

Anthropology in Citizen Science



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Why I Study Anthropology...

- Explore Many Interests
- Holistic Approach Brings together many disciplines
- Offers a platform to tell people's stories



Why I Went to Graduate School...

- Develop marketable skills
- Join a network of practitioners
- Gain a foundation in public health



Skills that Helped Me Land the Job...

- Ability to translate theory into meaningful solutions
- Qualitative/Quantitative Data Analysis
- Interview and Project Design Experience



Power of Place: Linking Citizen Science to Decision-making

Project Objectives:

Identify how RRC data is used and barriers to use from natural resource decision-makers

Identify new data design and distribution strategies

Examine the role of place and local knowledge in decision-making

Project Design:

41 participants, all 18+ years old, from Federal/State orgs, Municipalities, Watershed Groups, Known-Point Sources, Ag Community, County Reps

40 Semi-structured Interviews

35 hours of participant observations as a volunteer Stream Monitoring, at board meetings, and local Outreach Events



6-mile Creek Volunteer Stream Monitoring Site photo credit Devon Bulman



Client:

The Rock River Coalition (RRC) is a basin-wide, not-for-profit dedicated to public engagement and watershed management through a citizen-based stream monitoring project in Wisconsin.

I've Used Anthropology to...

- Understand the water-energy nexus through homeowners' eyes
- Uncover perceptions of Air Quality & Respiratory Illness in North Texas
- Join a Podcast
- Help a non-profit evaluate their citizen-based stream monitoring project.
- Get a job as an HIV/AIDS clinical data specialist