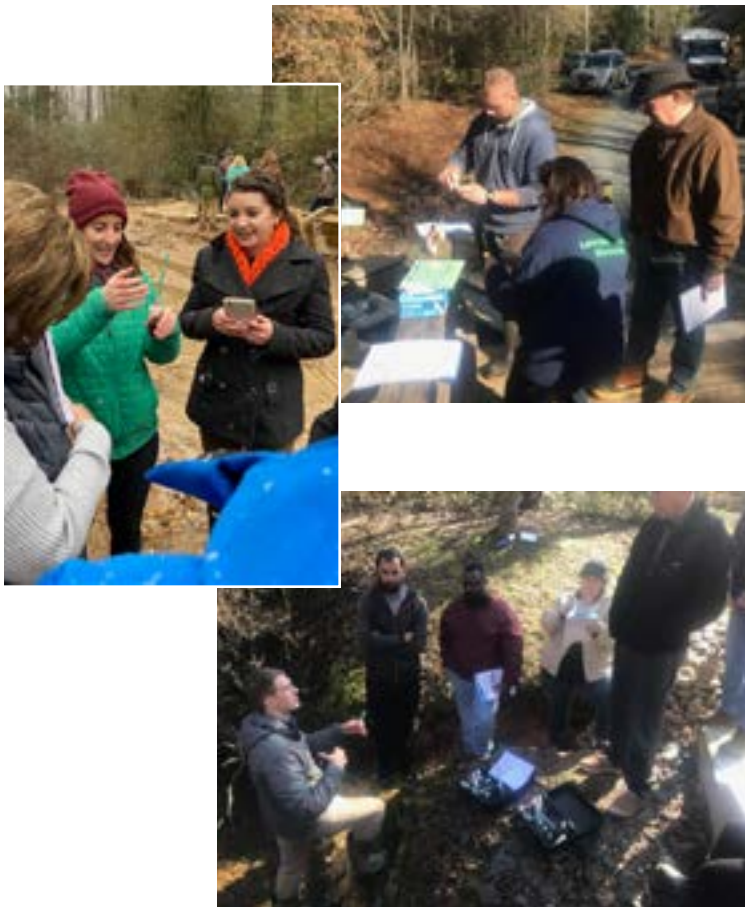


SOUTH CAROLINA ADOPT-A-STREAM ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

For decades to come, we will discuss practices and procedures as “before COVID-19” and “after COVID-19.” This year’s annual report will be no different. Leading up to the pandemic, SC AAS reached a milestone, with SC AAS volunteer training events spreading to new areas, including Fort Mill, Saluda, Orangeburg, and North Augusta. These were all canceled after mid-March 2020. As a world, we paused to learn more about the virus and how it spreads. SC AAS adjusted our program to priority tasks: a) extending certifications, keeping already certified volunteers active, and providing loaner kits to those most active volunteers; b) expediting a virtual recertification program to ensure integrity of the program and data collection; c) engaging new volunteers through hybrid certification workshops. This period has been a test of the relevancy of this program to our stakeholders and the meaningfulness of the data being collected. Here are the results!

PRE COVID-19 (October 1- March 14)



98 active volunteers
79 sites
231 events
393 monitoring hours
\$9,993 in-kind contribution

DURING COVID-19 (March 15 - September 30)



75 active volunteers
51 new volunteers
47 re-certifications
79 sites & 16 new sites
261 events
429 monitoring hours
\$10,909 in-kind contribution

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Hybrid Workshops Underway



If you are experiencing any signs of illness, please stay home and wait for another opportunity.



Wear gloves the entire time, as you would when sampling.



Use PPE appropriately, with face mask covering from chin to nose. Volunteers must bring their own face mask.



Individuals, maintaining a minimum of 6' apart at all times, will be asked to one-by-one to step up to the table and demonstrate testing on provided sample water.



Equipment will be wiped down by trainers between participants



Your trainer will have a table set up along the river. The trainer will demonstrate sample collection.



SC AAS Success Stories



A SC AAS volunteer, working with the Anderson Regional Joint Water System, recorded multiple high bacteria sampling events on Hembree Creek in Anderson. The SC AAS State Team coordinated a sampling plan with Trey to sample multiple sites along Hembree Creek. By walking the stream, Trey noticed gray water and the smell of sewage next to the stream that led to the discovery of a broken 8-inch pipe next to a manhole near the stream. A repair was quickly made.

Another SC AAS volunteer, noticed unusual odors and excessive sediment near the North Saluda River near Travelers Rest. He alerted the SC AAS State Team which then lead to contacting Kelly Seals in DHEC's Greenville Regional Office. Walking up the North Saluda River, Kelly was able to detect an odor and discovered drainage ditches, coming from an agricultural area.

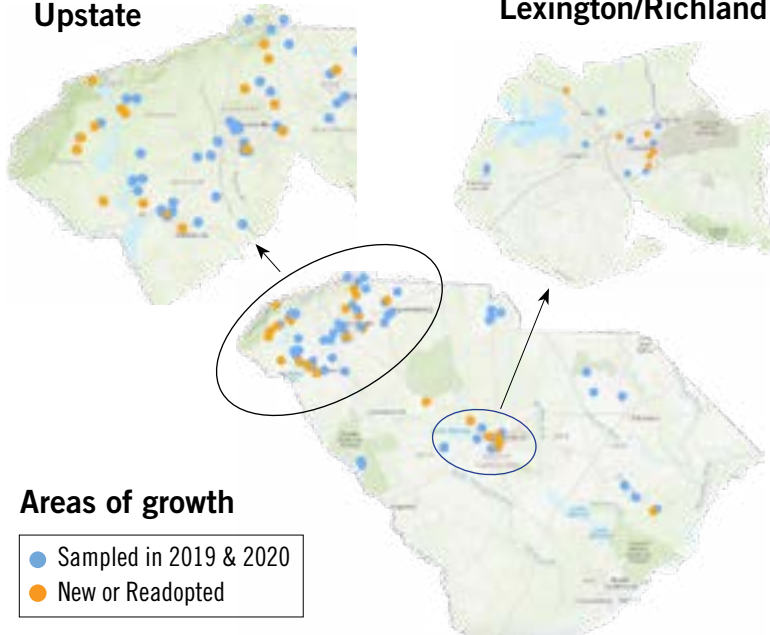


She contacted the owners of the agricultural land who were grateful that this was brought to their attention. They have since installed silt fencing along the ditches, thus reducing sediment along the North Saluda River.

Remember that South Carolina Adopt-a-Stream is not used for regulatory or targeting purposes. SC AAS is intended to educate, and in instances like this, we have the opportunity to educate landowners as much as our citizen scientists.

Upstate

Lexington/Richland



SC AAS Training Partners



co-lead by



For more information, visit www.scadoptastream.org.