

USING INTERNET RESOURCES TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY IN MISSOURI

Tabitha Madzura

*University of Missouri—Columbia Outreach & Extension, Water Quality Program, 232
Agricultural Engineering Building, Columbia, MO 65211; Phone: (573) 882-0085; Fax: (573) 884-5650.*

Abstract

Some land-use practices lead to water pollution and/or land degradation. Learning more about watershed activities and possible best management practices can assist citizens in protecting land and water quality. Using a watershed approach to restore the environment fosters a coordinated and efficient implementation effort of programs that reduce polluted runoff, and protect natural resources and drinking water supply sources. A University of Missouri Outreach and Extension project, the Missouri Watershed Information Network (MOWIN), collaborates with state, federal and non-governmental agencies in planning and implementing watershed information training workshops. Workshops focus on information sources for developing water protection plans, total maximum daily loads, and water quality management plans. Audiences include landowners, land managers, locally led watershed alliances, decision and policy makers, educators, researchers, or volunteers. Staff will work closely with state and federal agencies and natural resource interest groups. This project is an additional empowerment tool for citizens to make informed watershed management decisions. The project contributes to watershed restoration activities by promoting awareness of watershed-related information educating citizens on how to access the various categories of information, and enhancing participants' technological expertise. For additional information please visit: www.outreach.missouri.edu.

Key words: watershed activities, water pollution, land degradation