

Tom Ouellette
RBV Project Coordinator
Vernon Conservation Commission
860-965-6180

Join the Treasure Hunt for Connecticut's Healthiest Streams!

On Saturday, September 29, 2018, the Vernon Conservation Commission will again sponsor the annual Riffle Bioassessment by Volunteers (RBV). Volunteers are needed to help with this important investigation of water quality in the Tankerhoosen River watershed.

Volunteers will search for insects, worms and other small animals that live in riffles, or areas of fast moving water, along the brooks that feed the Tankerhoosen. The variety and numbers of animals found will indicate the relative cleanliness and health of the river system. Vernon's survey results will be compiled along with those for other rivers by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to develop a view of water quality statewide.

No experience is necessary to participate in the survey. Volunteers will meet at 9:00 AM at the Tolland County Agricultural Center (TAC) at 24 Hyde Avenue (Route 30) in Vernon. A brief overview of the RBV program will be provided, followed by group field training. Volunteers will then split into teams to investigate predetermined survey sites. The project will be completed by 2:00 PM.

Participants should wear knee high boots or waders, and may wish to bring dishwashing or other waterproof gloves. Bring a water bottle – snacks will be provided. To register contact Tom Ouellette, RBV project coordinator, at conservationcommission@vernon-ct.gov.