

## **Ontario Envirothon competition returns to in-person programming in the Algoma region**

**Barrie, Ont. (March 8, 2023)** – The 2023 Ontario Envirothon competition is returning to in-person programming in the Algoma region this year. Training will be held on March 27 at Sault College in Sault Ste. Marie and the competition will be held May 12-13 at Stokely Creek Lodge in Goulais River. Created for teams of Ontario youth in grades 9-12, Envirothon will also be available as a virtual competition for those unable to attend in-person programming in any of the 2023 Envirothon regions.

“We are incredibly excited to be back in person for the 2023 Envirothon,” Allison Hands, Education, Manager, Forests Ontario, says. “It gives budding environmental leaders a chance to explore education and career paths in the natural sciences and network with potential mentors.”

Forests Ontario is proud to be the lead agency of the Ontario Envirothon – a unique environmentally-themed competition that immerses students in hands-on learning and discovery. The program provides students with insights into forests, soils, wildlife, and aquatic ecosystems, while team-based activities are designed to develop critical thinking, problem solving, teamwork, leadership, and communication skills.

“Thanks to support from educators, sponsors and our provincial network of coordinators and volunteers, the Ontario Envirothon has grown to reach over 120 schools and over 10,000 Envirothon alumni since the program’s establishment in 1994,” Hands says.

The 2023 Ontario Envirothon is made possible by generous sponsorship from Maple Leaves Forever, Wildlife Habitat Canada, Fleming College, and Algonquin Forestry Authority. For sponsorship enquiries, please e-mail [envirothon@forestsontario.ca](mailto:envirothon@forestsontario.ca).

The regions for the 2023 Ontario Envirothon are as follows:

### **Algoma**

Training: March 27, 2023, at Sault College

Training/Competition: May 12-13, 2023, at Stokely Creek Lodge

### **Grand River**

Training: April 12, 2023, University of Waterloo

Competition: April 26, 2023, University of Waterloo

### **Grey/Bruce**

Training/Competition: April 12, 2023, Bluewater School Board Outdoor Education Centre



## **Southwestern Ontario**

Oral Presentation/Species-At-Risk Workshop: March 21, 2023, at Thames Valley District School Board Education Centre

Training: April 13, 2023, at Springwater Conservation Area

Competition: April 20, 2023, at Springwater Conservation Area

## **Toronto**

Training: April 19, 2023, at York University

Competition: TBD

## **York**

Training/Competition: April 13, 2023, at Bill Fisch Forest Stewardship and Education Centre

The program is open to Ontario youth in grades 9-12. Teams outside of the areas listed above can participate in a virtual regional event. Winners of region events advance to the provincial competition, where teams of students put their hard-earned knowledge to the test for the chance to represent Ontario in the national NCF-Envirothon in Sackville, New Brunswick.

Students and educators can find out more about the event and register at:

[www.forestsontario.ca/en/program/ontario-envirothon](http://www.forestsontario.ca/en/program/ontario-envirothon). Online registration closes March 31, 2023.

Questions about Ontario Envirothon can also be directed to [envirothon@forestsontario.ca](mailto:envirothon@forestsontario.ca).

-30-

**For more information or to request an interview, please contact:**

### **Matthew Brown**

Communications Manager

Forests Ontario / Forest Recovery Canada

Cell: 519-471-4751

E-mail: [MBrown@forestsontario.ca](mailto:MBrown@forestsontario.ca)

### **About Forests Ontario & Forest Recovery Canada**

Forests Ontario is the province's leading charity dedicated to the creation, preservation, and maintenance of forest and grassland habitats. Our ambitious, large-scale tree planting initiatives, extensive educational programs, and decades of community outreach result in millions of trees being planted each year.

Together with our national division, Forest Recovery Canada, we work with our many partners across the country to plant native trees and ensure our efforts today thrive and grow into tomorrow's diverse, healthy, and resilient forests.

Forests Ontario is the voice for our forests.

Visit [www.forestsontario.ca](http://www.forestsontario.ca) or follow us @Forests\_Ontario to find out more.