

Maryland Biological Stream Survey Training and Certification Registration 2015

FORM FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCY, NGO, AND ACADEMIC PERSONNEL



Please TYPE into the form below, print, and mail in with payment for applicable training sessions. Please check all that apply. Certification payment is due after passing written sections.

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number - Office: (____) ____ - ____ Cell: (____) ____ - ____

MBSS TRAINING SESSIONS - Payment required in advance

Spring Training - \$75

This one-day event (February 25) will consist of morning Power Point presentations on protocols for all MBSS spring sampling (site setup, benthic macroinvertebrates sampling, physical habitat, water chemistry and herpetofauna). The afternoon will be spent at a nearby stream where MBSS staff will demonstrate MBSS spring protocols. An acknowledgement of completion will be issued to those who attend the entire day.

Notes on Spring Training: If you have registered for the benthic sampling certification, YOU MUST register for spring training.

Summer Training - \$200

The four day summer training (May 18-21) will consist of Power Point presentations on all MBSS summer sampling protocols (e.g., physical habitat, fish, reptile, amphibian, crayfish, mussel sampling). There will also be field demonstrations of these protocols. Assistance from regional experts with taxonomic identification of fish, reptiles, amphibians, crayfish, mussels, and invasive plants will be provided. Taking taxonomy tests will be optional. Individuals who register only for this training are not eligible for certification in fish sampling, fish crew leadership, or fish taxonomy (regardless of the grade earned on the fish taxonomy test). Additionally, taking a taxonomy test does not certify any individual in sampling or identification of the taxa.

Notes on Summer Training: If you have registered for the fish taxonomy, fish sampling, or fish crew leader certification, YOU MUST register for summer training.

MBSS CERTIFICATIONS - Please submit payment after passing written test

To be considered consistent with MBSS protocols, benthic macroinvertebrate data must be collected by a person certified in benthic macroinvertebrate sampling, the sample must be processed by an individual who is certified in laboratory processing and subsampling, and taxonomic identification must be performed by a person who is certified by the Society for Freshwater Science. Payment for certification is due ONLY after passing the written exam administered at training.

Benthic Macroinvertebrate Sampling Certification - \$115

This certification requires:

- 1) Attendance at MBSS spring training on February 25 (see description below);
- 2) Collection of a benthic sample using standard MBSS protocols with oversight from an MBSS Quality Control Officer (a field audit will be scheduled after passing the written test);
- 3) Comparison of the applicant's benthic sample with a sample taken by a MBSS Quality Control Officer; and
- 4) Passing a written MBSS benthic macroinvertebrate sampling test.

YOU MUST register for spring training if this certification is chosen.

To be considered consistent with MBSS protocols, fish data must be collected by a field crew led by a certified crew leader. Additionally, a certified fish taxonomist must identify the fish species collected by the crew.

Fish Taxonomy Certification - \$25

This certifies a person to conduct species-level identification of stream fishes in Maryland. Requirements are:

- 1) You must score $\geq 90\%$ on the Fish Taxonomy test administered on Day 3 of the MBSS Summer Training;
- 2) You must provide photo vouchers or specimens (5 per species) of all fish species identified in the field sampling year to a MBSS Quality Control Officer; and
- 3) You must undergo one field audit that takes place prior to the beginning of field sampling for the year, OR at the first site to be sampled

YOU MUST register for summer training if this certification is chosen.

Fish Crew Leader Certification - \$100

This certifies a person to lead a fish sampling crew to conduct MBSS fish sampling. Requirements are: You must register for MBSS Summer Training. You must be present during the Power Point presentations given during the morning of the Fish Sampling Training session. You must be present at the fish sampling demonstration given during the afternoon of the Fish Sampling Training session. You must pass a written Crew Leader and a fish sampling test. You must undergo a field audit that will be scheduled prior to the of beginning field sampling for the year OR at the first site to be sampled. You will need to assemble a fish sampling crew to also participate in the field audit. During the audit, the applicant and field crew will be observed by an MBSS Quality Control Officer while sampling a complete MBSS site.

YOU MUST register for summer training if this certification is chosen.

Fish Sampling Certification - \$0

This certifies a person to serve as a field crew member and to conduct fish sampling using MBSS protocols in Maryland. Requirements are:

- 1) You must register for MBSS Summer Training;
- 2) You must be present during the Power Point presentations given during the morning of the Fish Sampling Training session AND the fish sampling demonstration given during the afternoon of the Fish Sampling Training session; and
- 3) You must pass a written test;

YOU MUST register for summer training if you choose this certification.

MBSS will offer a **Laboratory Processing and Subsampling Certification** again in 2015. Scheduling for this certification will be made on a case-by-case basis by contacting Dan Boward at dan.boward@maryland.gov. Here is a short description of the probable requirements for this certification:

- 1) Attendance at a brief processing and subsampling training;
- 2) Passing a benthic subsampling test;
- 3) Successfully completing a subsample; and
- 4) Passing a written processing and subsampling taxonomy test.

This certification will cost \$100.

Important Note!

DNR will not accept checks for certification fees from individuals who register for benthic macroinvertebrate sampling, fish crew leader, or fish taxonomy certification until after the written tests administered at training have been passed. If the written test is passed, DNR will accept the check and the certification process will continue. If the written test is not passed, no payment is required. **Please make checks out to Maryland DNR.**

Total Fees expected: _____

Mail form and payment to:

Must be postmarked by Feb. 12 for spring training and benthic macroinvertebrate sampling certification. Must be postmarked by May 1 for summer training, fish crew leader, fish sampling, and fish taxonomy certification. Receipts are available on request. Questions?

Contact Dan Boward at Dan.Boward@maryland.gov or 410-260-8605

ATTN: Joanne Alewine
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