



# 2024

Building a movement





2024 YEAR  
IN REVIEW

# 2024 was a great year for leading growth in community-based water monitoring!

Here are just a few of our highlights.





2024 YEAR  
IN REVIEW

OUR GOAL:

# Empower communities to protect and steward their local waterways

## LEARN

Create space for just about anyone to understand water's complexity and importance with the training resources they need to teach others.

## TEST

Provide tools that allow anyone to have a hands-on and joyful water testing experience, emphasizing the importance of following data standards.

## ACT

Transform humanity's relationship with water and inspire people to take further steps in protecting local waterways through the power of collective action.



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A young girl with blonde hair, wearing a bright purple puffer jacket and blue jeans, is focused on stirring a sample in a clear plastic cup. An adult's hands are visible, one holding the cup steady while the other uses a small white stirrer. The background shows a body of water and a wooden fence, suggesting an outdoor field setting. The overall scene conveys a sense of community and environmental education.

# NURTURING COMMUNITY



2024 YEAR  
IN REVIEW

# 40,000+

**Trained in water testing!** That's +15,000 from last year! We're committed to inspiring the next generation of water protectors.

[Explore our new education resources](#)



"I have been using Water Ranger's test kits with students for a few years now and we have developed routines around water sampling. When students found out I was heading to Antarctica as a Grosvenor Teacher Fellow, they wanted me to take measures while I was away. It was a great way to model the citizen science we had been doing in a different place and to connect them to my expedition. We also added some saltwater test kits after this to expand our water testing capabilities. We get out at least once a month and the students engage in their own field work and data collecting, developing important scientific skills and hopefully inspiring future scientists."

Carrie-Lee Antoniazzi, Teacher





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# 80%

**Become teachers of water quality**, after starting with our tools. We actively support educators and community organizers.

*[Explore our impact](#)*



2024 YEAR  
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Ocean  
Week  
Canada

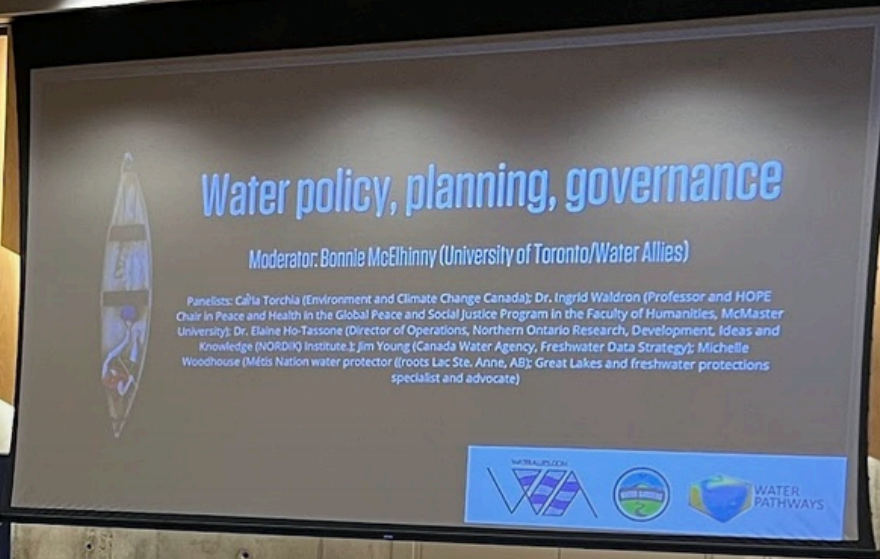
# Ocean Week

All water leads to the ocean. In 2024, we supported 129 Ocean Week events, helping 6,700 people celebrated their connection to the global ocean! [View our Ocean Week impact report](#)





2024 YEAR  
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# Confluence

In June, we hosted a two-day workshop with U of T on community-driven water monitoring, featuring panels on Indigenous-led projects, Water Rangers' initiatives, and policy implications, along with roundtables and a community arts project by Earthworks Vision.

