



Virginia Save Our Streams monitors water quality of Virginia’s streams and educates the public about importance of clean water. Hundreds of VA SOS volunteers collect stream quality data from over 200 stream sites across the state. These streams flow through our neighborhoods and communities and serve as drinking water sources for millions of Virginians. Read on for milestones and results from Virginia.

## 2024 BY THE NUMBERS



**25**  
certification trainings

**91,318**  
macroinvertebrates sampled

**311**  
stream health surveys conducted



**5**  
new volunteer trainers



**85**  
new certified monitors

# Growing the Network

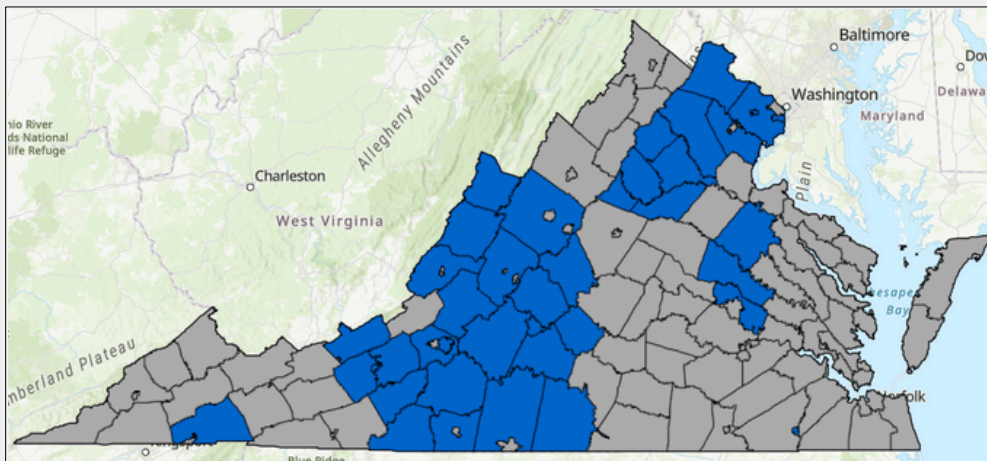
Our 85 new certified monitors come from Averett University, several Master Naturalist chapters, Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, Natural Bridge State Park, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, and more. These new folks bring us to a total of 343 monitors with active certifications.

## ***New Certified Trainers***

Our new volunteer trainers will expand our network in Montgomery, Giles, Floyd, Pulaski, Bedford, Franklin, Amherst, Appomattox, Campbell, and Nelson counties. We now have a total of 35 trainers.



## ***Trainer Coverage (blue)***



## ***Staff Changes***

Maggie Dombroski joined the team as the Mid-Atlantic Save Our Streams Coordinator in April 2024.



# 2024 Monitoring in VA

## \$10,204

reimbursed to monitoring groups purchasing equipment

## \$1,999

spent to purchase equipment for teachers to use with their students

## 311

stream healthy surveys in Virginia (296 approved in the quality assurance process)

