

Ensuring Success from the Start

ADVISORS: Find and use Advisors, both people with expertise and people with interest.

DATABASES: Keep records in a searchable database: record people, observations, study results, etc.

STAY SMALL: Keep the project small until everything is working (including writing your QAPP).

RESPOND: Always respond to your volunteers, after they do something and when you learn about something they might find interesting.

SAFETY: Stress safety as the primary goal of volunteers near the water. Nothing would be worse than a serious accident.

EVALUATIONS: Always use evaluations; people have wonderful ideas.

PARTNERSHIPS: Look for other organizations with overlapping interests, such as Trout Unlimited or County Drain Commissioner or County Conservation District. *Example:* Since the Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner had a project underway on Malletts Creek that required public education, she was able to help with the costs of printing and mailing copies of our Malletts Creek Report.

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