

Check Your Watershed Day is July 20

Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) and Trout Unlimited invite the public to get their feet wet and learn more about the Credit River watershed.

Volunteers are needed to monitor local streams as part of Check Your Watershed Day July 20.

Volunteers should meet at Terra Cotta Conservation Area at noon to receive training and pick up equipment. Volunteers will be organized into Stream Teams of two to four people to collect data. Participants must have good mobility.

Participants will be asked to wear rubber boots or hip waders. Some access points to stream monitoring sites may be steep or unstable. Stream Teams will go to assigned sites in Orangeville, Caledon, Erin and Halton Hills. The event wraps up around 4 p.m.

Check Your Watershed Day is an annual event held in Ontario since 2006. The event is an opportunity for students and people interested in the environment to gain hands-on experience and participate in important research. Volunteers collect temperature data from small streams at road crossings and photograph each culvert. The information collected builds a better understanding of the watershed and helps CVC plan stewardship activities to manage it.

"Streams are the lifeblood of our countryside," said CVC Director of Restoration and Stewardship Mike Puddister. "Monitoring their health is vital to the work we do to protect and enhance the environment. It's also an opportunity to view nature from a different perspective."

Participants must be 18 or older, unless accompanied by a parent. Each volunteer group will require a car to access their assigned sites, a digital camera, a cell phone and the ability to forward photos to CVC. GPS units are helpful.

Register online at www.creditvalleyca.ca/event/check-your-watershed-day-2/ before July 17.

Space will be limited. For further information, contact Lindsey Jennings at ljennings@creditvalleyca.ca or 905-670-1615 ext. 445.