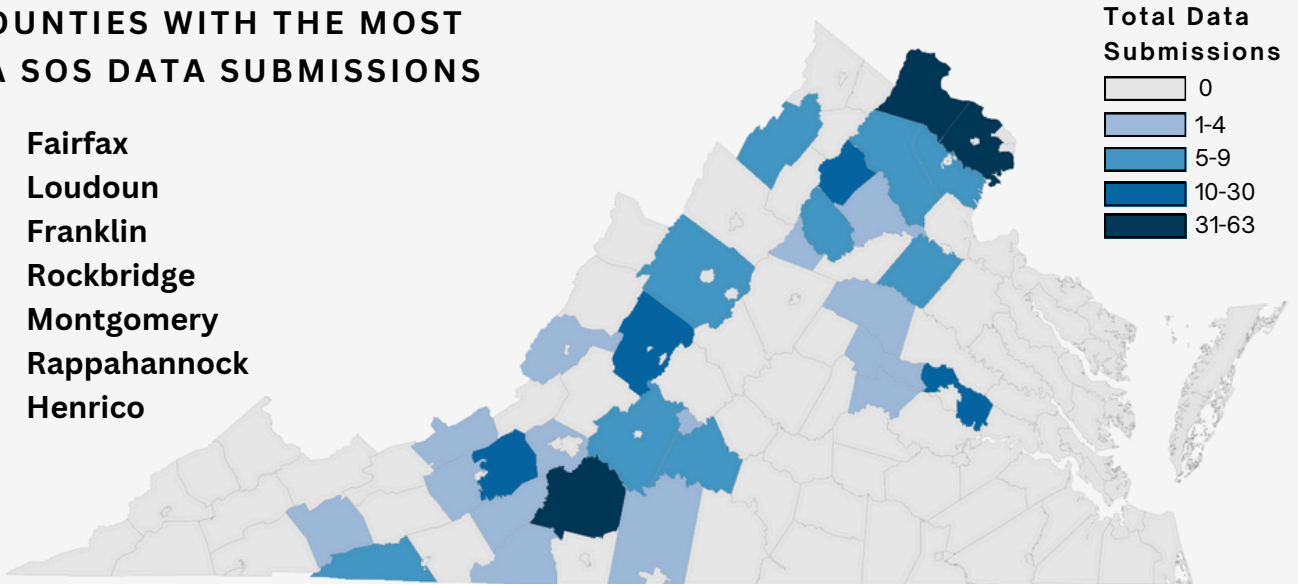
## 746



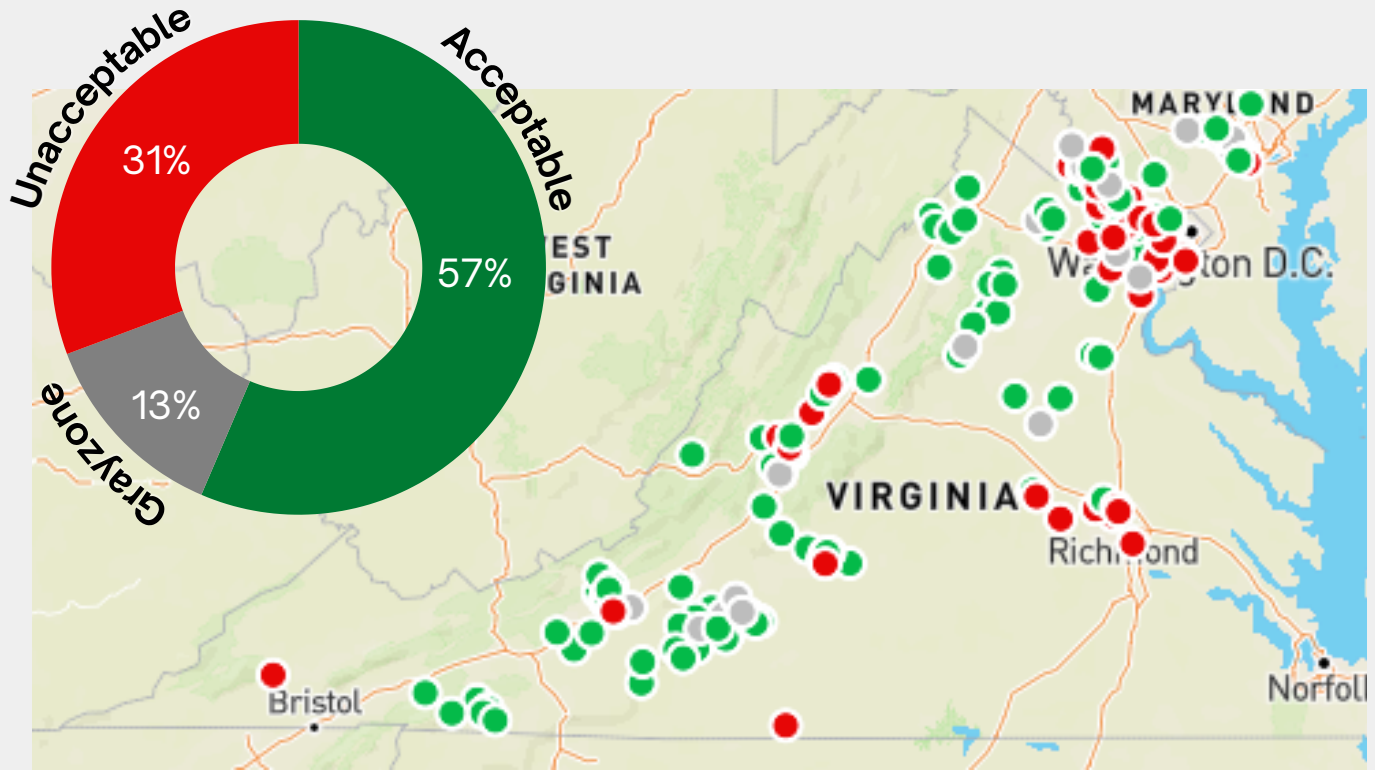
Salt Watch kits mailed to Virginians testing their streams for chloride pollution

### COUNTIES WITH THE MOST VA SOS DATA SUBMISSIONS

- 63 Fairfax
- 47 Loudoun
- 31 Franklin
- 20 Rockbridge
- 20 Montgomery
- 10 Rappahannock
- 10 Henrico

