

JULY 2023

PRWC NEWSLETTER

PRWC | Protecting Water Resources for Generations

Welcome 2023 Interns!

2023 DR. MARC TAYLOR INTERNS

Pictured below (left) is Charlotte Zapletal of New Milford, Connecticut. She is a rising junior studying Earth and Environmental Sciences at Wesleyan University and is interested in pursuing a career in environmental science. On the right is Olivia DiPalermo, of Lagrangeville, New York, a University of Connecticut student set to graduate with her Masters of Energy and Environmental Management in December. The two will be working on completing stream crossing assessments for the Town of Southbury. The goal of the assessments is to examine the integrity of structures such as bridges and culverts for aquatic life passage from one side of a road to the other.



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SUMMER | JULY - AUG

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer, Learn, Meet Your Community



Stream Sampling

2ND TUESDAYS 8:30AM - 1:00PM
JULY 11, AUG 8, SEPT 5, OCT 10

Interested in being a volunteer scientist?! Help PRWC collect important field samples to test for bacteria and nitrate in our rivers and streams. You will be accompanied by an experienced staff member and will learn how to properly use data recording tools. No experience necessary! Age 16+



River Ramblers

SAT, MAY - SEPT | 9:00AM - 10:30AM

Join us on a leisurely walk once a month to socialize and explore different locations throughout the area. All ages. 1-1.5 miles. \$FREE

Sat, Jul 08 | Swendsen Farm Preserve, Bethlehem, CT

Sat, Aug 12 | Audubon Bent of the River, Southbury, CT

Sat, Sept 9 | Steep Rock, West Mt. Hillside Farm Washington, CT



Invasive Plant Workshop

TUES, AUG 1 | 6:00PM - 7:00PM
SOUTHBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join PRWC and Gregory J. Bugbee, Associate Scientist of CT's Invasive Aquatic Plant Program for a one hour educational workshop. Do you have questions about invasive aquatic plants in your area? This is a great opportunity to learn more about the plants that directly affect your community. All Ages welcome. \$FREE

FALL | SEPT - OCT

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 required for those planning to volunteer for the field collection survey. Prior to the in-field survey (below), PRWC is hosting this hour-long Macroinvertebrate Training and Information Session.



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+.



Dr. Marc J. Taylor Memorial Walk

SAT, OCT 14 | 9:00AM

PLATT FARM PRESERVE, SOUTHURY, CT

PRWC is co-hosting a guided walk in memory of one of PRWC's founders, Dr. Marc Taylor. The guided walk will be along the portion of the Marc J. Taylor, M.D. Memorial Greenway at SLT's Platt Farm property on Flood Bridge Road in Southbury. Approximately 2 miles, mostly flat, along the river. Meet at the kiosk across from parking.



Major Changes to the Clean Water Act

SACKETT V EPA SUPREME COURT DECISION

On May 25th, the Supreme Court narrowed the scope of the Clean Water Act by ruling that the CWA only applies to wetlands that are "indistinguishable from Waters of the United States." This excludes millions of acres of wetlands from CWA oversight and places our communities, public health, and local ecosystems in danger - particularly as climate disasters intensify. -Rivers Alliance of CT



The Clean Water Act extends only to those “wetlands with a continuous surface connection to bodies that are waters of the United States in their own rights,” Justice Samuel Alito wrote for the majority.

What is The Clean Water Act? This act helps protect our nation’s valuable wetlands, streams, and other waterbodies from reckless development and pollution by requiring people and businesses to get a permit before discharging pollutants into waters. This process ensures oversight prior to irreversible action.

New changes established in April 2023 have altered our definition of "protected water". Now, only bodies of water that connect to major waterways are included in those protections, leaving countless precious habitats exposed to harm without oversight.

The Supreme Court cut back on the Environmental Protection Agency’s ability to regulate wetlands under the Clean Water Act

APRIL 2023



FUN WATER FACTS!

Did you know...?!

Going out for drinks?

On average it takes about 2 cups of water to make up for the dehydration caused by a single alcoholic drink or a cup of coffee.

Lost in the woods?

A person can live about a month without food, but only about a week without water.

97%

OF THE WORLD'S WATER IS SALTY OR OTHERWISE UNDRINKABLE



176 Gal.

AVERAGE AMERICAN HOUSEHOLDS USE 176 GALLONS OF WATER PER DAY!

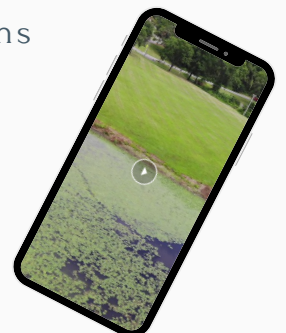
About how much water does it take to make your favorite products?

Car - About 39,090 gallons



Blue Jeans - 2,000 gallons

Smart Phone - 3,400 gallons



A Cup of Coffee - 37 gallons