

Special Issue Call for Papers:

## ***Ethical Issues in Citizen Science***

Issue editors: Lisa M. Rasmussen and Caren Cooper



Image by Ed Gregory via [Photos In Color](#)

In many countries, regulations, restrictions, and oversight processes have arisen to address ethical concerns in scientific research. Citizen science challenges the paradigm of oversight for addressing ethical issues for several reasons:

- Citizen science can frequently fall outside of typical regulations or policies, and recognized ethical issues may not receive appropriate consideration.
- The relationship between scientists, volunteers, and human subjects in citizen science is novel and not always addressed by usual regulation or policies.
- Citizen Science raises novel issues not typically addressed in federal regulations, such as the appropriate treatment of information about endangered species or best practices for collaborating with indigenous communities.

We invite contributions about the ethical dimensions of citizen science for a special issue of the Journal. We are particularly interested in submissions in the following areas (but please feel free to contact the Special Issue Editors if you have different ideas):

- What are the most pressing ethical issues in Citizen Science?
- What existing theoretical, ethical, or regulatory frameworks could be re-purposed to help address ethical issues in Citizen Science?
- What new tools might Citizen Science need to recognize, respond to, or resolve ethical issues in the field?
- What special concerns about the use of human subjects arise within Citizen Science?
- How should we think about the ethics of labor related to Citizen Science?

**Abstracts for proposed papers due by January 15, 2018  
to Lisa Rasmussen ([Lrasmuss\[at\]uncc.edu](mailto:Lrasmuss[at]uncc.edu))**

**Submissions of approved papers due by April 20, 2018 at  
<http://theoryandpractice.citizenscienceassociation.org/>**

With questions about this issue, contact [Lrasmuss\[at\]uncc.edu](mailto:Lrasmuss[at]uncc.edu)

*Citizen Science: Theory and Practice is an open-access, peer-reviewed journal providing a central space for cross-disciplinary scholarly exchanges aimed at advancing the field of citizen science. It focuses on advancing the field of citizen science by providing a venue for citizen science researchers and practitioners – scientists, information technologists, conservation biologists, community health organizers, educators, evaluators, urban planners, and more – to share best practices in conceiving, developing, implementing, evaluating, and sustaining projects that facilitate public participation in scientific endeavors in any discipline.*