"Thanks to these amazing kits, we have been able to reach hundreds of youth, Elders, Educators and Knowledge Keepers in both the community and in the classroom! We've been able to have meaningful conversations about our relationship with the water and our responsibilities as current and future leaders and Water Protectors!"

Ashley Wolfe, Teacher





2024 YEAR  
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# BUILDING TOOLS



2024 YEAR  
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# 460,000+

**Datapoints on our open data platform (94,700 added in 2024) in over 7,500 locations, mostly in Canada, USA, and the UK. Plus, we're in the final stages of testing our upgraded data platform! [Explore the map](#)**



2024 YEAR  
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# 375+

**Groups or organizations are using our platform to collect data, with over 50 of them sharing automatically with our friends at Datastream!** Pictured: volunteers from Thames21 in the UK, who recorded 358 observations this year. [Learn more](#)



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# Most observations

**342 observations** were recorded this year by Ajaz Shaikh on behalf of the N.O.R.D.I.K Institute, the most recorded in 2024 by one individual! [View their data](#)



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# E. coli lab launch

In the UK, we launched a community-run lab in collaboration with ZERO Guildford, the River Wey Trust and Surrey University. Run entirely by volunteers, it uses a certified method to help monitor swimming and boating locations [Watch the video](#)



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# CaSTCo launch

In the UK, we're part of the Catchment Systems Thinking Cooperative, a national collaborative effort of 30+ organizations to ensure community science is part of decision-making. We're in charge of how the data gets shared as well as testing new tools. [Learn more](#)





2024 YEAR  
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# Lake Erie Rangers

In Fall 2024, Water Rangers received a 3-year Canada Water Agency grant to support the Lake Erie Rangers' community science project. We've already equipped and deployed 40+ volunteers to monitor road salts this year! [Learn more](#)



2024 YEAR  
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# Business Case Toolkit

The Water Rangers Business Case Toolkit helps organizations build a compelling case for investment in community-based water monitoring. It equips users with the tools to demonstrate the value of community science in protecting freshwater ecosystems. [Explore the Toolkit](#)

PUBLISHED BY **WATER RANGERS**

POWERED BY  **AQUA  
ACTION**



# WATERSHED REPORTS

Coming in the Spring of 2025! But 2024 has been about putting them together. We're so excited to be the stewards of this national report.

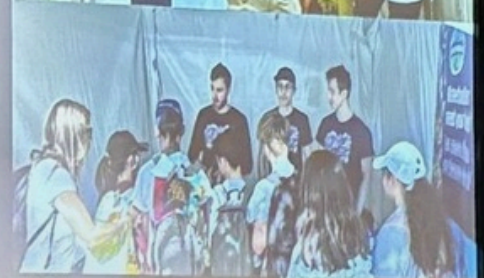
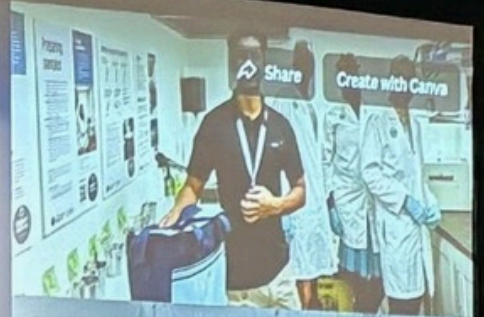
[Visit the Watershed Reports website](#)



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# Break down barriers

It's our collective responsibility to build pathways. Contributions matter.



# Canada Water Agency

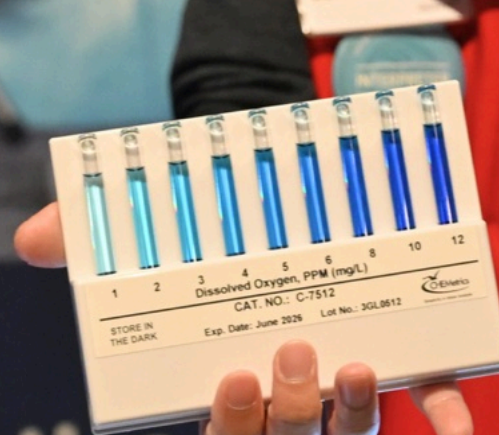
Starting a Canada Water Agency is a historic moment for our country! Our Executive Director was a plenary speaker at the inaugural Canada Water Agency's national data strategy roundtable in September.



