

# FRESHWATER EXPLORER TESTKIT





## what is Lower Trent Conservation?

Established in 1968 under the Conservation Authorities Act, Lower Trent Conservation works to protect, restore and manage water and other natural resources within the Lower Trent Conservation watershed region.

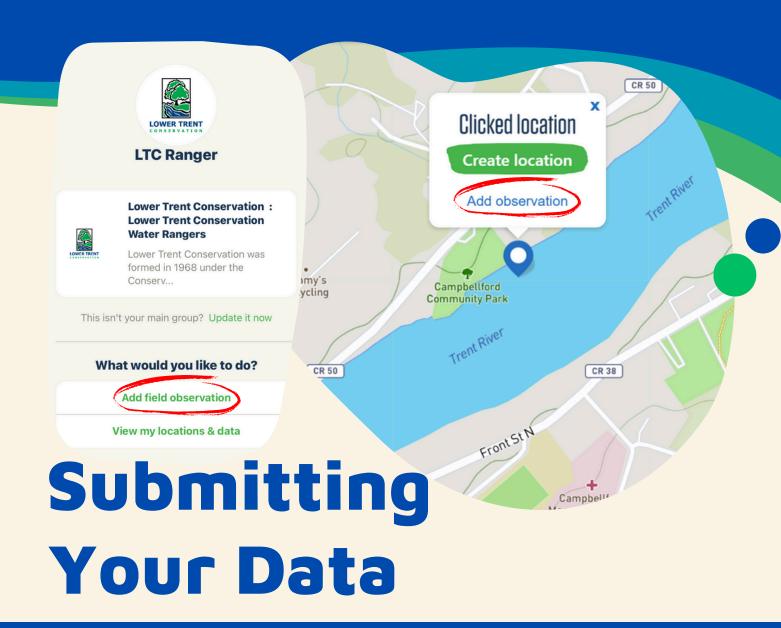






## Testkit Mission

The purpose of the Water Rangers Testkit is to promote awareness and active engagement among residents of the Lower Trent Watershed regarding water health and conservation. Our objective is to highlight activities that can negatively affect drinking water sources, such as the use of road salt and agricultural practices. This kit provides an opportunity for community members to participate as citizen scientists, collecting data that will contribute to greater awareness of the factors influencing our water quality.



Before you collect your data, it is important that you know how to publish it to the Water Rangers Data Platform. This can be done through the Water Rangers app, or through the Water Rangers website (app.waterrangers.ca). All Rangers using this Lower Trent Conservation Testkit will sign in using the credentials below. Please DO NOT make your own account! This allows us at Lower Trent Conservation to easily find all entries made using this kit, and compare data collected over time.

Email/Username: rangers@ltc.on.ca

Password: HealthyH2O!

Don't want to take your device into the field? No problem! Record your observations in the Freshwater Explorer Notepad, and digitally submit your data as soon as you're able.



### What Can I Test For?



### **Dissolved Oxygen**The amount of oxygen present in water, and

thus available to living aquatic organisms.

Low levels can indicate pollution, decaying organic matter, or lots of life.



#### **Alkalinity**

A measure of water's ability to neutralize changes that cause acidity, maintaining a stable pH. High alkalinity is okay!



#### **Conductivity**

Measure of water's ability to pass an electrical current. Neither high nor low are bad, but a spike can indicate pollution.



#### ρH

Measure of how acidic or basic the water is. A low pH can make life difficult for aquatic organisms and amphibians.



Measure water temperature with the conductivity meter, and air temperature with the thermometer!



#### Chlorine

Rarely found in nature by itself, but is used in many human activities. A reading higher than 0.5 could be a sign of nearby issues!



The total concentration of dissolved substances in the water. High values are often an indicator of pollution.





## Keep Checking In!

Keep up with Lower Trent Conservation for the latest Testkit news, more Citizen Science Initiatives, and opportunities to learn with Conservation Staff!

## Questions about the Testkit? Contact us:

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@lowertrentconservation



**Lower Trent Conservation** 



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**Community Foundation** 

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