EPT (Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, Trichoptera) Taxonomy and Ecology

August 11 – August 17, 2019

This seminar will focus on the genus level taxonomy of the Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera and is offered for anyone involved in aquatic biomonitoring or natural history survey programs. Intensive laboratory study of each group combined with field work in diverse aquatic habitats will refine taxonomic skills to improve participants' reliability of family and genus level determinations as well as sampling proficiency. Reference specimens will be provided for study, but participants are strongly encouraged to bring specimens from their own region for study. Field trips to sample for nymphs/larvae and adults will be structured to provide an introduction to a variety of important macro and microhabitats. Information on the biology and ecology of families and genera of EPT taxa relevant to biomonitoring programs will also be presented. A practical exam will be available at the end of the seminar for those who want an assessment of their skills. The SFS EPT taxonomic certification exam is possible, but only by making prior arrangements with the instructor and will involve a separate registration with the SFS certification coordinator (SFS EPT taxonomic certification exam is a digital exam and will require you to supply your own laptop for the test).

About the instructor

Dr. Steven K. Burian (burians1@southernct.edu) is professor of aquatic biology at Southern Connecticut State University. He is a specialist on the taxonomy and systematics of Nearctic Ephemeroptera with a particular interest in the fauna of New England, Atlantic Canada, and the lower Arctic of Canada. His most active research programs involve studies of taxonomy of Siphlonurus, eastern species of Rhithrogena, Pseudoclione, and Paraleptohlebia, as well as the distribution and species richness patterns of mayflies of far northern and eastern North America.