

# Chapter 11: From monitoring to action

## What is Waterwatch?

Waterwatch is a national community water quality monitoring program that encourages all Australians to become involved and active in the protection and management of their waterways and catchments.

## Who is Waterwatch?

Waterwatch involves local community groups such as Landcare, Park Care and Catchment groups, as well as residents, schools and landowners who regularly monitor the water quality of local creeks, wetlands, lakes, rivers and stormwater drains.

## Why Monitor?

Healthy catchments produce healthy ecosystems with happy fish, frogs, birds, plants, macro-invertebrates and people. Waterwatch aims to create awareness of water quality issues by involving all members of the community and by forming partnerships between the Waterwatch group and water authorities, resources management authorities, business and industry.

## Making a Difference

Water quality information collected throughout a catchment provides a picture of the health of your waterways. Waterwatch groups have initiated many positive, community based conservation activities such as creek restoration, willow removal, removing litter from waterways, eradicating weeds, development of habitats, and reducing the use of pesticides and other pollutants. Many Waterwatch participants are also associated with various other ACT environmental groups who undertake these activities. It's rewarding, fun, and you can make some great friends.

## 11.1 ACT natural resource management team

### ACT Waterwatch

#### **ACT Waterwatch Facilitator**

Nigel Philpot, Environment ACT  
nigel.philpot@act.gov.au  
Phone (02) 6207 2246

#### **Ginninderra Waterwatch Coordinator**

Rachelle McConville  
waterwatch@ginninderralandcare.org.au  
Phone (02) 6278 3309

#### **Southern ACT Waterwatch Coordinator**

Tanya Noakes  
waterwatch@sactcg.org  
Phone (02) 6207 5318

#### **Molonglo Waterwatch Coordinator**

Bayne Geikie, Actew/AGL  
Bayne.Geikie@actewagl.com.au  
Phone (02) 6242 1191

### ACT Catchment Groups

#### **Molonglo Catchment Group**

Heather Coleman  
Ph: (02) 6299 4012  
Email: coordinator@molonglocatchment.com.au

#### **Southern ACT Catchment Group**

Briony Woolaston  
Ph: (02) 6205 4876  
Email: info@sactcg.org

#### **Ginninderra Catchment Group**

Peter Davey  
Ph: (02) 6278 3309  
Email: landcare@ginninderra.org.au

### ACT Landcare

#### **ACT Natural Resources Management and Landcare Facilitator**

Steve Welch  
Ph: (02) 6207 7131  
Email: steve.welch@act.gov.au

#### **Parkcare and Rural Landcare**

Rebecca Blundell  
Ph: (02) 6207 2193  
Email: rebecca.blundell@act.gov.au

### Non Government Organisations

#### **Greening Australia**

Susie Wilson  
Ph: (02) 6253 3035  
Email: swilson@act.greeningaustralia.org.au

#### **Conservation Volunteers Australia**

Drew English  
Ph: (02) 6247 7770  
Email: denglish@cva.org.au

#### **Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Coordinating Committee**

Jo Daly  
Ph: (02) 62072999  
Email: jo.daly@act.gov.au