

Watershed Training Certificate



Earn a Watershed Management Training Certificate!

You can document your learning by meeting the requirements for the Watershed Academy's **Watershed Management Training Certificate**. The certificate program recognizes website visitors who complete **15 required modules** and pass their self-tests with grades of 70% or higher (retesting is permitted).

People from throughout the US and several foreign countries have completed the certificate program. They include scientists and non-scientists, local, state and federal agency staff, community leaders, consultants, college students, active citizens, and others.

After completing certificate requirements, provide your full name and mailing address to **wacademy@epa.gov**. We will mail you a signed certificate to add to your resume.

Work with us...

Are you an educator? Use our modules as the framework for a watershed course and add your own lectures, discussions or readings. Or, send us ideas for more modules.

What Users Say . . .

"The long distance learning classes work well with my schedule as I am in and out of the office... I can work for a few minutes or maybe an hour if I have time."

-Don Kirby
Superintendent of Streets
City of Staunton, Virginia

"It's been a treat for myself that I have set aside and savored because it's training I'm getting for me as well as my watershed organization. I'm so glad this sort of thing is online!"

-Lisa Jo Frech, Executive Director
Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
Taskin, MD

"I find the modules very well crafted, with good information. In the future, I am contemplating using some of them directly in lecture as starting points for more detailed discussion."

-N. Earl Spangenberg
College of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

About the Watershed Academy

The Watershed Academy was started by the EPA's Office of Water in 1994 to provide training courses and educational materials on the basics of a watershed approach. Our target audience includes local, state, tribal, and federal officials as well as citizens and private practitioners of watershed management. The Watershed Academy has four main components:

- Live watershed training courses;
- Web-based training;
- Information Transfer Series publications;
- and
- State/Tribal watershed program assistance.

for more information see:

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy.htm>



United States
Environmental
Protection Agency

EPA-841-F-00-010
December 2000

Office of Water (4503F)

<http://www.epa.gov/owow>

Watershed Academy Web-Based Training

Distance Learning Modules
on Key Watershed Management Topics

(modules run 1/2 to 2 hrs each)



Training courses won't fit in your schedule?

Can't get funding for watershed training?

Instead, why not learn online?

Watershed Academy Web (formerly **Academy 2000**) enables any PC with Internet access to become your watershed training classroom – when your schedule allows, and at no cost.

Watershed Academy Web modules offer basic instruction on the many disciplines that make up watershed management.

<http://www.epa.gov/watertrain>

Introducing Watershed Academy Web

Nationwide, even worldwide, thousands of people want watershed training. Many obstacles stand in the way: few course offerings, rigid training schedules vs. busy jobs, tuition and travel costs, narrow coverage of topics, limited time in classroom. As an alternative to classroom learning, EPA's **Watershed Academy Web** offers self-paced training modules through the Internet, providing a basic but broad introduction to the many facets of watershed management.



These modules cover the most important watershed management topics – those subjects about which watershed managers, local officials, involved citizens, decision makers, and others should have an introductory level of knowledge.

Our goal is to make this basic but broad introduction to watershed management available to anyone who has Internet access. The length and complexity of each module varies, but most are at the college freshman level of instruction. Students and citizens new to the watershed field can use Watershed Academy Web as basic training. More experienced watershed practitioners may use it for review, study specific modules to fill gaps, or use our modules for introducing watershed principles to others. Professors use our modules in college courses.

(at right) an example module, with color graphics and text, glossary, links, and interactive test.

<http://www.epa.gov/watertrain>

Watershed Academy Web is the first online, interactive "watershed textbook/lecture series" that is free to the public. Our website now has **over 35 modules** and more continually under development. Many were authored by well-known figures in watershed management. Most modules have 25 to 50 color illustrations and photos, unlike an average technical paper. Many have interactive exercises, related links and references, and self-tests. Our web-based training doesn't duplicate a live class, but it has the following strengths:

Public access, no cost

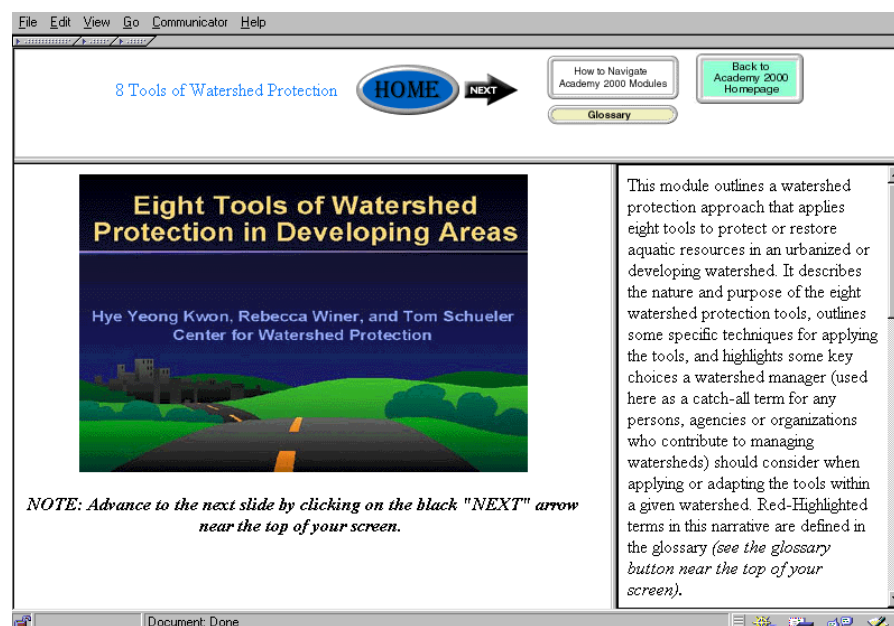
There is no charge and it is available anytime, anywhere in the world. No registration is required – just go online and start learning.

Coverage of key topics

Web-based training is not limited to what can fit in a 1 or 2-day course.

Self-paced instruction and review

Students control their own pace to fit their browsing style and work schedules, and can review modules at any time.



Watershed Academy Web Topics

We've organized the modules around these six themes that span the watershed management field:

Introduction/Overview

These modules introduce the principles of the watershed approach and the value of working at a watershed level.

Watershed Ecology

These modules show that watersheds are natural systems that provide substantial benefits to people and the environment when allowed to function properly.

Watershed Change

These modules describe both natural and human-induced changes in watersheds, and compare normal changes with changes of concern.

Analysis and Planning

These modules address how watershed planning, monitoring, and assessment are important steps toward finding solutions.

Management Practices

These modules show how watershed management challenges like urban runoff, cropland management, forestry and other issues are addressed by techniques that reduce environmental impacts.

Community/Social Context

These modules cover social issues, communications, relevant laws and regulations. They concentrate on the human element of watershed management.

see <http://www.epa.gov/owow/> for more information on watershed protection