

SASS5 AQUATIC BIOMONITORING TRAINING COURSE

30 October – 2 November 2017

Venue:

The Boardroom
GroundTruth Offices
9 Quarry Road
Hilton, KZN



GroundTruth

Water, Wetlands and Environmental Engineering

Head Office KwaZulu-Natal

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PRESENTERS

- Dr Mark Graham (GroundTruth Water, Wetlands and Environmental Engineers)
Department of Water & Sanitation Accredited Regional KZN SASS5 Auditor
Co-author of the standard SASS5 method (Dickens & Graham, 2002)
Developer of the recent WRC SASS5 sampling method video
- Dr Vere Ross-Gillespie (GroundTruth Water, Wetlands and Environmental Engineers)
Department of Water & Sanitation Accredited SASS5 Practitioner
- Dr Christa Thirion (Department of Water & Sanitation)
Department of Water & Sanitation - National SASS5 Auditor
- Juan Tedder (GroundTruth Water, Wetlands and Environmental Engineers)
Department of Water & Sanitation Accredited Provincial KZN SASS5 Auditor

COURSE OUTLINE

The 4 day course (30 October – 2 November 2017) is designed to provide participants with the basic skills necessary to conduct SASS5 aquatic biomonitoring techniques. The key elements of the training course offered include the following:

- Introduction and overview of biomonitoring
 - Principles, theory, advantages, disadvantages, limitations of the methods. Comparison with classical "wet chemistry" water quality monitoring. Alternative biomonitoring tools/methods. Correct/minimal sampling equipment. Safety associated with field work
 - Aquatic invertebrates. Adaptations to living in water. Aquatic ecoregions. Preservation of "live" samples - how, when, where. Overview of using scientific/taxonomic keys. Theory and discussion about preservation of specimen samples. Labelling and curation of samples
 - Site selection - characteristics of what constitutes a good aquatic biomonitoring sampling site. Reference and monitoring sites - the key differences and needs of both. Correct/standardised sampling procedures.
- The various major aquatic orders likely to be found in the river systems, i.e. mayflies (Ephemeroptera), caddisflies (Trichoptera), aquatic beetles (Coleoptera), aquatic bugs (Hemiptera), dragonflies and damselflies (Odonata), flies (Diptera), stoneflies (Plecoptera), and Crustacea and Mollusca



- The course includes a practical component comprising of comprehensive field work covering:
 - the development of identification skill
 - calculation of SASS indices/metrics
- Data interpretation and reporting
 - Field data (Dallas bands, aquatic ecoregions)
 - Methods and examples of different types of reports and monitoring
- Understanding and selecting reference and monitoring sites
- Requirements for accreditation of practitioners
 - Quality control

PLEASE NOTE THAT ATTENDING THIS COURSE DOES NOT INCLUDE OR GUARANTEE SASS5 ACCREDITATION.



COST

The cost of the course will be **R7 600 (excluding VAT)**. This includes all course material, a copy of the latest WRC standard SASS5 biomonitoring DVD, teas and lunches (**excludes accommodation**). All course material as well as all electronic data sheets will be provided, on a memory stick, to all delegates.

It is mandatory for delegates attending the course to have their own SASS equipment. This consists of a SASS net, sorting tray, magnifying glass, tweezers. Please arrive with your own equipment otherwise this may be booked and is available at the course at a cost of **R1 700 (excluding VAT)**. Stopwatches (not cellphones) are mandatory. We have experienced difficulty in previous courses with delegates not having this basic equipment and unable to fully participate in the practical training. Additional aquatic biomonitoring field resources, such as water clarity tubes, waders and transparent velocity head rods (velocity plank), will be available to delegates should they require it.

Delegates must bring appropriate field clothing suitable for working in rivers. Ideally waders, but minimally gumboots (which are needed if working with SASS), or alternatively river shoes, a change of dry clothing, hat, and sun cream.



ACCREDITATION

For those people wishing to be re-accredited or for those delegates with previous SASS5 experience and clearly demonstrating adequate competency during the training, an accreditation day will be made available at an extra cost to the delegate.

Date: 3 November 2017

Cost: an additional cost of R750 (excluding VAT).

Information regarding time and venue will be provided.

