

## 2023 Recreational Waters Sanitary Survey Workshops & Training

Would your program like to attend or host a free Recreational Waters Sanitary Survey Workshop? The Clean Water Team and USEPA are planning in-person workshops in California, in 2023, to help community groups, citizen monitors, Tribes, and others use the EPA Sanitary Survey App for Marine and Fresh Waters to conduct their own sanitary surveys.

Only a few of these free workshops will be offered. Organizations that host this special workshop will receive the benefit of having their volunteers and staff receive priority enrollment. However, we do ask for your help. The Clean Water Team and USEPA will provide instruction and some equipment, but we ask that you provide the logistical support (classroom, outdoor/field locations for offsite instruction, food/beverage...) and assist us in inviting/accommodating attendees from other programs. Some funding to offset hosting costs is being offered by USEPA.

If you are interested in participating, hosting a workshop, or would like to learn more, please contact Erick Burres, Clean Water Team Coordinator at [erick.burres@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:erick.burres@waterboards.ca.gov) or (213) 712-6862.

### Learn More:

#### What are [Sanitary Surveys for Recreational Waters](#)?

A sanitary survey is a method of investigating the sources of fecal contamination to a waterbody. Sanitary surveys are often used for drinking water, shellfish, and watershed protection programs. They can also be used for all waters including at beaches and other recreational (or cultural use) waters. Sanitary surveys help state and local program managers and public health officials identify sources of water pollution, assess the magnitude of pollution, and identify priority locations for water testing.

Program managers for beaches and other recreational waters can use the sanitary survey results to prioritize state or county resource allocations to help improve recreational water quality. In addition, they can use sanitary survey data (e.g., bacteria levels, source flow, turbidity, rainfall) to develop models to predict recreational water quality.

#### EPA Sanitary Survey App for Marine and Fresh Waters

The EPA Sanitary Survey App for Marine and Fresh Waters (App) helps waterbody managers collect waterbody and watershed information including water quality data, pollution source data, and land use data for identify sources of fecal contamination. The data from the App can be easily exported for use in predictive models and for sharing within or between agencies (e.g., public health and environmental).



The App includes routine and more comprehensive annual sanitary surveys for both fresh and marine waters. The App enables jurisdictions to easily gather information on possible existence of harmful algal blooms, in addition to sources of bacterial pollution.

[www.epa.gov/beach-tech/sanitary-surveys-recreational-waters#epa](http://www.epa.gov/beach-tech/sanitary-surveys-recreational-waters#epa)

### **Sanitary Survey Manuals**

- Fresh Waters [www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-05/documents/user-manual-freshwater-2021.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-05/documents/user-manual-freshwater-2021.pdf)
- Marine Waters [www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-04/documents/marine-routine-sanitary-survey-2021.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-04/documents/marine-routine-sanitary-survey-2021.pdf)

### **Model Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for Sanitary Survey App**

This model QAPP supports participatory scientists with the development of quality assurance project plans (QAPPs) for collecting environmental data and information using the EPA Sanitary Survey App for Marine and Fresh Waters. Use of the app requires a QAPP. The model QAPP provides a template that participatory science groups can tailor with their own project-specific information, when collecting data using the app and paper versions of the sanitary surveys.

[www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-10/model-quality-assurance-project-plan.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-10/model-quality-assurance-project-plan.pdf)

### **Training Videos**

- [App Training Webinar Recording](#)
- [How to Use the EPA Sanitary Survey App - A Safe to Swim Network Training Webinar](#)
- [Protecting Your Local Watershed - A Workshop on Citizen Science and Water Quality Standards](#)
- [The Context of Sanitary Surveys and Beach Monitoring](#)
- [EPA's Marine Sanitary Survey App](#)
- [An Introduction to Water Contact Sanitary Surveys](#)