

Andrea Varrato

Staff Scientist



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Profile

Ms. Varrato offers a unique skillset and expertise in environmental science. She has five years of experience in research, data analysis, and field environmental sampling and has collaborated with a number of public water utilities across West Virginia on sourcewater protection planning. Ms. Varrato has assisted communities and stakeholders in renewable and alternative energy resource planning and in public meeting facilitation. Accompanying her scientific and technical expertise, she has experience in marketing, business development, communications outreach, and social media support.

Skills and Experience

Extensive experience in sourcewater protection planning, including tracking permits, conducting windshield surveys, reviewing aerial photography, and drafting sourcewater protection and management plans.

Researched impacts of pollutants on women's reproductive health for a report on the importance of safe drinking water in protecting women's and children's health.

Conducted research on the practical application of environmental regulations used for sourcewater protection by Delaware River Basin states and the Delaware River Basin Commission.

Conducted field-based environmental sampling of surface water and groundwater sources.

Completed quarterly data reporting in support of Clean Water Act requirements.

Offered administrative and research support to a county workgroup on alternative energy.

Assisted in the development of a Scope of Work for a study on the economic impacts of shale gas development on tourism, outdoor recreation, and second home and real estate values by managing survey data and assisting in the facilitation of a public meeting.

Performed small business energy audits.

Documented impacts from longwall coal mining on a residential property.

Collected and reviewed historical records and other data sources, contacted state agencies, and edited draft reports for Phase I Environmental Site Assessments.

Experienced in marketing and business development, including website design, outreach and communication strategies, marketing material development, maintaining social media presence, and GSA Multiple Awards Schedule Contract management.

Education

B.S., Environmental Science, Allegheny College, Meadville, 2012. Emphasis in aquatic ecology, sustainability, and environmental education.

Representative Publications

Hansen E, Hatcher K, Varrato A, Carlson E. 2016. SWPP Implementation for Utilities, Watershed or Other Community Groups. Downstream Strategies, W.Va. Rivers Coalition, Safe Water for W.Va.

Hansen E, Betcher M, Varrato A, Carlson E. 2016. The Importance of Safe Drinking Water for Protecting Women's and Children's health. Downstream Strategies, W.Va. Rivers Coalition, WV Free, Safe Water for W.Va.

Hansen E, Varrato A, Simcoe J. 2015. Mountain Maryland Energy Advisory Committee Final Report. Downstream Strategies.