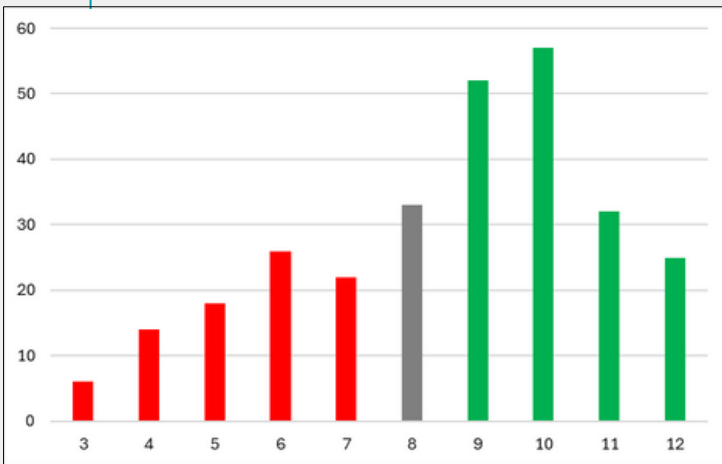


# Scoring Virginia's Streams



## ROCKY BOTTOM STREAM SCORES

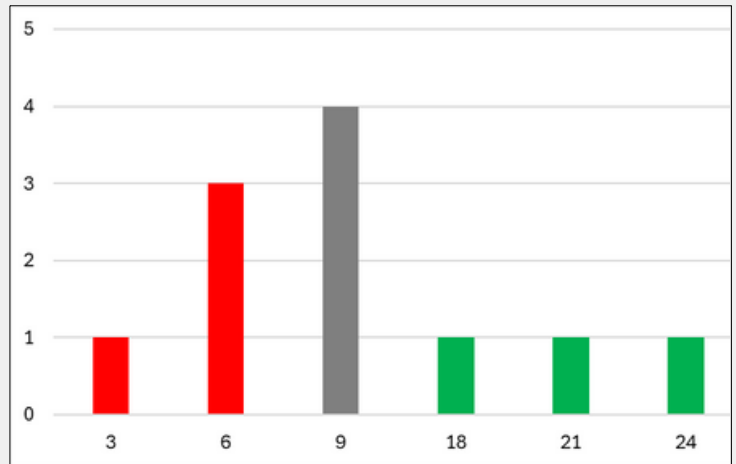
285 Approved Stream Health Surveys



