



**Trip Preparation Information**  
**LOCATION:** Dundas Valley Conservation Area  
650 Governors, Dundas Ontario

**Phone:** (905) 627-1233  
**Email:** hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca

## Winter: 2019-2020

### **NOTE: Classes Booked For Snowshoeing Program:**

*This program requires proper winter boots. Snowshoe bindings do not fit running shoes. Please ensure that all students and program participants bring winter boots. Students without proper winter footwear will not be able to participate in this program.*

### **Student Safety: 50% - 60% of the time is spent outside**

We want all students to have a safe, positive and enjoyable outdoor winter experience. Please ensure that all your students are dressed properly for an outdoor winter program. Winter boots are essential especially during cold temperatures and when there is snow on the ground. Students that do not have proper winter boots are at risk of frost bite or hypothermia. Safety of the students is our primary concern. **Students that arrive without proper outdoor gear may not be permitted to participate in outdoor activities and may be sent back to the school by taxi at the school's expense.**

### **Outdoor Winter Clothing:**

- **All program participants are expected to dress appropriately for winter weather & outdoor conditions ~**
- This means – **WINTER BOOTS, HAT, MITTS, WARM COAT, SNOW OR WIND PANTS.** We recommend that teachers & students bring extra mitts, socks and warm clothing.

### **Tip:**

**Dress in layers.** Use many thin, warm layers rather than a few thick layers. It will insulate better and allow students to take off layers if the temperature climbs. 50%-60% of our time will take place out of doors.

### **General Outline for the Day:**

- Elementary Adult/Student ratio is 1:10 (*This does not include our teaching staff*)
- Secondary Adult/Student ratio is 1:15 (*This does not include our teaching staff*)
- Our teaching staff will meet the bus in the main parking lot
- Each class will participate in the selected outdoor environmental education program led by HCA Education Staff, assisted by the classroom teacher

### **How to Prepare for the Trip:**

- Transportation is the responsibility of the school
- Book your bus to arrive on site for: **Arrival 9:30 a.m. Departure 2:00 p.m.**
- Program times can be changed to accommodate your schedule
- Please notify staff in advance of any students with special needs or behavioural issues
- All participants should try to bring a litter less lunch
- Students will work either in small groups or with partners

### **Reminder:**

Programs continue rain or shine. Program participants are **expected** to dress appropriately for the weather. During weather extremes a greater portion of our programs will either be modified & conducted indoors or in some cases the booking date will be re-scheduled.

**Extreme Weather:** During weather extremes a greater portion of our programs will be modified with more time conducted indoors.

**Cancellation Policy:** A cancellation fee of \$150 per school per day will apply if the school cancels the trip less than 15 office days prior to the scheduled field trip, and does not re-schedule the date within the next 4 weeks