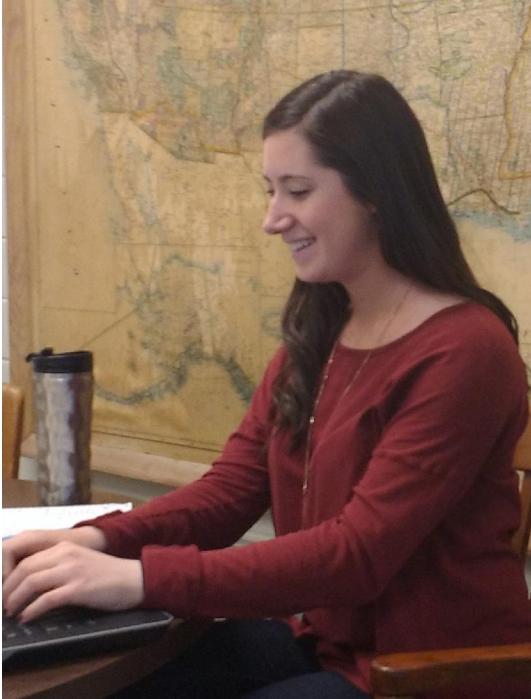




From Farmers to Researchers

Illinois Water Resources Center's Communication Strategy

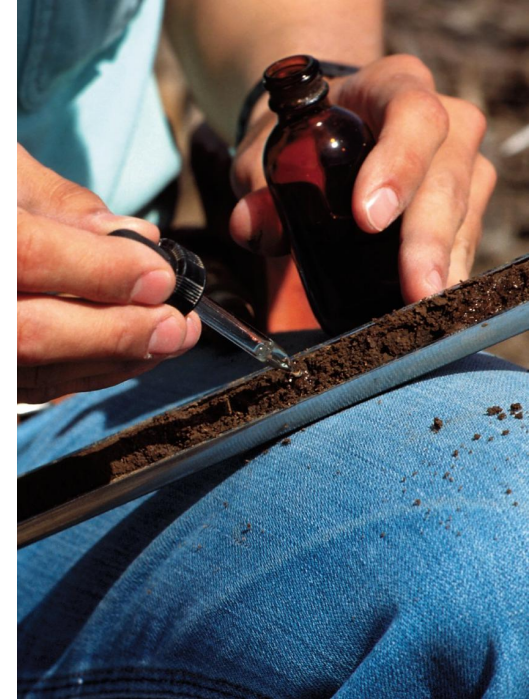
Primary audiences



Students



Researchers



End users

Students



- Information portal tailored to Illinois students interested in water science and careers in science.
- Interview series with insight into how to design studies, implement QA/QC, and analyze results. Upcoming interview features National Competitive Grants awardee Michael Lydy.
- Press releases, articles, and blog posts with internship and career advancement opportunities with USGS.

A WORD FROM

Tatiana Garcia

research hydrologist at the U.S. Geological Survey Illinois Water Science Center

From 2012 to 2014, I had the unique opportunity to take part in the National Institutes for Water Resources-U.S. Geological Survey (NIWR-USGS) student internship program. The position allowed me to work on a highly critical and relevant project studying the dynamics of the fate and transport of Asian carp eggs using numerical simulations and laboratory experiments with synthetic surrogate eggs. As part of this project, I developed the FluEgg model, an assessment tool for the evaluation of Asian carp reproduction in spawning rivers.

Working as part of a team of project scientists was a key part of the internship. We evaluated the complex dependencies between flow, temperature and egg development. This information provided resource managers with a

My internship was valuable because not only did I work on solving a critical problem like the invasion of Asian carp, but I also had the opportunity to work with experienced scientists who eventually became my mentors.



Researchers



Illinois Water Conference

- Biennial
- Plenary and technical sessions discuss research on issues affecting water resources and systems.
- Special workshops help researchers learn how to communicate their work and results with partners and the public.



Illinois River Conference

- Biennial
- Brings researchers and agency officials together to define research initiatives and identify funding opportunities.
- Includes Illinois River Coordinating Council quarterly meeting hosted by the Lt. Governor.

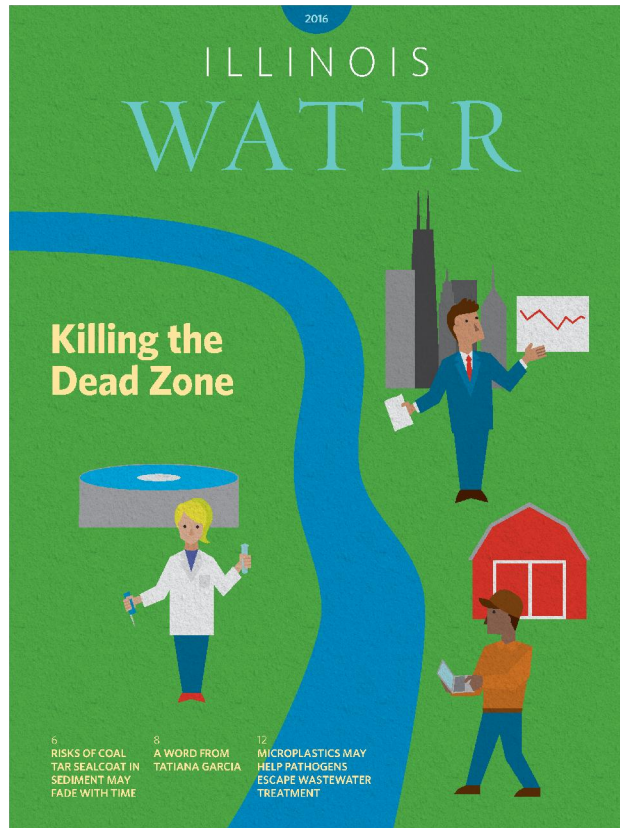
End users



- Lead state's nutrient loss reduction communication efforts and facilitate strategy implementation.
 - Agriculture industry
 - Point sources
 - Municipalities
 - Conservationists
 - Agencies
- Maintain technical assistance web portal tailored to small community water and wastewater operators and author weekly newsletters for more than 1,500 operators and industry stakeholders.
- Help private well owners maintain water quality with online courses, webinars, videos, podcasts, newsletters and social media.

Where it all comes together


ilwaterresources.org



Bringing watershed science to the people of Illinois


Research

We fund research throughout the state. Take a look at some of our current projects.




Tropical Storm Precipitation

Tropical storms temporarily increase stream flow by an average of 866 percent, with larger surges in wet years.



Woody Perennial Polyculture

The country's first savanna-based agriculture system captured 5-10 times more nitrate than corn and soybean in its second year.



Litter in Urban Streams

An estimated 21-78 metric tons of human debris is present in five Chicago-area watersheds at any time.

- Highlight USGS and IWRC partnership on high-impact state issues.
- Feature research funding and student career opportunities.
- Quantify yearly research and outreach impacts.