Stream Health Score

## MUDDY BOTTOM STREAM SCORES

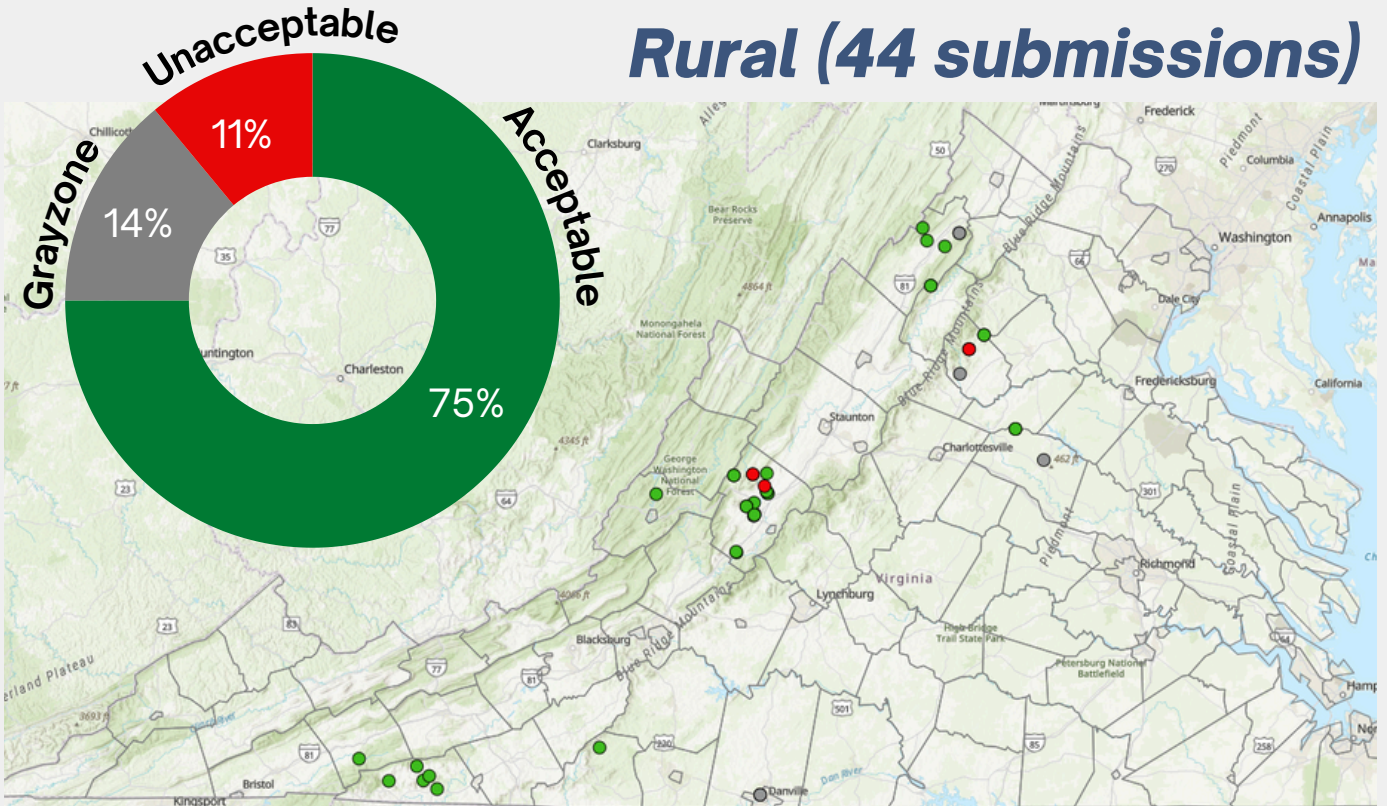
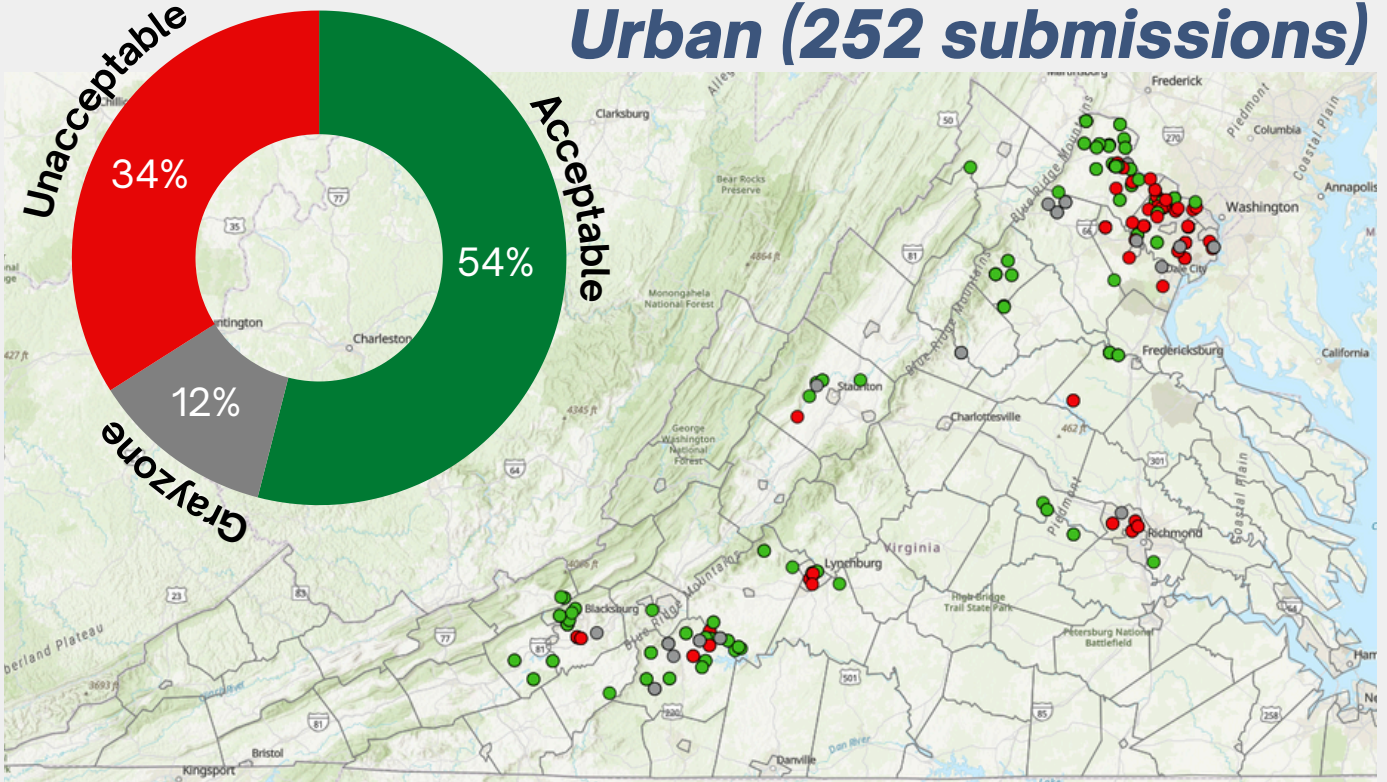
11 Approved Stream Health Surveys



