

Indicators for Narragansett Bay Region WORKSHOP AGENDA

Beach Closures

Tuesday, October 12

Warwick Public Library

Project Goal: To develop a suite of specific environmental indicators that can be used to:

1. describe Bay and watershed conditions in an easily understood format to use in communication with the public;
2. ensure accountability and track progress in achieving environmental and management goals set forth in the integrated plan for the Narragansett Bay region;
3. provide a basis for refining environmental monitoring strategies to ensure information needed for sustainable management of the Bay and its watershed is available.

Goals for this workshop:

1. Develop an indicator for beach closures (salt water)
2. Identify monitoring and research priorities
3. Develop strategy for communication to the public.

9:30 AM	Welcome, Introductions and Goals	(Judith Swift)
9:45 AM	Beach Closure indicators used by other NEPs	(Lesley Lambert)
10:00 AM	Overview of beach monitoring/assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public health perspective: EPA ORD beach health study• Assessment of “swimming use” by RIDEM• DOH Beach Monitoring Program• Volunteer Beach Monitoring	(Margherita Pryor) (Sue Kiernan) (Amie Parris) (Lauren Russo)
11:00 AM	Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can we calculate and present this indicator in the NB region?• What data do we have now? What do we hope to have in the future?	(Judith Swift & Q Kellogg)
11:30 AM	Break (lunch served)	
11:45 AM	Discussion continued during lunch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify research needs that can be brought to the Bays, Rivers and Watersheds Coordination Team.• Identify monitoring needs that can be brought to the Monitoring Collaborative• Identify projects that would enhance the usefulness of this indicator• Recommendations for freshwater beaches• Is there any overlap with other on-going projects?	
12:30 PM	Summarize Beach Closure indicator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What did we reach consensus on?• Do we agree to recommendations related to its continued development and use?	(Judith Swift)
1:00 PM	Adjourn	