



K1A

RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

SOLICITATION OF WATER QUALITY DATA AND INFORMATION
FOR 2024 INTEGRATED REPORT – LIST OF IMPAIRED WATERS
AND SURFACE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENTS
[Clean Water Act Sections 303(d)/305(b)]

The RIDEM Office of Water Resources (OWR) is soliciting water quality data and information to support surface water quality assessments. The assessment information is used to develop the Integrated Lists, including the Section 303(d) Impaired Waters List, associated with the Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (Integrated Report). The Integrated Report describes the extent to which waters of the State are attaining water quality standards pursuant to Clean Water Act Section 305(b) and identifies waters that are impaired and need TMDLs (total maximum daily loads) as required under Section 303(d). The Integrated Report is a formalized way to report on the “State of the State’s Waters”.

RIDEM/OWR is interested in receiving all types of surface water quality data and information for consideration in development the 2024 Integrated Report – particularly data collected from 2017-2022. Additionally, RIDEM/OWR is interested information about locations of trash/litter/debris that may be impacting water quality or aquatic habitat. RIDEM/OWR strives to consider all readily available water quality data and related information in developing assessments of surface water quality conditions and identifying and listing impaired waters. Data must be of a certain quantity and quality to adequately meet environmental management and regulatory decision-making needs associated with these programs. Data quality requirements for use in development of the Integrated Report are outlined in the *Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology* (CALM) found on the RIDEM website:
<https://dem.ri.gov/environmental-protection-bureau/water-resources/research-monitoring/water-quality-resources/integrated-reports>

In determining if data are appropriate for use in the assessments and listings, OWR considers quality assurance/quality control, data quality objectives, monitoring design, age of data, accuracy of sampling location information, data documentation and data format in addition to other factors. If data does not meet the data quality criteria, it is still useful and may guide future monitoring and investigation efforts designed to fill data gaps needed to conduct assessments.

Schedule

Submittal of surface water quality data and information is welcome and encouraged at any time. However, to be considered for water quality assessments associated with this solicitation, data should be submitted to RIDEM, at the address or email below, by April 1, 2023. Data and information submitted after the deadline will be considered for future assessments.

Telephone 401.222.4700 | www.dem.ri.gov | Rhode Island Relay 711

TOWN COUNCIL
MAR 01 2023
MEETING

What to Submit

While numeric data is preferred to be in electronic format to facilitate analyses, RIDEM will also accept data in hard copy format. Both electronic and paper submittals of surface water data and information should include the following:

- Contact Information:
 - Your name and organization
 - Mailing address
 - Email
 - Phone number
- Name of Waterbody(s);
- Location information where surface water data/information was collected, including latitude/longitude coordinates, road crossing, and city or town;
- Surface water quality data and information (including all metadata such as dates, time of collection, measurement results, detection limits, quantitation levels, pictures, maps, etc.);
- Documentation of the monitoring project and design, quality assurance methods used in collecting, analyzing and reporting the data; Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), etc.;
- It is preferred that numeric data be submitted electronically and in an approved format (field-specific Excel spreadsheet) that may be easily uploaded into OWR's water quality database. Please contact Colin Millar for a copy of this spreadsheet and further information. Electronic submittal of numeric data must be accompanied by electronic or paper copy of the additional documentation noted above.
- For information regarding trash/litter/debris, the submission should include relevant contact and location information as above. Photos and/or description of the nature and abundance of the trash/litter/debris is requested.

How to Send Data to DEM

All data must be submitted to RIDEM by April 1, 2023 for consideration in the surface water quality assessments. Submit surface water quality data/information and supporting documentation to RIDEM via the following methods:

By Mail: Colin Millar
RI Department of Environmental Management
Office of Water Resources
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

By Email: colin.millar@dem.ri.gov

Questions?

Contact Colin Millar at 401-222-4700 ext. 2777239