



**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY**

-----BASIC COURSE-----

**Training Course Announcement
May 3 - 7, 2010 in Arlington/Crystal City, VA**

Course Location

Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel
2799 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202
(Yellow and Blue Lines to the Crystal City Metro Station).
MetroBus 23A, C 16H, Arlington Transit 91
The Hyatt shuttles stop at the Crystal City Metro Station every
1/2 hour (look for the White/Red Shuttle sign).

Course Description

The "Water Quality Standards Academy" is a basic, introductory course designed for those with fewer than six months of experience with water quality standards. This is a comprehensive and highly structured course that introduces participants to all aspects of the water quality standards program, including the interpretation and application of the water quality standards regulation: water body designated uses, the development of water quality criteria (including human health, aquatic life, nutrient and biological), antidegradation policies, implementation, State/Tribal standards adoption and EPA review. A description of the training modules to be presented during the course appears on page 2 of this application packet.

The course is conducted over a five-day period. This session will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel located in Crystal City/Arlington, VA. The session will begin on Monday, May 3, at approximately 9:30 a.m. and will end at approximately 2:00 p.m., Friday, May 7, 2010.

Pre-application

The course is offered free of charge; however, **you must apply to attend.** Either apply online at:

<http://www.glec-online.com/form.htm>

or fill out the form provided in this announcement and mail or fax it to EPA's contractor at the following address:

Water Quality Standards Academy Coordinator
c/o Great Lakes Environmental Center
1295 King Avenue
Columbus, OH 43212
-OR-
FAX it to (614) 487-1920

to arrive no later than **Monday, March 15, 2010**

DO NOT APPLY MORE THAN ONCE

Please note that because seats in the course are very limited, EPA reserves the right to accept applications based on a balanced mix of participants.

Due to the large amount of material to be covered during the course, participants **MUST BE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES.** Pre-application does **NOT** guarantee your attendance. **YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING AS TO WHETHER YOUR APPLICATION TO ATTEND THE TRAINING COURSE HAS BEEN ACCEPTED.** A confirmation or rejection notice will be sent prior to the start of the course.

PLEASE DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL EPA CONFIRMS YOUR ATTENDANCE IN WRITING.

Participants are responsible for their own travel, lodging, and other expenses. Information about hotel availability follows. Please observe cutoff date for course registration.

A block of sleeping rooms has been reserved at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel at the U.S. government per diem rate for Arlington, VA. Please reserve your room by April 12, 2010 before the block is released.

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
2010 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY**

DESCRIPTION OF MODULES

Module 1: Introductions and Participant Expectations

Introduces the course, instructors, and participants. Addresses participant expectations.

Module 2: Overview of EPA, the Clean Water Act, and the Water Quality Standards Program

Presents an overview of the course, the roles of EPA, States and Tribes in the development of water quality standards, a discussion of the Clean Water Act (CWA), and an overview of water quality standards (WQS) and their implementation.

Module 3: Designated Uses

Covers State and Tribal designated use classifications, what designated uses are required, when and how designated uses can be revised, and the distinction between designated and existing uses.

Module 4: Use Attainability Analyses

Provides a basic understanding of the role of Use Attainability Analyses in revising designated uses, explains when a Use Attainability Analysis is required, and discusses some examples.

Module 8: Human Health Criteria

Discusses the components of and calculation of EPA's criteria recommendations to protect human health for both carcinogens and non-carcinogens. Introduces fish tissue criteria and fish consumption advisories.

Module 9: Aquatic Life Criteria

Discusses how EPA's develops criteria recommendations for the protection of aquatic life, and summarizes site-specific modification procedures.

Module 11: Biological Criteria

Provides an overview of the biocriteria program, including the development of biocriteria and the use of biological information in refining aquatic life designated uses.

Module 12: Nutrient Criteria

Provides an overview of the development of EPA's numeric nutrient criteria, other defensible ways of developing criteria, and the application of State/Tribal nutrient criteria in water quality standards.

Module 14: Antidegradation Policy Requirements

Provides an understanding of how State/Tribal antidegradation policies help protect existing water quality.

Module 15: Variances

A WQS variance is a short-term change to water quality standards. This module provides an overview of the requirements for WQS variances and their appropriate use in water quality management.

Module 16: Economic Considerations

Provides a basic understanding of when and how it is appropriate to consider economic factors within the water quality standards process and how to evaluate decisions based on a finding of substantial and widespread economic and social impacts.

Module 17: Mixing Zones

Defines and outlines EPA's recommendations and published guidance for State/Tribal mixing zone policies.

Module 18: WQS Submittal and Approval Process

Presents an overview of the administrative process required for submission of State and Indian Tribal water quality standards. Describes the process by which EPA reviews State and Tribal adopted water quality standards. Discusses the types of approvals possible and Federal water quality standards promulgation procedures.

Module 19: Endangered Species Act and the Water Quality Standards Program

Presents a brief overview of the Endangered Species Act and how it applies to the water quality standards approval process.

Module 19a: 401 Certification

Provides an overview of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, and how States and Indian Tribes can use it in reviewing federal permits/licenses that authorize a discharge to waters of the US.

Module 20: Implementation of Water Quality Standards

Presents the process by which adopted water quality standards are implemented: monitoring and assessment, Total Maximum Daily Loads, and point source permitting.

Module 21: Water Quality Standards on Indian Reservations

Provides information on the requirements for Indian Tribes to administer the water quality standards program.

Module 23: Wrap-Up/Feedback

Determines if participant expectations of the training course were met. Seeks to obtain feedback on the usefulness of the course and suggestions for improving the Academy.

