



Izaak Walton League of America



Creek Freaks

WHAT IS A CREEK FREAK? Creek Freaks are middle school students making a splash to help the environment. Each session takes students outside to explore local streams and learn how healthy trees, shrubs, and grasses protect clean water and wildlife. Students are then empowered as local stream experts and are encouraged to continue advocating for and working to improve water quality. We'll let the Creek Freaks tell you themselves!

This program is great for anyone working with youth, from Izaak Walton League chapters to after-school programs and summer camps.

- Want to start an outdoor education program but don't know where to start?
- Looking for hands-on activities for your classroom or an existing youth program?
- Have you been looking for a way to share your love of the outdoors with kids in your community?

Video: Experience Creek Freaks

Creek Freaks could be the answer! The Izaak Walton League can offer you several ways to get started:

- **Materials.** Visit the [Creek Freaks Web site](#) to download the curriculum and extension activities. The Web site also is a place where you can post data, videos, photos, and stories about streams and learn about other streams in your community.
- **Attend a training.** The Izaak Walton League runs two-day comprehensive training on all of the hands-on indoor and stream monitoring activities for the Creek Freaks program. The training will include a basic overview of stream ecology, guidance on how to manage the logistics of conducting on-going youth programs, and hands-on training in conducting activities from the Creek Freaks curriculum. Contact IWLA Clean Water Program Director Danielle Donkersloot at ddonkersloot@iwla.org for information about upcoming trainings.
- **Equipment loan.** The Izaak Walton League national office in Gaithersburg, Maryland, has a full set of monitoring equipment, hands-on activity materials, and boots for stream monitoring. Contact IWLA Clean Water Program Director Danielle Donkersloot at ddonkersloot@iwla.org for more information.

This program is a partnership of the Izaak Walton League of America, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, and U.S. Forest Service.

Students Enthusiastic About Stream Education

Dwight Lydell (Michigan) Chapter member Bob Stegmier took a group of middle school students on a stream adventure they won't soon forget. But don't take our word for it – read the students' essays about their experiences. (“Adrenaline rush” is rarely a phrase we hear from our adult stream monitors!)



Additional Resources

- **Water Words**

Need the details on your watershed? Want to know what an aquifer is? We've got you covered – with water!

[READ MORE](#)

- **Save Our Streams Data Forms**

Ready to find out whether your local stream is safe to swim and play in? Download these data forms and instructions to get started.

[READ MORE](#)

- **IWLA How-To Guides**

Follow our step-by-step guides to simple conservation projects to start making a difference in your community.

[READ MORE](#)

- **Resources for Conserving Streams and Wetlands**

Whether you're new to stream monitoring or an experienced water wader, the League has the resources you need to succeed.

[READ MORE](#)

- **Save Our Streams (SOS) Monitoring Equipment**

You will need a few specific pieces of equipment for stream monitoring. We have all the details plus where to get them for a reasonable cost.