



# Tributary Water Quality Monitor

## Volunteer Position Description

### Program Overview

Newfound’s streams and rivers are a critical connection between watershed lands and the lake. They provide important habitat for aquatic plants and animals and account for 75% of all the water inputs to Newfound Lake. Since 2006, NLRA has monitored 35 sites throughout the watershed on eight of Newfound’s largest tributaries. Data collected by volunteers allows NLRA to better understand the quality of the water coming into the lake while providing clues about the impacts of land use in the environments upstream of each site.

For more information on water quality monitoring, visit <https://newfoundlake.org/water-quality/>

### Position Summary

Tributary monitoring is a seasonal volunteer position overseen by NLRA’s Conservation Program Manager. Tributary monitoring happens monthly from May to October with additional sampling directly following large storm events. Volunteer monitors work independently to collect samples and water quality measurements at one or more established sites.

Tributary Monitoring	Time Commitment	Try it Out and Get Trained
<p><b>What’s Involved</b> Independently monitor one or more designated sites after being trained by NLRA staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flexible schedule. Head out when time allows and the weather looks good</li> <li>• Great way to get to know different areas of the watershed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May–October</li> <li>• Regular monthly monitoring with additional stormflow monitoring</li> <li>• 10–15 mins. per site plus travel time</li> </ul>	<p>Interested volunteers can join NLRA staff or Watershed Stewards for a scheduled sampling event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn about water quality through hands on sampling</li> <li>• 1–2 hours</li> <li>• 8AM to 3PM</li> </ul>

[View all tributary monitoring sites](#)

### Volunteer Responsibilities

- Follow established protocols to conduct water quality measurements and collect water samples at designated locations.
- Accurately record all water quality data using the provided datasheets and upload water quality readings using our online reporting form.
- Provide NLRA with the required paperwork and samples in a timely fashion.
- Report total time spent volunteering including date and hours worked using the Volunteer Log Form.

### Requirements

- Volunteers must provide their own transportation. All monitoring sites are located at road crossings to allow easy access to streams.
- Must be available for the bulk of the sampling season (May–October) and communicate known schedule conflicts as soon as possible to ensure consistent coverage.

- Tributary monitoring requires moderate physical activity. Volunteers must be able to walk short distances over uneven ground through shrubby vegetation, lower and retrieve 10-15 pound sampling buckets, and be comfortable crouching next to streams for 10 mins.
- Water samples should be frozen within 6 hours after collection, requiring freezer space until samples can be dropped off at the NLRA office.

### **NLRA Responsibilities**

- Provide all materials, instruction, and necessary volunteer coordination.
- Coordinate all necessary laboratory analysis.
- Compile data, analyze results, and communicate to the public.

### **Point of Contact**

Questions can be directed to:

NLRA Conservation Program Manager

Paul Pellissier

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(603)744-8689

### **Our mission**

The Newfound Lake Region Association's mission is to protect Newfound Lake and its watershed. The Association – through education, programs, and collaboration – promotes conservation and preservation of the region's natural, social, and economic resources.

**Thank you for supporting NLRA with your time and talents!**



NEWFOUND LAKE REGION ASSOCIATION

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