

SEPTEMBER 2023

PRWC NEWSLETTER

PRWC | Protecting Water Resources for Generations



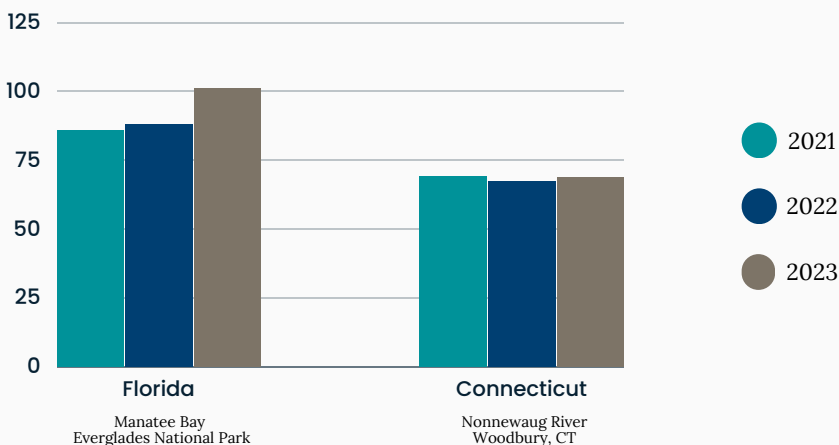
ARE WE IN HOT WATER?!

FLORIDA OCEAN TEMPERATURES BROKE RECORDS

With Florida ocean temperatures topping 100, experts warn of damage to marine life. Northwest CT waters currently remain steady in the Pomperaug Watershed. The chart below shows the **July** temperatures taken 2021-2023.

Rising ocean temperatures driven by climate change have scientists and activists warning of the dangerous effects on marine life, including coral that has recently sustained intense bleaching and damage in a short period.

Mariana Fuentes, an associate professor at Florida State University, said that when coral is harmed by warm ocean temperatures, it can have a "cascading effect" on the other marine life that depends on it. "If you have several species that are being impacted at the same time by an increase in temperature, there's going to be a general collapse of the whole ecosystem," Fuentes said. -NPR July 26, 2023 12:57 PM ET
By [Joe Hernandez](#)



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FALL | SEPT

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer, Learn, Meet Your Community



Trivia Night | A Wild World

THURS SEPT 7 | 7:30PM - 8:30PM
LOCATION: HERITAGE VILLAGE TAVERN

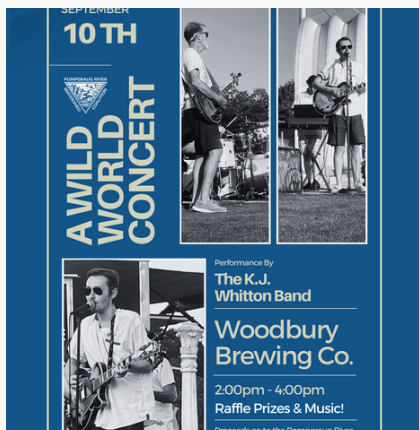
Join PRWC for an exciting night of trivia with our host Chris Solla at the Heritage Village Tavern. Competition can be intense! Come solo or with friends for a bite to eat, a drink and a night of fun. Free to play. *NOTE smartphone required.



River Ramblers

SAT, SEPT 09 | TIME: 9:00AM - 10:30AM
STEEP ROCK / WEST MT. HILLSIDE FARM
WASHINGTON, CT

Join PRWC for an easy 1.2 mile walk through a portion of the 86-acre property located on Nettleton Hollow Road at the junction of Washington and Woodbury. This new addition to Steep Rock is a mosaic of prime farmland and critical habitats including meadow, forest, wetlands, and streams.



Concert | A Wild World

SUN, SEPT 10 | TIME: 2:00PM - 4:00PM
LOCATION: THE WOODBURY BREWING CO.

