

“ All living things—plants, animals, and human beings—require clean water. As users of water and citizens of planet Earth, we must take responsibility for our impact on water quality.

Recognizing that education and awareness are important first steps toward action, we challenge you to **test** the quality of your waterways, **share** your findings, and **protect** our most precious resource. ”



—Philippe Cousteau Jr.  
CO-FOUNDER & PRESIDENT, EARTHECHO INTERNATIONAL



The **EarthEcho Water Challenge** (EEWC) is an international program that equips anyone to combat the global water crisis starting in their own communities. Through the simple acts of testing their local water, sharing the results, and taking action to restore and protect this resource, anyone can play a critical role in ensuring the overall health of the environment and our communities. EEWC is a program of EarthEcho International. Founded by explorer and environmental advocate Philippe Cousteau Jr., EarthEcho International is a leading environmental education organization dedicated to building and activating a new generation of youth who will solve the most critical problems facing people and the planet. EarthEcho provides inspired and relevant educational content to make learning about our world an adventure; our 21st century tools and resources empower and equip youth to take action to solve environmental issues starting in their own communities.



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## Let's get started...

### 1 Select your site

Choose any lake, stream, bay, or other water body where you can safely monitor.

### 2 Prepare your monitoring equipment

Use your own equipment or purchase an easy-to-use test kit via the EarthEcho Water Challenge website ([www.MonitorWater.org](http://www.MonitorWater.org)).

### 3 Monitor your site

Invite others to help you test or do it yourself.

### 4 Share your data

You did the work, so let us know about your water! You can submit your results online at [www.monitorwater.org](http://www.monitorwater.org) until December 31.

### 5 Protect water resources

Work with your group to take action to protect your local waterways. Share highlights from your work when logging your water quality data at [www.monitorwater.org](http://www.monitorwater.org).

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## Here's what you'll test for...

### Dissolved Oxygen (DO)

Measures how many molecules of oxygen are in the water. Since oxygen is important to fish and other aquatic life, higher DO readings support more diverse species and a healthier ecosystem. Low levels of DO can weaken or kill fish and other aquatic life.

### pH (Acidity)

Measures how acidic or basic a liquid is. pH is measured on a scale from 0-14, where 0 is most acidic, 14 is most basic, and 7 is neutral. A pH between 6.5 and 8.5 is favorable for supporting life in natural waters.

### Turbidity (Clarity)

Measures the water's clarity. Debris, sand, silt, and other materials can make the water less clear (more turbid). Turbidity can impact the aquatic ecosystem by affecting photosynthesis, respiration, and reproduction of aquatic life.

### Temperature

Measures the warmth or coldness of the water. This indicator is important because it affects dissolved oxygen, photosynthesis, and the food supply. Waters that are too hot or too cold can have severe effects on fish and other aquatic life.