Stream Health Score

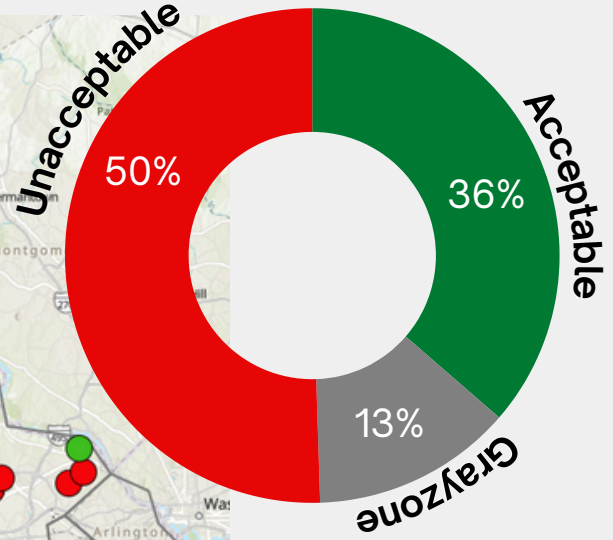
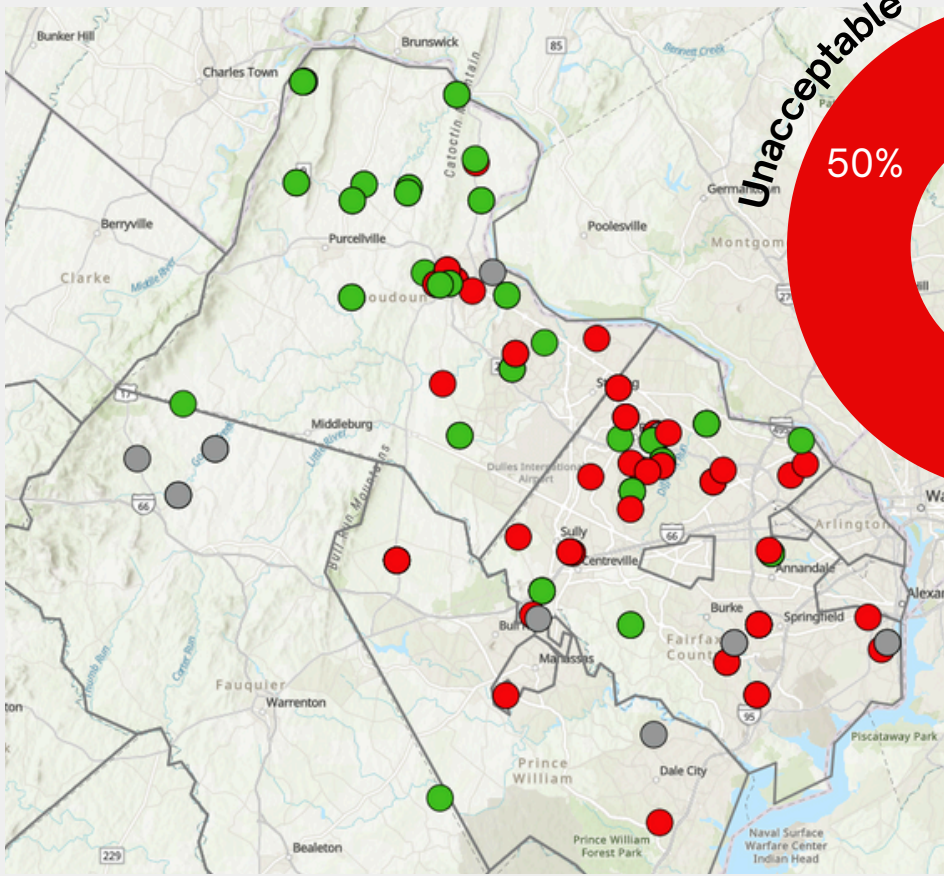
# Urban vs. Rural

Counties were classified as urban or rural according to the [Virginia Rural Health Plan 2022-2026](#).



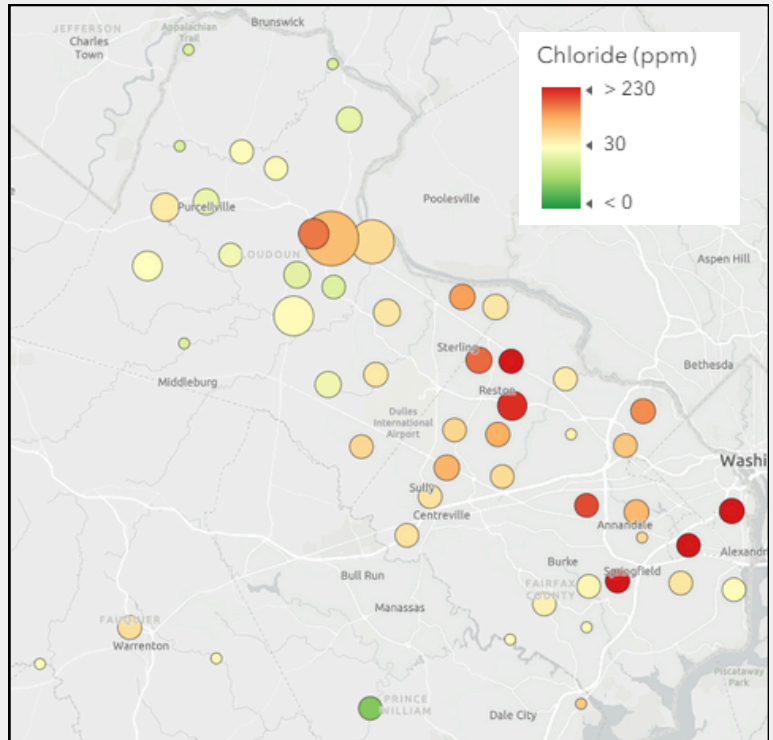
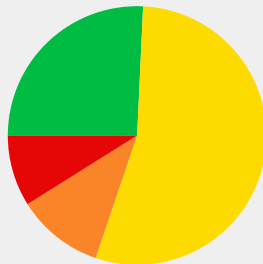
# Northern Virginia