Join PRWC and the Woodbury Brewing Co. for an exciting fundraising afternoon! Show your support by stopping by, grabbing a drink and entering the raffle for a chance to win fun prizes! Performance By: The K.J. Whitton Band
\$10 | Per Person
\$50 | Four Top Table Reservation

FALL | SEPT

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer, Learn, Meet Your Community



Macroinvertebrate (RBV) Training

TUES, SEPT 12 | TIME: 6:30PM - 7:30PM
LOCATION: WOODBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

This training and information session is both for those interested in learning more about the RBV program and for those interested in volunteering for the field collection survey. Prior to the in-field survey (below), PRWC is hosting this hour-long *Macroinvertebrate Training and Info Session*. \$FREE



Macroinvertebrate (RBV) Survey

SEPT 16, 17, 23 | 9:00AM - 4:00PM

Interested in being a volunteer scientist!? No experience necessary. Participate in collecting samples of macroinvertebrates, or 'river bugs,' from their local waterways to assess stream health. PRWC's Annual Macroinvertebrate Survey is part of the Stream Riffle Bioassessment by Volunteers program (RBV), a statewide volunteer water quality monitoring program coordinated by the DEEP Volunteer Water Monitoring Program. Ages 16+.



Woodbury Fall Fest

SUN, SEPT 17 | 10:00AM - 3:00PM
LOCATION: HOLLOW PARK, WOODBURY, CT

Visit the PRWC booth this fall at Woodbury CT Chamber of Commerce Fall Festival! This fun event will feature local area businesses, food, music & fun! \$Free admission

FALL | SEPT - NOV

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer, Learn, Meet Your Community



Down by the River Nature Celebration

SUN, SEPT 17 | 2:00PM - 5:00PM
ROXBURY LAND TRUST, ROXBURY, CT

Enjoy walks, nature crafts, food & music for everyone! Visit PRWC's booth at Roxbury Land Trust's Down by the River Celebration! We will be displaying live macroinvertebrates and talking about how they indicate water quality.



Southbury Energy Fair & Green Expo

SAT, SEPT 30 | 10:00AM - 2:00PM
SOUTHBURY TOWN HALL GREEN

Learn more about how you and your family can make use of clean energy, reduce energy use and carbon footprint, reduce waste, and become more sustainable. There will be activities for kids, music, food trucks, posters, and fun and engaging exhibits!



Dr. Marc J. Taylor Memorial Walk

SAT, OCT 14 | 9:00AM
PLATT FARM PRESERVE, SOUTHBURY, CT

PRWC is co-hosting a guided walk in memory of one of PRWC's founders, Dr. Marc Taylor. Approximately 2 miles, mostly flat, along the river. Meet at the kiosk across from parking in the field on Flood Bridge Road. All welcome. \$FREE



O&G Geology Tour

SAT, NOV 4 | O&G'S SOUTHBURY TRAP ROCK QUARRY
SESSION 1 | 10:00AM - 12:00PM * SESSION 2 | 1:30PM - 3:30PM

Co-Hosted By: Flanders Nature Center and Land Trust & PRWC. Have you wondered about Connecticut's mysterious volcanic past? Join us on a tour of O&G's Southbury trap rock quarry for a field trip highlighting some fascinating geological facts and views of ancient volcanic rocks and minerals. **Rain or Shine, Storm would cancel.*

Register Today @ [Flandersnaturecenter.org/program-events/](https://flandersnaturecenter.org/program-events/)

2023 INTERNS CULVERT ASSESSMENTS

Record Breaking Year!

This year interns broke the standing record of 80 culverts assessed in one season by more than double, finishing the summer at 173! As there is a great need in our watershed area to ensure the monitoring of these vital infrastructures, this season, interns were laser focused on this project for the entirety of their time with us.



What is a Culvert?

A culvert is a structure that channels water past an obstacle or to a subterranean waterway. Typically embedded so as to be surrounded by soil or other fill. A culvert may be made from: **Concrete, Galvanized steel, Aluminum, Plastic or a Composite.**

Culvert Failures...

