

The California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network Announces

Swimmable California Webinar Series

Join the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network along with Donna Ferguson, laboratory director for Monterey County Public Health Laboratory and the ELAP Director of the Environmental Consolidated Laboratory, for the presentation “***Fecal Indicator Bacteria Methods: The Good, Bad and Ugly***”. Please join us on Wednesday October 18, 2017 from 11:30 AM -12:30 PM (PST).

Sponsored by the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network the goal of this webinar series is to focus on elements that support California’s water monitoring and management programs that provide for a ***Swimmable California***. Safe to Swim water quality programs are an important part of ensuring public health while people recreate at the State’s many beaches and swimming holes or using these same waters for cultural or subsistence uses. As California’s population continues to grow, more people are recreating in surface waters, especially freshwater. Water quality monitoring and management continue to be challenging for many agencies and the webinar series should be of assistance to many groups as they face these challenges. Organizers of this webinar series encourage participants to engage with the California Water Quality Monitoring Council’s [California Safe-to-Swim Workgroups](#) and become more aware of safe-to-swim resources like the “[The California Microbial Source Identification Manual: A Tiered Approach to Identifying Fecal Pollution Sources to Beaches](#)”. Through networking, sharing and building capacity we can work together supporting a swimmable California.

Webinar Topic and Agenda Pages can be found [here](#).

All webinars will be recorded and placed within the “Swimmable California Webinar Series” Playlist [here](#).

Topic: *Fecal Indicator Bacteria Methods: the Good, Bad and Ugly*

This webinar will provide insightful information on FIB methods (equipment, sampling protocols, and identification, enumeration, and calculation procedures....) that are in are used for the collection of data on fecal indicator bacteria. Fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) are used to assess the microbiological quality of water because, although not typically disease causing, they are correlated with the presence of several waterborne disease-causing organisms. The concentration of indicator bacteria is a measure of water safety for body-contact recreation or for consumption.

Presenters:

Donna Ferguson

Donna Ferguson is the laboratory director for Monterey County Public Health Laboratory and the ELAP Director of the Environmental Consolidated Laboratory. Donna received her B.S. degree in Microbiology from California State University Long Beach and both M.S. in Epidemiology and Ph.D in Environmental Health Sciences at UCLA’s School of Public Health. Her graduate research included developing microbial pathogen detection methods for drinking water and DNA typing methods to characterize enterococci, a group fecal indicator bacteria used to determine water quality. Donna has been a supervisor for Orange County Public Health Laboratory, Water Quality Section, research scientist at Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and Southern California Coastal Water Research Project working on studies investigating beach water bacteria pollution and newly developed water testing methods. Donna has been a co-author, lead author and reviewer of publications in environmental microbiology journals. She also works as a microbiology consultant on Microbial Source Tracking (MST) studies.

Joseph A. Guzman

Joe Guzman is the Supervising Public Health Microbiologist overseeing the Orange County Public Health Water Quality Laboratory. He received his B.S. in Medical Microbiology from California State University, Long Beach. For the last 26

years he has been with the Orange County Public Health Laboratory working in all areas of microbiology. He first started to focus on water quality testing in 1998, becoming involved in the bacterial monitoring of Orange County's beaches, harbors, and estuaries. The laboratory continues to do routine monitoring while also doing research in the development of rapid indicator methods and determining sources of bacterial pollution in receiving waters.

CWQMCN Communication:

- CWQMCN webinar listserv: www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml
After opening the above web-site, enter your email address and name, click on State Water Resources Control Board - Covering statewide issues, next click General Interests, and then place a check mark next to "Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network - Webinar Sessions", then click the "subscribe" button.
- We have set up a webpage for the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/collaboration_network/index.html
- We also have a LinkedIn Group, California Water Quality Monitoring Professional Network. This group was formed to facilitate water quality monitoring communication and discussions. www.linkedin.com.
- Watch CWQMCN videos and find video playlists organized by topic at www.youtube.com/cwqmcn.

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