and participation throughout the province illustrates the common interest in water protection and preservation among Albertans.

Alberta Water Quality Awareness Day is June 5th, in support of World Environment Day and Environment Week.

What is Alberta Water Quality Awareness Day?

Alberta Water Quality (AWQA) Day is a new, province-wide program focused on increasing the awareness and understanding of water quality and watershed health, through hands-on water quality testing. People of all ages and backgrounds participate in the program, exploring their local streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands with their free water quality test kit from May 1st to August 31st and then posting their findings at www.awqa.ca. The findings are compiled annually to create a citizen-generated snapshot of water quality in our province. The program is modeled after World Water Monitoring Day, a successful global program that promotes watershed protection through public stewardship.

Why is AWQA Day important?

There is a growing concern for water in Alberta, and the recognition that we need to manage our water resources in a more sustainable fashion. AWQA Day provides an accessible and fun way for Albertans to become more familiar with water quality. The program encourages Albertans to take ownership of their water resources at a local level and to become active in their watersheds.

How can I get involved this year?

Register by April 30th for your free individual or group test kit at www.awqa.ca.

For more information on Alberta Water Quality Awareness Day please visit www.awqa.ca.

Contact:

info@awqa.ca

(780)702-ALMS(2567)