

Environmental Leadership Program

Registration for 2021-2022

Interested? Here are the steps to follow! Good luck!

1. Interested students currently enrolled in EESS are invited to attend an information session on February 8, 2022, at 11:30 am in room D8.
2. Application forms will be available at the end of the session. Application forms are to be completed and submitted by 4:00 pm, on March 1, 2022 to the main office.
3. Those students who are then selected for an interview will be informed of their interview time. Interviews will take place in front of a panel of teachers and administrators, and will be held beginning the week following March Break.
4. There are 24 open positions and if after the interview process any openings remain these positions will be available for non East Elgin registered students.

Criteria

*Preference given to experienced, older graduates returning for a 5th year.

1. Registered East Elgin students at time of March interviews.
2. Completed application outlining leadership, outdoor interests, experiences as well as student's academic level and attendance history. The students desire to be in the program must be evident.

Values central to the program are:

1. Respect
2. Responsibility
3. Dependability
4. Work Ethic
5. Trust
6. Accountability
7. Commitment
8. Listen

These must be reflected in the student's application, teacher references, and interview to be considered for the program.

Teacher contact Mr. D. Sinclair.

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM EAST ELGIN SECONDARY SCHOOL

The **Environmental Leadership Program** offered at East Elgin Secondary School is a four credit course integrating senior level Interdisciplinary Studies, Physical Education (Outdoor Education) and Co-Operative Education.

Interdisciplinary Studies is a grade 12 university preparation course that integrates senior level subjects and disciplines. Emphasis is placed on Biology and Environmental Geography (Resource Management) with a focus on the ecological principles governing the functioning of natural ecosystems. Topics of study include Aquatic Ecology, Soil Ecology, Terrestrial Ecology, Fish and Wildlife Conservation and Principles and Practices in Forestry.

Outdoor Education provides instruction both in the classroom and in the field. Studies and activities are designed to increase outdoor recreation and environmental participation. First Aid/CPR, trip planning, wilderness survival, orienteering and other related topics will help prepare students for the outdoors. Introducing students to many new activities and experiences not only leads to a healthier lifestyle but to a healthier environment.

Students participate in the following off-campus trips each year:

- A 5-day canoe trip in Algonquin Park
- A 4-day trip to the Haliburton Forest where students participate in rock climbing, high ropes, orienteering and mountain biking
- A 3-day Conservation and Resource Management Workshop at the Delta Conservation Centre, Turkey Point- fisheries management, forestry management, wildlife management
- A 4-day winter wilderness experience in Algonquin Park

Co-Operative Education involves work placements that are of an environmental nature. The Environmental Leadership Program runs in partnership with the Elgin County Stewardship Council and the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority. The success of the program is a direct result of the keen interest, participation and support of these agencies.

The ELP class in partnership with the Jaffa Outdoor Education Centre and Catfish Creek Conservation Authority held the annual Marsh Quest Program. This interactive wetland education program was a huge success again this year. Over 500 grade 4 students from 18 different classes and 12 different schools took part in activities, demonstrations and presentations designed to stimulate their interest in the outdoors as well as their appreciation for the "Values of Wetlands".

In 2010, Marsh Quest was nationally recognized by Ducks Unlimited Canada as a "Wetland Centre of Excellence" for our wetland program. In 2011 we won an international award from Ramsar, for "Schools Promoting the Sustainable Use of Wetland Resources". The success of our program is a direct result of the financial support we receive from our sponsors!!!

This year was another fun and exciting year. Canoe tripping, mountain biking, rock climbing and rappelling throughout Algonquin Park and the Haliburton Highlands along with the winter camping trip near North Bay were a few of our many highlights.

Once again, the Environmental Leadership Program helped organize the annual Carolinian Forest Festival held at the Jaffa Outdoor Education Centre and the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority. Activities and interactive displays provide an outdoor learning experience for students to learn about the Carolinian Life Zone. More than 1200 grade 5 and 6 students attended the 4-day festival.

We continued with our annual beach clean-up along the north shore of Lake Erie. Malahide Township, Bayham Township, Port Burwell Provincial Park, Aylmer Tirecraft, private landowners and the Environmental Leadership Program work together to help clean the beach between Port Burwell and Port Bruce.

This was our 6th year involved with the National Archery in the Schools Program. This program is supported and organized by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. NASP promotes international-style target archery as part of the in-school curriculum, to improve performance and participation in shooting sports among students in grades 4-12.

This year we continued our cross curricular, community project called "Clean Water- Healthy Future". The responsibility of protecting and conserving our most precious resource is everyone's! Every department, every teacher, every student and every citizen needs to do their part to ensure we have fresh water in the future. We feel this is a community project that will gain momentum. We need to be proactive not reactive to ensure our healthy future!

Throughout the semester the students are actively involved in various Co-operative work projects.

- Stream rehabilitation and bank stabilization projects along Catfish Creek
- Forest management projects on CCCA properties and private woodlots
- Trail maintenance in Sinclair Wetland, Kebbel Wetland and Springwater Forest
- Long Point Waterfowl- Wood duck study on Big Creek
- Community tree nursery/tree planting program

Throughout the semester, students also take part in the following certification programs:

- ORCKA Flat Water Tandem and Solo (canoe certification)
- John's Standard First Aid
- John's CPR Level "C"
- Chainsaw Cutter Certification
- Canadian Coast Guard Safe Boating Course
- Ontario Hunter Education
- GPS/GIS Certification

This program offers interested and committed students the opportunity to gain valuable field training, classroom instruction and certification in a variety of areas in the environmental and outdoor educational field. Due to the immersion nature of this program, it will appeal to students who have a strong interest in the outdoors, environmental issues, resource management and/or education in the environmental or outdoor educational field.

Students accepted into the program have the opportunity to earn various certifications. Students also have the option of attending our Northern Field Trips. NOTE: there is a charge of \$500.00 for students opting for certifications and field trips. If there are any financial issues that would prevent you from participating, please contact Mr. Sinclair as soon as possible.

Indirectly, the opportunities and experiences provided by the Environmental Leadership Program enhance the student's attitude toward the environment and the "Great Outdoors". In many this attitude becomes a passion and they go on to further their education in the Environmental or Outdoor Recreational field at College or University. The more activities and experiences that we can provide, the better chance we have at stimulating their interest. These students are our future conservationists and the key to a healthier future.

Environmental Leadership Program Student Application

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Phone# _____

All candidates are required to submit an application/portfolio and student interest statements to be considered for this program. These should be submitted to Mr. Sinclair by March 1 2022.

Successful candidates should have a genuine interest in the outdoors with a high level of environmental awareness. Self-motivation, self-discipline, positive attitude, and strong work ethic are attributes considered extremely important for this program.

My parents (guardian) and I understand the program described and agree that I meet the recommended requirements of ELP.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____

Student Interest Statements

Please respond to each of the following statements.

1. Describe your outdoor/environmental experiences to date.
2. In my spare time, I most often enjoy...
3. The reasons I would like to take ELP are...
4. What I bring to the program.
5. Describe and comment on a local environmental issue.

Teacher Recommendation: It is my opinion that _____ (student's name) would be an asset to the ELP PROGRAM.

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____