

# Getting Started as a New Monitor



# Create a profile on the Clean Water Hub

• Visit www.CleanWaterHub.org to create your volunteer profile.

## Select monitoring site(s)

- Use the <u>Clean Water Hub</u> to explore what streams near you are already being monitored
- Email sos@iwla.org if your would like to adopt a dormant site already on the Hub
- Be sure to choose a site where you have safe access to the stream and permission to be on the property

# **Gather Supplies**

- If you are monitoring as part of an organization, check with your program coordinator to see if they already have supplies for you.
- Borrow supplies from an **Equipment Loan Station** near you.
- Review the <u>SOS equipment list</u> to determine what you need

#### **Monitor!**

- For Biological sampling, you should monitor your sites twice a year: in the spring and fall
- Display the **SOS Monitoring Car Sign** when parking near your stream site
- Do not monitor during inclement weather or high water conditions. Wait 1 week after significant rainfall to allow the stream to return to normal conditions

## Submit your data

- · Promptly submit your data after each monitoring event
- All data are submitted to the <u>Clean Water Hub</u> to be quality assured by SOS staff
- After submitting data, retain a copy of your datasheets for 5 years (copy may be digital)

### **Next steps**

- Add chemical monitoring to your routine for a more complete picture of stream health
- Organize a clean-up event for your stream or watershed
- Share your findings and advocate for clean water in your community
- Become a certified SOS Trainer and certify new monitors!

# **Stay Active**

• To maintain an active certification, you must monitor at least every other year.