

TO 4th GRADE PARENTS

RE: River-Lab Volunteer Opportunities

Your child's first science unit this year will be **River-Lab**, a hands-on, award-winning, environmental education program. The concepts presented in the classroom will be brought to life for the students during Study-Trips to Mill River.

Each Study-Trip is led by a trained guide. **This is where you come in!**

All **River-Lab** guides are volunteers. River-Lab makes up one-third of the Fairfield school system's science curriculum for grades 3-6 and includes material that is covered on the CMT, so **River-Lab** guides are asked to attend two educational training sessions (one indoor and one outdoor). Once you have completed training, you are qualified and ready to guide. **River-Lab** will provide you with information cards and a Study-Trip script to follow.

TIME COMMITMENT: All in all, volunteers will dedicate 8 to 10 hours total to training and guiding trips. That's less time than many school committees require and is time you spend **directly** supporting your child's science education. Each parent will be assigned to guide their own child's class trip and is encouraged to guide an additional two trips. You will be able to choose the trips that fit into your schedule.

The **River-Lab** Study-Trip program is a great way for you to get involved and get outdoors. Without our volunteers, we cannot offer these Study-Trips. So, please join **River-Lab** as a volunteer and learn along with your child about nature, our local environment and how we all make an impact. Make this program a part of your commitment to your community and your child.

To sign up for training, please contact your school captains,

Lynn Shavinsky at (203) 331-0669 or e-mail at lshavinsky@sbcglobal.net. Or c/o
Michael 4MK
Or Mary Ellen McKee

Your captain is your liaison for River-Lab and is available to answer any questions you may have.

You may also contact the River-Lab office at (203) 259-1847 or River-Lab@juno.com.

