

**SASS5 Biomonitoring.** Training course on a rapid method of water quality assessment, based on the SASS5 biomonitoring method. The course has been held annually since 2001.

## Course in SASS5: A Rapid Method for Water Quality Assessment

**Venue: Merry Pebbles, Sabie, Mpumalanga, South Africa**

**Dates: 14-16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (revised)**

**Accreditation: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017**



### **Aim:**

The aim of the course will be to provide practical experience in applying the SASS5 biomonitoring method.

### **Who Should Attend?**

Anyone interested in water quality management and the practical application of SASS, including people from government, industry, non-government organisations, consulting firms and research institutes.



## **Course Presenters:**

Dr Rob Palmer (Nepid Consultants)  
Mr Gerhard Diedericks (Environmental Biomonitoring Services)  
Ms Felicity Weir (Private Consultant)  
Ms Christa Thirion (Department of Water Affairs)

## **Language:**

The course will be presented in English.

## **Requirements:**

Participants should have good eye-sight and an interest in identifying aquatic invertebrates. The ability to swim is an advantage, but not a requirement.

## **Accommodation:**

**Participants are required to make their own accommodation arrangements.**

**Recommended accommodation is available at the venue:**

Merry Pebbles Holiday Resort

Contact Reservations, Tel: +27 (0)13 764 2266

info@merrypebbles.co.za

## **Course Focus:**

The course will focus on the practical application of the SASS method, from planning to reporting.

Aspects covered will include:

- Site selection
- Habitat assessment
- Equipment & safety
- Sampling procedures
- Invertebrate identification
- Data analysis and reporting

## **Schedule (revised):**

**10h00 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017: Course Start**

**15h00 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017: Course End**

## Costs:

Item	R (Vat Excl)
Course Fee*	R 6,000
<b>Optional: SASS Equipment</b> (Net; tray, loupe, tweezers)	R 1,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>R 7,300</b>

*\*The course fee includes handout, lunches and teas, but excludes accommodation.*

## Cancellation:

Please note that the course may be cancelled if there is insufficient interest, in which case all registered delegates will be notified one month in advance. A 50% cancellation fee will be levied for 'no shows', or if the booking is cancelled less than 2 weeks prior to arrival.

## SASS Accreditation:

SASS accreditation is undertaken by the Department of Water Affairs only, so the course does not provide certificates of accreditation or certificates of attendance. However, there will be an opportunity for accreditation after 15h00 on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. This applies to people who already have some background in entomology. For people with no background in entomology it takes more than three days of practise to become sufficiently proficient to obtain accreditation, but the training will provide a solid foundation.

## Application Procedure:

Each applicant must complete the application form and email this to [rob@nepid.co.za](mailto:rob@nepid.co.za). Invoices will be posted prior to the course.

## What to bring:

Participants must bring clothing suitable for working in rivers and outdoors, such as river shoes, shorts, hat and sunscreen.

## **Transport from Nelspruit Airport**

There is no public transport from Nelspruit Airport to Sabie. However, transport will be provided from Nelspruit Airport to White River (15 km) on the 13<sup>th</sup> March, and from White River to Sabie (60km) on the 14<sup>th</sup> March. For those flying and needing transport, you will need to book accommodation in White River on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Suggested accommodation in White River: White River Lodge: +27(0)13 751 1100

## **Directions:**

- FROM JOHANNESBURG OR PRETORIA (ABOUT 350 KM)  
Take the Witbank highway to Belfast.  
From Belfast (R540) turn to Dullstroom, then to Lydenburg.  
From Lydenburg over the Long Tom Pass (R37) to Sabie.

## **Merry Pebbles Resort (S25.09445 E30.76706)**



