

2012 Biological Data from SRWA MMC Sites

MD DNR taxonomists have finished identifying the benthic macroinvertebrate samples collected by volunteers at the SRWA MMC monitoring sites last spring. Michael Kashiwagi, MD DNR, ran the numbers and provided the following table showing the benthic Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) score for each of the SRWA stations.

IBI scores range from 1 – 5, with 5 indicating high quality systems. All of the SRWA stations from which benthic samples could be examined scored very well. IBI scores are rated on the following scale; less than 3 = poor, 3 – 4 = fair, greater than 4 = good. Many of the SRWA sites scored a 5. Unfortunately, the sample from one site was rotten by the time it was processed by the DNR lab, probably due to not enough ethanol being used to preserve the material.

Benthic samples will be collected at each of these sites again this spring by SRWA volunteers as part of the ongoing DNR Marcellus shale stream monitoring baseline study.

2012 MMC Streamwaders Benthic Macroinvertebrate Samples

Site Number	Collection Date	Total Number of Benthic Taxa	Number of Mayfly, Stonefly, and Caddisfly taxa	IBI Score	IBI Rating
0074-01	04/01/12	19	13	5	Good
0076-01	04/01/12	15	12	4.7	Good
0077-01	03/31/12	18	11	4.4	Good
0077-02	04/01/12	20	14	5	Good
0078-01	04/01/12	18	13	5	Good
0079-01	03/31/12	16	10	4.7	Good
0080-01	03/31/12	13	9	3.5	Fair
0080-02	03/31/12	14	11	4.1	Good
0081-01	04/09/12	16	10	3	Fair
0082-01	03/31/12	21	15	5	Good
0083-01	04/29/12	19	14	5	Good
0084-01	03/31/12	17	11	4.1	Good
0084-02	Sample rotten				