Module 24: Bacteria Criteria

Provides an understanding of EPA's current '304(a) water quality criteria for bacteria and information on the relationship between the water quality criteria and the BEACH Act of 2000.

Waters of the U.S.

Provides an overview of what is a "water of the U.S." and what waters may not be covered under the Clean Water Act.

Tools for Achieving Standards

Provides a summary of alternative water quality standards and other tools states and tribes can use when standards cannot be attained immediately.

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
2010 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY**

**PRE-APPLICATION AND
OTHER LOGISTICAL INFORMATION**

PRE-APPLICATION INFORMATION:

You **MUST** apply for the course by either applying online at: <http://www.glec-online.com/form.htm> or completing the form provided at the back of this packet. Apply online or return the form by **Monday, March 15, 2010** to EPA's contractor at the following address:

**Water Quality Standards Academy Coordinator
c/o Great Lakes Environmental Center
1295 King Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212
FAX: (614) 487-1920**

Telephone pre-applications will NOT be accepted.

A confirmation or rejection letter will be mailed to you prior to the start of the course. **DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL EPA CONFIRMS YOUR ATTENDANCE IN WRITING**

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: If you need special accommodations at this training (including wheelchair access), you should contact Great Lakes Environmental Center at (614) 487-1040 at least five business days before the training so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

HOTEL INFORMATION AND COURSE LOCATION:

You are responsible for making your own travel and hotel arrangements.

Course Location:

Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel
2799 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202
(Yellow and Blue Lines to the Crystal City Metro Station).
MetroBus 23A, C 16H, Arlington Transit 91
The Hyatt shuttles stop at the Crystal City Metro Station every 1/2 hour (look for the White\Red Shuttle sign).

A block of sleeping rooms has been reserved at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel at the U.S. government per diem rate for Arlington, VA. Please reserve your room by April 12, 2010 before the block is released and the room price increases. To reserve a sleeping room, call the hotel/conference center at:

Tel: 402-592-6464 or 1-888-421-1442
Use Code: EPA WQSA to get the conference rate

Only valet parking is available at the hotel for \$25/day (unlimited access). Overnight guest parking is also \$25.

Driving Directions: Bringing an automobile into the area is strongly discouraged. Please use the Metro system. Parking is available at some stations, but may be limited and require advance registration.

Airport Shuttle: The Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel provides a complimentary shuttle from Reagan National Airport to the hotel. Courtesy shuttle service to and from airport is available 5:00am-12:00am. Pickup every 20 min at the top of the hour and 20 minutes and 40 minutes past the hour.

There is also a Metro Station at Reagan National Airport.

Metro Directions: Take the Blue or Yellow line to the Crystal City Station. Take the escalators from the station up to the street. Once you are at the top of the escalators, turn to the left toward the brown Metro sign. The Hyatt shuttles stop at the corner (look for the White\Red Shuttle sign) every 1/2 hour. For pick-up at the METRO, you may call the hotel directly at 703-418-1234.

Taxi Information:

One way taxi fare from Ronald Reagan National Airport is approximately \$8 (10-15 min).
One way taxi fare from Dulles Airport is approximately \$75 (50-60 min).

Metro Directions from Reagan National Airport: Take the Blue or Yellow line to Crystal City Station. Take the escalators from the station up to the street. Once you are at the top of the escalators, turn to the left toward the brown Metro sign. The Hyatt shuttles stop at the corner (look for the White\Red Shuttle sign) every 1/2 hour. For pick-up at the METRO, you may call the hotel directly at 703-418-1234. Fare is approximately \$1.50-\$2.00 (10-15 min). The Crystal City Metro stop is approximately a 10 minute walk from the Hyatt Crystal City Hotel.

Shuttle Bus/Metro Directions from Dulles Airport: Take the Washington Flyer Bus to the West Falls Church Metro stop (approx. \$10 per person, 40 minute drive). Then take the metro via the Orange line to the Rosslyn station (sixth stop). Transfer to the Blue line and take it to the Crystal City Station. Take the escalators from the station up to the street. Once you are at the top of the escalators, turn to the left toward the brown Metro sign. The Hyatt shuttles stop at the corner (look for the White\Red Shuttle sign) every 1/2 hour. For pick-up at the METRO, you may call the hotel directly at 703-418-1234.

Train/Metro Directions from BWI Airport (Baltimore): Please go to: www.metroopensdoors.com (rail and bus).

2010 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY

PRE-APPLICATION FORM

RETURN TO EPA'S CONTRACTOR AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

Water Quality Standards Academy Coordinator
Great Lakes Environmental Center
1295 King Avenue
Columbus, OH 43212

**PRE-APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE May 3-7, 2010
COURSE MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY, March 15, 2010.**

OR FAX TO: (614) 487-1920

I WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY
TRAINING AT THE SHERATON CRYSTAL CITY HOTEL, ARLINGTON, VA
(May 3-7, 2010)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organizational Affiliation: _____

Organizational Office/Division: _____

Address: _____

EPA Region (1-10, HQ or Other): _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, AS THEY WILL HELP YOUR INSTRUCTORS PREPARE THEIR MATERIALS

Number of years experience with water quality standards? Please check one that applies:

_____ Fewer than 6 months _____ 1-3 Years _____ 6 months to 1 year _____ 4 Years or more

What are your *expectations* of this course? _____

Do you have any *specific questions* about water quality standards and implementation that you would like addressed during the course?

EPA WILL CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE IN WRITING BEFORE THE START OF THE COURSE. REMEMBER: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING YOUR OWN HOTEL AND TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL EPA'S CONTRACTOR: Water Quality Standards Academy Coordinator
Great Lakes Environmental Center
(614) 487-1040