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“We have been demonstrating the water testing tools in the Education Toolkit with Vancouver Aquarium Guests outside the wet lab and at our Ocean Science program. Guests love seeing first hand how they can learn about dissolved oxygen in the water that the animals here and off our coast need to stay healthy and how they can be part of community-based water monitoring.”

Danika Strecko, Senior Manager - Education



Microplastics  
Educational Toolkit



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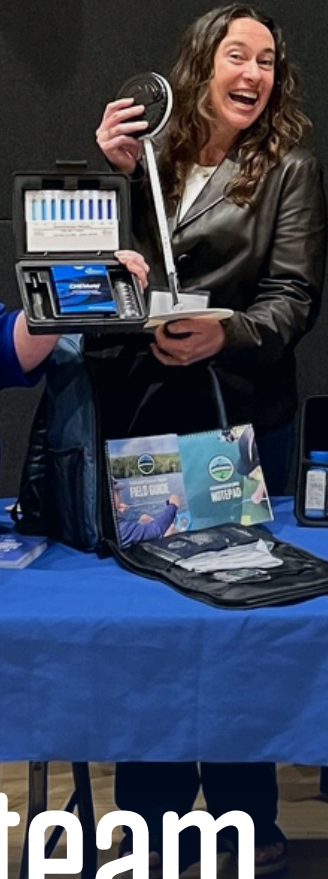
# PEOPLE BEHIND THE WORK



2024 YEAR  
IN REVIEW



Waterbodies  
need your help!  
S COUR  
t be



# Our team

Our small but mighty team continues to do so much! Thanks to our full-time staff: Kat, Gabi, Laura, Nik, Praise, Kiersten; and our part-time staff: Wil, Phil, Emelia, and Fiona. [More about us](#)



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# Our testkits are made with love

We lovingly assemble and customize testkits in Val-des-Monts, Quebec. We're constantly improving our tools... interested in our new optical dissolved oxygen probe or the E. coli testkit we're developing?

[Visit our store](#)

*Investment for social enterprise non-profits is tougher than it should be. A special shout out to the Thrive Impact Fund and Community Forward Fund for their investment in our store!*

**thrive**  
IMPACT FUND

COMMUNITY  
FORWARD  
FUND





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# Love to our volunteers

To the thousands of volunteers whose passion continues to energize the movement, words aren't enough! A special shout out to Alistair Young, Water Rangers' volunteer Trustee in the UK, who has single-handedly supported 10+ new groups in starting water monitoring.



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I reconnected in scientific and a spiritual ways with the waterway that our family has enjoyed for 75 years on Canada's historic French River in Ontario. My wife, daughter and I learned about the health of the waters of the French River and Lake Nipissing, and we're now working to mobilize the community to conduct annual water testing in 2025 and beyond. I can 100% recommend Water Rangers to any property owner or cottagers that wish to test and monitor their waterways."

Tim Murdoch and family, French River



# Made possible because of...

We're mission-driven organization, and our impact wouldn't be possible without the support of many:

CANADIAN FUNDERS: NSERC PromoScience, Canadian Ocean Literacy Coalition, Rossy Foundation, Canada Summer Jobs, Government of Ontario, Government of Saskatchewan, ECO Canada, RBC, and Canada Water Agency.

The Confluence event was supported by SSHRC, Water Allies, Water Rangers, and Water Pathways.

UK FUNDERS: Godalming Town Council, Surrey County Council, CaSTCo, ZERO Guildford, River Wey Trust.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:  
(Canada) Jordan, Katie, Rachel, Mark, Natalie;  
(UK) Alistair, Katie, and Daisy.



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# THANKS!

It's been a dam good year!  
See you on the water in 2025.