125 submissions



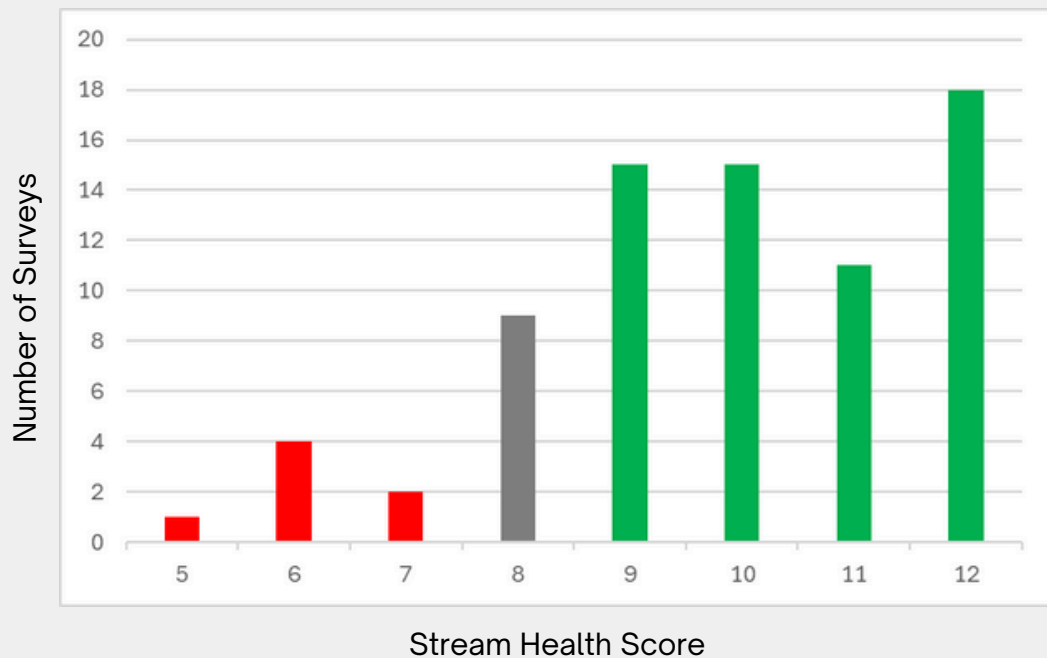
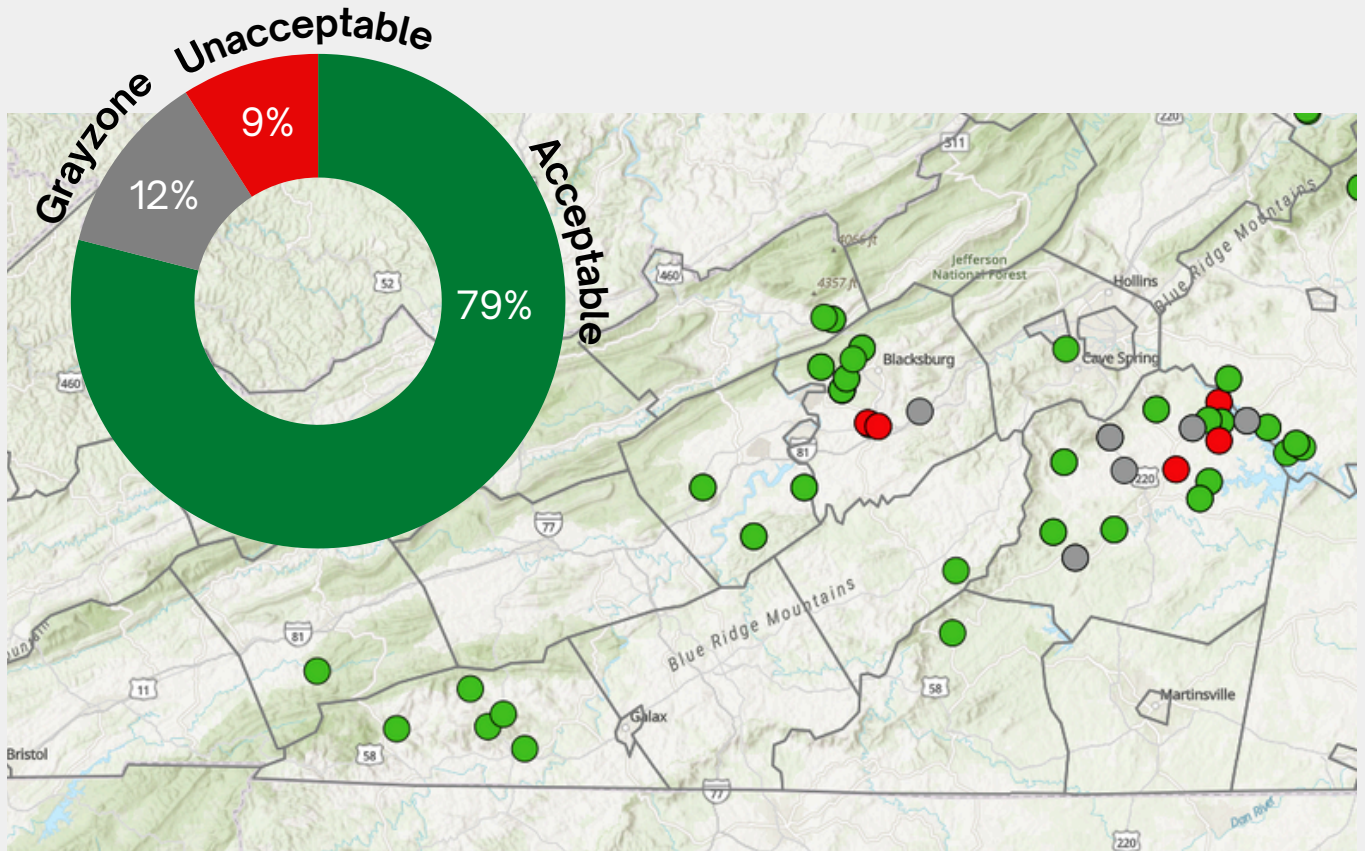
1,180 test results

