



WATERSHED WATCH IN KENTUCKY CELEBRATING EARTH DAY WITH A TWO- DAY EVENT

**APRIL 22 & 23 AT EQUUS RUN
WINERY IN MIDWAY, KY**

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Midway, KY – Watershed Watch in Kentucky (WWIK), a statewide volunteer-run water monitoring organization, is holding an Earth Day event at Equus Run Winery, 1280 Moores Mill Road, in Midway, KY on Wednesday, April 22 and Thursday, April 23. The event will celebrate over 12 years of faithful advocacy by Watershed Watch groups statewide in support of the goals of the Clean Water Act.

More than 3,000 individuals, 300 organizations, and 130 leaders across the state volunteer or support monitoring in local waterways throughout Kentucky's eight watershed basins through Watershed Watch in Kentucky. Last year, Watershed Watch groups conducted over 25 training workshops and collected samples from over 700 sites in KY, VA, WV, and TN. The data collected is used to monitor the health of Kentucky's rivers, lakes, and streams.

"What we do best is deliver science to the people, and then deliver the people to the water's edge," said Hank Graddy, Chair, Kentucky Watershed Watch.

"Watershed Watch in Kentucky has put together a great Earth Day celebration," said Judith Petersen, executive director, Kentucky Waterways Alliance. "The event will touch on some time-sensitive issues that should be important to anyone who cares about the future health and prosperity of the state of Kentucky."

Festivities will begin on April 22 at 1:00 p.m. with a welcome and introduction by Graddy. Several panels will be held throughout the day on various topics including: **Pathogen and Nutrient Water Quality in the Ohio River; Controlling Nutrient and Pathogen Pollution; Storm water Permitting as Required by the Clean Water Act; and Storm water Permitting in Kentucky: How are We Doing?**

Panel participants are individuals with a keen interest in water quality from organizations situated around the state and surrounding areas including: **Alan Vicory, Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO), Judith Petersen and Jason Flickner, Kentucky Waterways Alliance, Ken Cooke, Friends of Cane Run, and Lindell Ormsbee, Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute at UK. Serving on the storm water permitting panel is Melanie Shepherdson, staff attorney for National Resources Defense Council (NRDC),** an authority on how communities can control storm water pollution in ways that comply with the Clean Water Act.

The day will conclude at 5:00 p.m. with a wine tasting at Equus Run followed by dinner at Holly Hill Inn in Midway. Dinner will be provided free of charge to watershed volunteers.

The next day, participants will gather together again at 9:00 a.m. at the winery where members from each basin will give a brief report of the previous year's activities. A box lunch from Wallace Station will be provided at 1:00 p.m. A gathering will be held after lunch at Keeneland in Lexington, KY.

If you are interested in attending either of the days, please contact Hank Graddy at (859) 846-4905. For more information about Watershed Watch in Kentucky visit:

www.kywater.org/watch/. For more information about Kentucky Waterways Alliance visit: www.kwalliance.org.

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