

AMERICORPS NEW JERSEY WATERSHED AMBASSADORS PROGRAM
Watershed Management Area 20
Assiscunk, Crosswicks, Doctors

Hello! My name is Peter Zampella and I am the 2011-2012 AmeriCorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassador for the Assiscunk, Crosswicks, and Doctors Watershed, also known as Watershed Management Area 20 (WMA 20). This area comprises 26 municipalities within Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth, and Ocean counties. My office is located in Hamilton Square at the Mercer County Soil Conservation District.

I graduated from The College of New Jersey in June 2009 with a B.A. in English. Even though my college life revolved around literature, as a child I was constantly exploring the Pine Barrens in which I lived. Canoeing the various rivers, examining all the different insects, plants, and animals that lived there, and simply walking around in nature was something that I did on a normal basis with my father and by myself. Because of this, I definitely have the personal experience needed to discuss the various issues that circulate our state. I've also worked as a substitute teacher for a few years, so I know how to teach younger students all they need to know about their environment.

As times are changing, so is our environment. New Jersey is facing new environmental challenges everyday. It is up to the citizens of our community to get involved and protect our delicate natural resources. The health and stability of New Jersey's waterways is in our hands. One of the most important things we can do to protect our environment is to stay educated. As your local Watershed Ambassador, I am here to accomplish the goal of generating interest and spreading public awareness of the health of our water bodies. Through this program, I have the unique opportunity to serve with communities, schools, and organizations to make a difference in the quality of our water.

I am available to give FREE presentations and demonstrations involving point and nonpoint source pollution, human impacts on the environment, management practices and how to determine the water quality of your local watershed. I am adaptable to the needs of your organizations or classroom, with customized lesson plans. I can assure you that everyone will benefit from my services, making these presentations both fun and engaging.

Along with general presentations, I am also available for FREE stream assessment trainings. Through this training, ordinary citizens can conduct visual and biological assessments and collect macroinvertebrates that will provide those involved with a better understanding of water quality and the health of local streams and rivers.

I look forward to serving with you to learn more about the health of our watersheds and what we can do to keep our waterways clean! If you would like to schedule a presentation, demonstration or you just want to learn more about your watershed, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am looking forward to a great year of service!

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