

Looking for an environmental volunteering opportunity?



The Riverfly Monitoring Initiative is a nationwide citizen science scheme. Volunteers collect long-term data on riverfly populations, providing valuable information on the health of our rivers.

What are riverflies?

Riverflies are invertebrates that spend most of their life cycle living in freshwater. Three key groups are **mayflies**, **caddisflies** and **stoneflies**.

Riverflies are highly sensitive to changes in water quality, which makes them useful indicators of river health. Monitoring their populations can allow us to quickly identify issues such as pollution events, as well as keep track of the ecological impacts of any changes, positive or negative, to the river habitat.



Quotes from our volunteers:

"Learning about small invertebrates and seeing things you don't normally see fires brain synapses I wouldn't normally use. Seeing the river change over time connects me to the natural world, which is really necessary for me living in a city."

"The training was comprehensive so no previous knowledge was required and the support is excellent. There is always help on hand if needed... Is there a better way to spend one afternoon a month?!"

Join a community of over 1000 Riverfly monitors in the UK!

- **Full training** provided.
- Visit your site **once a month** to collect a sample.
- **Identify** and **count** the riverflies in your sample, before returning them to the river.
- Upload your results to our **national database**, contributing to a huge long-term data set.



Details for your local group:

Free riverfly monitoring training on Tuesday 15 September (all day) at Norham, Northumberland. Details: mike.wilsonuk@outlook.com

For more information, visit riverflies.org