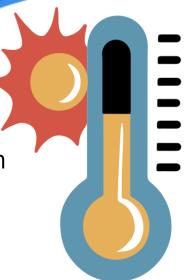# Friends of the Reedy River

Why is air and water temperature important?

Temperature is a factor that determines which species may be present in the ecosystem. It affects the feeding, reproduction, and metabolism of aquatic animals.

How do I measure air and water temperature?

Use a thermometer and measure the air and water temperature in the shade. Be sure to take the air temperature before the water temperature. Check the thermometer for bubbles before sampling from the water.

What is the ideal water temperature?

The water temperature of freshwater should not increase more than 5 degrees Fahrenheit above natural temperature conditions (unaffected by anthropogenic sources of pollution).