

Wade into Check Your Watershed Day 2015

Join Credit Valley Conservation (CVC), Trout Unlimited Canada and Ontario Streams for the annual Check Your Watershed Day Aug. 8, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to investigate the health of local streams in the watershed.

Check Your Watershed Day is an annual opportunity for local citizens interested in the environment to gain hands-on experience and participate in important research. Volunteers record water temperatures and culvert type and take photos of culverts.

"The data collected during this event is essential to our work in the watershed," said Mike Puddister, CVC deputy CAO and director of watershed transformation. "It gives us a better understanding of what's happening in our local environment and where we need to direct efforts in order to protect and manage our valuable natural resources."

Since joining the program in 2011, CVC has conducted more than 350 visits at 226 sites. Data collected helps prioritize restoration projects. It identifies watercourses and areas where high water temperatures may impact coldwater fish communities. It provides year-over-year data on water temperature changes or flows over time.

Pre-registration is required. Volunteers should meet at Terra Cotta Conservation Area at 12:45 p.m. to receive training and pick up equipment. Participants will be put into Stream Teams of two to four people. Volunteers 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 Caledon, Erin and Halton Hills. Certificates will be awarded to volunteers at the end of the event.

Participants must be 18 or older, unless accompanied by a parent. Each volunteer group will require a car to access their assigned sites, as well as a digital camera and a cell phone. For information, visit

<http://www.creditvalleyca.ca/event/check-your-watershed-day-4/>