

Enhanced Mussel Watch Phase 1: Eastern Great Lakes



Kristina and Ed inventory samples for shipping.

Thursday, September 17, 2009

-Kristina Lauenstein

Today we spent the morning organizing the car. We were planning on shipping today so, after a bread-centric breakfast at the hotel, we began. Once satisfied with our efforts, we followed Mike to the next collection site. The smoothness of the water today was especially surprising in comparison to yesterday's experience. We arrived at the site and with one three minute tow we were provided more than enough zebra mussels. The sediment collection was not as easy. Lowering the grab sampler 13 meters requires a fair amount of time, and bringing it back up can be tiring.

While we only aimed to complete the one site today, our work was far from over. We still had to make the drive to our next city, and there ship the samples and extra gear. Filling out package slips, draining water off of samples and out of coolers, and keeping records of our shipments, we successfully coordinated our efforts. All the samples were boxed and ready to ship in time. On the way back, before meeting up with Mike, we searched for coolers to replace the ones on their way south to the labs. Tired at the end of the day, we set aside enough time to go for a walk along the Niagara River, a little ways below tomorrow morning's Mussel Watch site.