

Dr. Elisabeth Harrahy

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Education

- B.S. Natural Resource Studies & Environmental Sciences,
- Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst
- M.S. Forestry: Aquatic Ecology & Ecotoxicology, West Virginia Univ.
- Ph.D. Fishery Biology: Ecotoxicology
- Colorado State Univ.

Research Interests and Recent Projects

I am interested in the occurrence, persistence, and toxicity of contaminants in aquatic ecosystems. Recent projects conducted by my students and me include the persistence of the pesticide 2,4-D in two lakes following spring treatment to remove Eurasian water milfoil, the occurrence of saxitoxin and other blue-green algal toxins in Madison-area lakes, the occurrence of pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) in wastewater treatment plant influent, effluent, sludge and receiving waters, and the toxicity of select PPCPs (acetaminophen, ibuprofen, caffeine, and triclocarban) on water fleas, amphipods, and fathead minnows. These projects have allowed my students to work in both the laboratory and in the field

Student Testimonials:



Lindsey Schulte (2013)- *“I had an absolute blast with my undergraduate research! My mentor, Dr. Harrahy, was extremely knowledgeable and helpful, insightful, and most importantly fun. She helped me realize that I have more potential than I thought and helped me to begin developing into more than just a student. But, along with all her help, we couldn’t have done it without the help from the Undergraduate Research Program and UWW as a whole! URP allows the student researchers to apply for grants, make posters/presentations, and present, which is great considering anyone who wants to make it in this line of work, needs to be acquiring and developing those skills. Undergraduate Research was a huge help in getting me a graduate position because it looks great on a CV that, as an*

undergrad, one is already looking for that next step. Overall, my experience was amazing, I had an awesome mentor (thank you Dr. Harrahy!), and the Undergraduate Research Program was a great way to start taking that next step.”



Lisa Griffin (2013)- *“The ability to conduct research under the guidance of my mentor and with financial support from UW-Whitewater and the Undergraduate Research Program has been a cornerstone to my academic success. I was able to learn new techniques and skills that focused on an area of study I was fascinated with. With excellent instruction, hands on learning, and the tools needed for success I am better prepared for the workforce or graduate school after graduation.”*