

# How to Prepare Your Abstract

The abstract should provide a brief overview of your entire research. The abstract briefly states the research problem or purpose of the research (Introduction), how the problem was studied (Methods), what was discovered (Results), and how the results might be interpreted (Discussions and Conclusions). Acronyms may be used in an abstract, however they should be spelled out the first time they are used. Abstracts should be concise and descriptive.

## Symposium Abstract Format

Create an Abstract in MS Word or similar program using the font *Times New Roman*, Font Size 12. Abstract should be no more than half a page or 300 words.

## Abstract Template

Name of Participant

College/University

Group/Division

Mentor's name

Presentation Title

Presentation Abstract: (Should be at least a paragraph describing research effort and should be no longer than half a page or 300 words. Be sure to check for correct spelling as your submission will be published.)

## Example

*Wetlands are valuable resources that are disappearing at an alarming rate. Land development has resulted in the destruction of wetlands for approximately 200 years. To combat this destruction, the federal government passed legislation that requires no net loss of wetlands. The US Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for regulating wetland disturbances. In 1991, the USACE determined that the construction of Advanced Source at Argonne National Laboratory would damage three wetlands that had a total area of one acre. Argonne was required to create a wetland of equal acreage to replace the damaged wetlands. For the first five years after this wetland was created, the frequency of plant species, relative cover, and water depth was closely monitored. The wetland was not monitored again until 2002. In 2003, the vegetation cover data were again collected with a similar methodology to previous years. The plant species were sampled using quadrats at randomly selected locations along transects throughout the wetlands. The fifty sampling locations were monitored once in June and percent cover of each of the plant species was determined for each plot. Furthermore, the extent of standing water in the wetland was measured. In 2003, 21 species of plants were found and identified. Eleven species dominated the wetland, among which were reed canary grass, crown vetch, and Canada thistle.*