



2011 Wetland Assessment Procedure (WAP) Training

What is WAP?

The WAP is an assessment tool used to collect information used to assess the effects of permitted ground-water withdrawals on wetlands. It is a requirement on some District permits when wetland monitoring is required.

When is the training?

Two identical WAP training workshops have been scheduled for 2011 on **May 5 and 6** and **May 12 and 13**. As the dates indicate, each workshop is a 2-day session. We begin promptly at 8:30 AM each day, and will be finished no later than 5:00 PM each day.

Where is the training?

The training will be at the Jay B. Wilderness Park in Pasco County. The training begins and ends in the Environmental Education Center (1/2 mile from the park entrance). A map can be provided if needed (inquire when you sign up).

Who should attend?

Anyone who will be performing WAP assessments in 2011 as part of a District issued permit should attend each year. Others are welcome as long as space is available, although priority will be given to those planning to perform WAPs in 2011 as part of a District permit.

How do I sign up?

All employees or consultants of Tampa Bay Water should email Doug Keesecker of Tampa Bay Water (dkeesecker@tampabaywater.org). All others should email Jessica Sutton of the District (Jessica.Sutton@watermatters.org). Include your name, contact information (email and phone number), which of the two workshops you would like to attend, and information on why you would like to attend. Availability is by priority (as explained above) and first come/first serve, so please sign up early. If one workshop is full, you will be directed to the other. If both workshops are full, we will start a waiting list. Confirmation will be sent via email.

What is the workshop agenda?

The first day, consisting of both classroom and field work, is devoted to field identification of plants important to the WAP methodology. The second day is devoted to a classroom lecture on the WAP methodology, and a short field exercise to give you a chance to apply the WAP.

Other information

- Please arrive early to gather handouts, enjoy some refreshments, etc. We will begin promptly at 8:30 AM (the sooner we start, the sooner we finish).
- We will be going out in the field on each of the training days, therefore field attire is appropriate. It is difficult to anticipate wetland hydrology in May. We recommend bringing field boots or short water-proof boots.
- One hour is scheduled for lunch (maybe shorter depending on how much discussion we have in the morning). Due to the short time scheduled for lunch and distance needed for travel to area restaurants, **please bring your lunch both days.**
- We will provide coffee, water, soft drinks, and light snacks (including breakfast foods).
- We will carpool while in the field. If you have a 4WD vehicle and you are willing to help by driving others from site to site, please let us know in advance. That way, we may be better able to organize loading people into the vehicles.
- Before you arrive at the workshop, **please download the following from the District Northern Tampa Bay website:**
<http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/waterres/ntb/wap/wap.html>.
 1. **March 2005 WAP Instruction Manual (if you don't have one already).**
 2. **Latest WAP Field form.**
 3. **Latest WAP Guidelines Sheet.**
 4. **Latest Cover Categories Ranking Scale.**
 5. **2008 Field Identification Guide to Plants Used in the Wetland Assessment Procedure.**

There haven't been any changes to all of these documents but the Field Form for 2011. Additionally, we recommend you read through the instruction manual before your training session.

If you need any additional information, please email Jessica Sutton Jessica.Sutton@watermatters.org of the District, or telephone (352) 796-7211, ext.4536