BOOKINGS

Interested delegates should complete the attached application form and email it to admin@groundtruth.co.za, or alternatively fax it to 086 599 2300, by no later than 17th October 2017.

Any delegates wishing to cancel their bookings, without a minimum of 14 days notice, are liable for a 50% cancellation fee.

ACCOMMODATION

Delegates must arrange their own accommodation as well as getting themselves to the training venue.

Accommodation options include the following:

- Gateside Guest House
<http://gatesidebnb.co.za>
- Fountains B&B
<http://www.safarinow.com/go/fountainsbnbmontrose/>

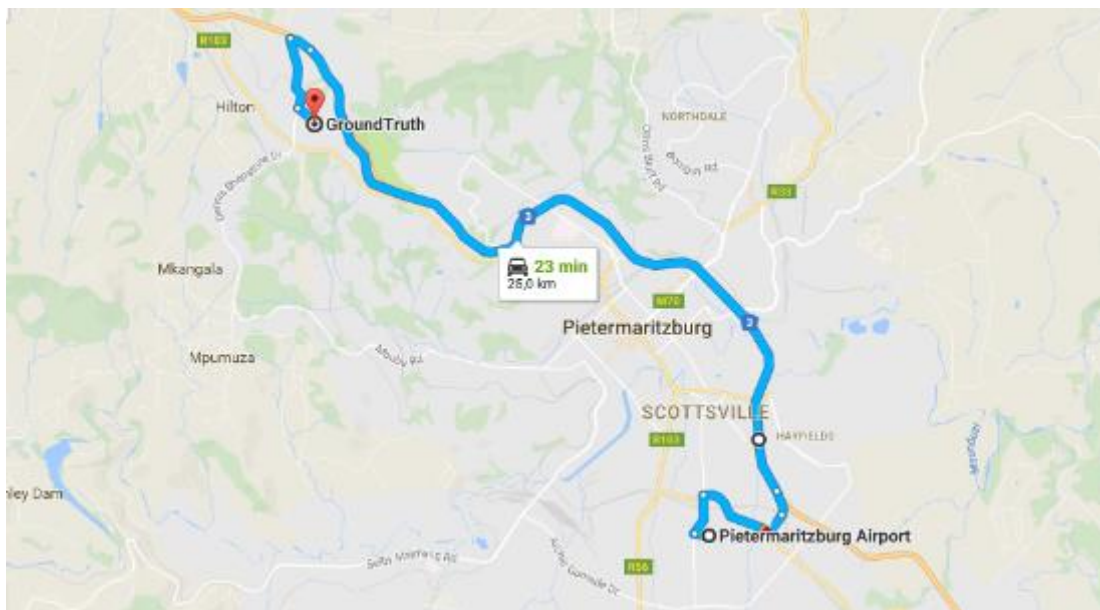
Please note that GroundTruth reserves the right to cancel this course should there be insufficient numbers.

DIRECTIONS FROM AIRPORT TO VENUE

From: Pietermaritzburg Airport (29 38' 32.37" S; 30 23' 36.08" E)

To: GroundTruth Offices, Hilton (29 33' 34.33" S; 30 18' 17.01" E)

- (1) On exiting the airport, turn right onto Oribi Rd.
- (2) At the robot, turn right onto Washington Rd/R103.
- (3) Turn left at the next robot onto Market Rd.
- (4) Merge onto the N3 via the ramp to Harrismith.
- (5) Take exit 94 at Hilton.
- (6) From off ramp turn left into Hilton Avenue.
- (7) Take the fourth turning left into Quarry Road.
- (8) Continue along Quarry Road passed Build It and continue up the hill.
- (9) Turn left into 9 Quarry Road, just before Gateside Guest House.
- (10) Park your vehicle on the top 2 terraces.





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BOOKING FORM

Name of Delegate : _____
Company : _____
Postal Address : _____

Telephone Number : _____
Email Address : _____
Fax Number : _____
Company Vat Number : _____

Signature of Delegate

Date

SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT

Name : _____
Postal Address : _____

Telephone Number : _____
Email Address : _____

Placement on the course will not be confirmed until such a time as we receive proof of payment or a copy of a purchase order.

Signature

Date

Please note that ONLY proof of payment or a valid purchase order number PRIOR to the 17th October 2017 will secure your place on the course