- 26% excellent
- 55% fair
- 11% poor
- 9% toxic



# Southwest Virginia

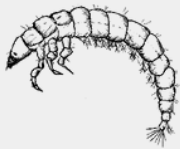
## 75 submissions



# Macroinvertebrates

# 91,318

total macroinvertebrates sampled



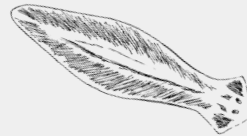
**18,259**  
common netspinners



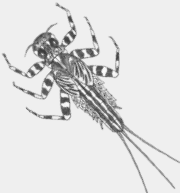
**3,088**  
blackflies



**14,414**  
midges



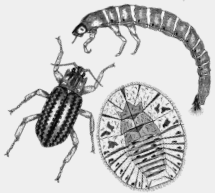
**3,015**  
flatworms



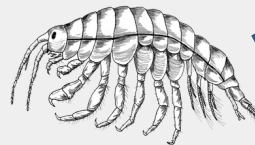
**14,259**  
mayflies



**1,638**  
gilled snails



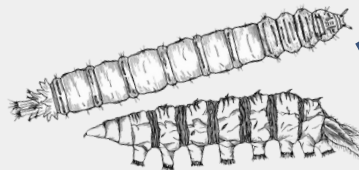
**12,165**  
beetles



**1,503**  
scuds



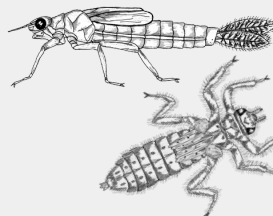
**8,399**  
most caddisflies



**1,200**  
true flies



**5,474**  
stoneflies



**1,004**  
dragonflies/damselflies



**3,844**  
aquatic worms

**plus more!**

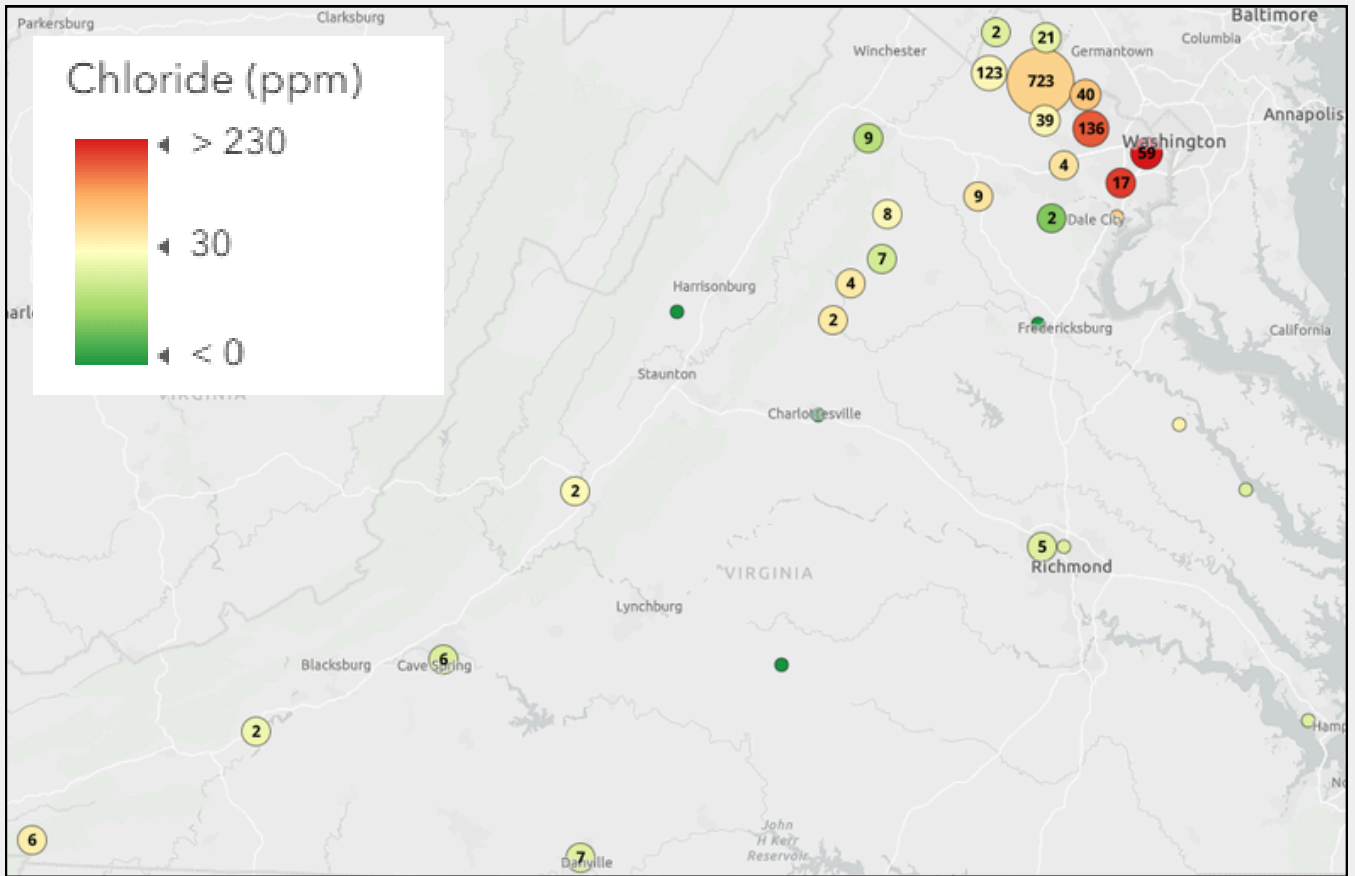




# SALT WATCH™

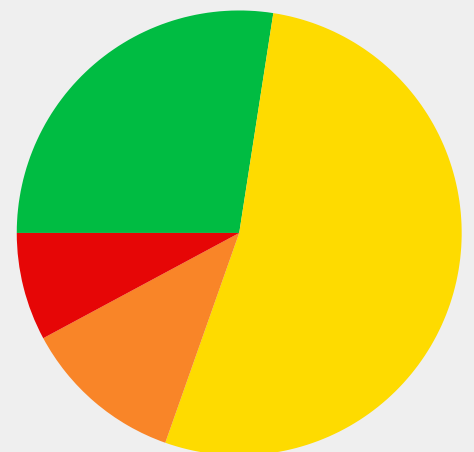
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Salt Watch data collection in Virginia has been increasing, but we still need more data! Request a free chloride testing kit at [www.saltwatch.org](http://www.saltwatch.org) and add Salt Watch to your monitoring routine!



1,242  
test results

- 28% excellent
- 54% fair
- 10% poor
- 8% toxic



# THANK YOU!

We are so grateful to all of our dedicated volunteer monitors and trainers! VA SOS would quite simply not exist without you. Thank you for the important work you are doing to monitor the health of Virginia’s freshwater resources and to advocate for their protection. We’d also like to thank Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund, the Chesapeake Bay Program, Fairfax Water, and the Raines Family Fund for their support.

There is still much work to be done - only about half of the streams we sampled have acceptable ecological health. We need to share this data with decision makers and our community to start shifting the needle towards healthier and cleaner waters. Learn how you can advocate for your favorite stream at [VA SOS.org/advocacy](https://www.vasos.org/advocacy).