Culvert failures can occur for a wide variety of reasons including; road maintenance, environmental, and installation-related failures, functional or process failures related to capacity and volume causing the erosion of the soil around or under them, and structural or material failures that cause culverts to fail due to collapse or corrosion of the materials from which they are made.

Sudden failures may be catastrophic resulting in injury or loss of life. Failures may also result in significant disruptions to travel and in stream habitat. Sudden road collapses are often the result of poorly designed and engineered culvert crossing sites or unexpected changes in the surrounding environment cause design parameters to be exceeded.

4 ECO-FRIENDLY PEST CONTROL METHODS



1 Diatomaceous Earth

This eco-friendly powder is created from the fossilized remains of ancient aquatic organisms and is safe to both humans and pets but lethal to many home insects. As these critters come into contact with this dehydrating power, their exoskeletons become damaged until they eventually perish.

2 Essential Oils

Peppermint, eucalyptus and lavender are all effective insect repellents. All you need is a spray bottle of water mixed with these natural scents, and you have an eco-friendly alternative to chemical pesticides that keeps bugs away without harming you or your local drinking water.

3 Neem Oil

Neem oil is an organic, non-toxic solution derived from the neem tree that can help you fight off pesky pests such as aphids, spider mites & whiteflies. For a quick and easy application process, mix some neem oil with water in a spray bottle and mist it on areas insects have been spotted.

4 Companion Planting

To naturally repel pests, companion planting is an effective solution. By strategically placing particular plants next to one another, you can produce a defensive shield from unwanted pests in your yard and garden! Marigolds are one of the most reliable companions for vegetable gardens. They are known for their ability to keep away critters such as nematodes and aphids.

7 FUN WATER FACTS



12 Gallons

Is about how much water it takes to enjoy a 5 minute shower!



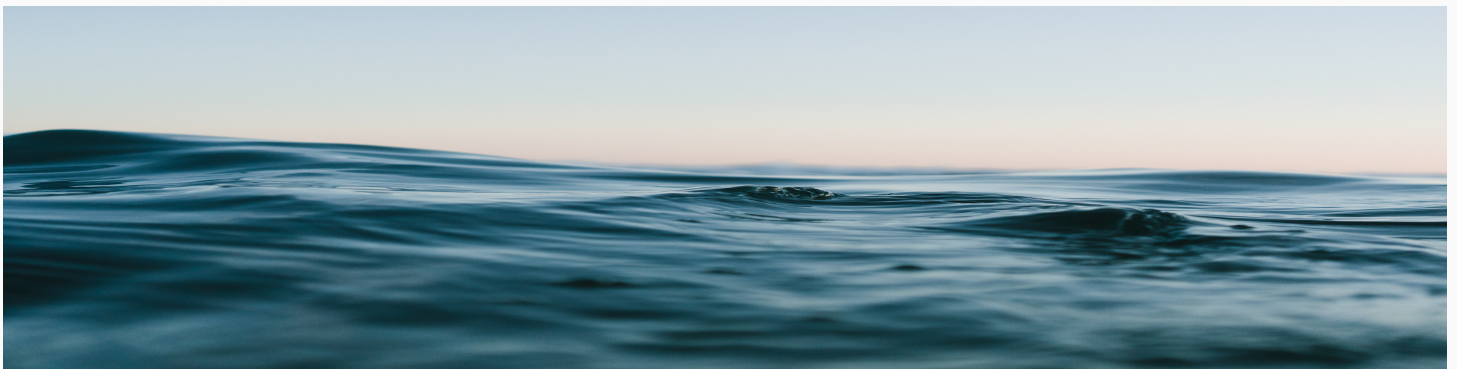
Americans

use, on average, 5x more water than Europeans use daily.



Petrichor

(Pet-try-chor) is the term for the earthy smell in the forest after a rainfall.



Canada

is home to 25% of the world's wetlands.



44 miles

The Panama Canal spans 44 miles between the Pacific and Atlantic Ocean.



Bantam Lake

is the largest natural lake in Connecticut.

23%

of CT's population gets their drinking water from a private well.