

Microbial Source Tracking Project Update
February 5, 2002

Dear Volunteer,

To begin with, as always, we'd like to say a big thank you to all who helped with our latest sampling. Your participation makes our project work. The bacterial counts were lower than at any other sample event so far, except for the lower reaches of the Webhannet where counts were very high. It will be interesting to see what the genetic analysis indicates, since that area is downstream from a large beaver dam. Looking ahead through the rest of the year, we came up with this schedule of future sample dates:

Thursday, February 21
Monday, March 11
Monday, April 15
Thursday, May 16
Thursday, June 13 (estuarine sampling, different sample sites)
Thursday, July 11 (estuarine sampling, different sample sites)
Thursday, August 8 (estuarine sampling, different sample sites)
Thursday, September 12 (estuarine sampling, different sample sites)

If for some reason Mondays and Thursdays are not good for you, don't worry. We need to do about 9 more "on-call" sample dates, which could fall on any day, Monday through Thursday. Please take a moment to let us know your availability for Feb. 21. The spring/summer estuarine sampling will most likely involve fewer sites and fewer volunteers.

For the "on-call" dates, we'll try to let you know the day before based on the weather forecast. If for some reason you don't receive our message in time, don't worry about it. We understand it won't always be possible for everyone to make it. To let us know if you can or can't participate, phone or e-mail are both very fast ways to reach us. Thanks for taking the time to read the update. Hope to see you soon.

Best Wishes,
Cayce Dalton and Fred Dillon
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