



2021

**HWDSB Virtual Program Guide
&
Reservation Information**



Includes:

Live Stream Virtual Sessions

E.Y.E. Wonder Live Stream Programs

HCA Conservation Clips

Email: hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca

Bring the Outdoors – into your school with our Virtual – Eco Outreach programs



Virtual – Eco Outreach programs bring the outdoors – into your school

The Hamilton Conservation Authority is the area's largest environmental organization and is dedicated to the conservation of our local lands, wildlife and water resources. For over 50 years the HCA has provided interactive, outdoor environmental education opportunities for Hamilton's elementary and secondary students. Join us for options: Live Stream; E.Y.E. Wonder, & HCA Conservation Clips as we bring the outdoors into your school.

This guide offers three Virtual options:

Option 1: 2021 Live Stream Virtual Sessions

Option 2: 2021 E.Y.E. Wonder Live Stream Sessions

Option 3: 2021 HCA Conservation Clips

About Our Eco Outreach Programs: Whether you want to enhance your school program from your local grounds, or to have us teach from a virtual Microsoft Teams network to augment your in-class session, we can help. The HCA provides unique, inter-active, curriculum-linked programs which are led by professional education staff.

HCA Eco Outreach Team

- Sandra Root: H.B., Ph.Ed., B. Ed., M.Sc.Ed.; HCA Environmental Education Specialist
- James O'Neill: HCA Environmental Program Co-ordinator
- Supporting Background Panel of Hamilton Conservation Authority Ecology Experts

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS:

Option 1. Live Stream Virtual Sessions

- 45 minute Virtual Program Sessions. HCA staff will operate from a variety of HCA Field Sites to provide opportunity for students to learn about the environment. These program sessions are directly linked to grade levels of study and curriculum requirements. Many of the sessions include worksheet materials which reflect the study session, often including experiment ideas and discussion points. [Click to see the list of sessions available.](#)

Option 2. E.Y.E. Wonder Series

- 15 to 30 minute Virtual Program Sessions. The virtual interactive series is designed to augment the in-class session allowing students to speak directly with Naturalists. Each class will register for sessions through Microsoft Teams with the HCA Education Staff. hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca
- For additional HWDSB information please contact Lee Ann Armstrong: Leader of Experiential Learning: lnarmstr@hwdsb.on.ca Cell: 289 – 339 – 6475
[Click to see the details for E.Y.E. Wonder Series](#)

Option 3. HCA Conservation Clips

- 2 to 5 minute pre-recorded film clips. Naturalists have recorded some of the key features and interest points found within our Hamilton Conservation Areas. **Note:** Available through our HCA web networks or Youtube starting in late spring 2021.
[Click to see the details for Conservation Clips](#)

PROGRAM DETAILS:

2021 Live Stream Virtual Sessions

Using Microsoft Teams, staff will operate from a variety of HCA Field Sites to provide opportunity for students to learn about the environment. These program sessions are directly linked to grade levels of study and curriculum requirements. Many of the sessions include worksheet materials which reflect the study session, often including experiment ideas and discussion points.

Sessions are 45 minutes in length and may be scheduled Wednesday-Friday throughout January to June 2021.

Note: Teams Invitations will be sent out from the Booking Teacher one day in advance of the program day.

Contact: James through hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca to register your session.

E.Y.E. Wonder Live Stream Sessions

Bring the Education Naturalist to your school with **E.Y.E. Wonder** (Exceptional Youth Explore) live stream. This is an interactive series in which students and teachers can ask questions and provide input on Conservation themes. Questions related to Science and the local Hamilton environment direct the sessions. The Environmental Education Team will chat directly with students to unravel myths and mysteries of our natural world. The virtual interactive series will augment the in-class session allowing students to speak directly with Naturalists on topics 'of the day'.

Sessions are 15 to 30 minutes in length and are scheduled for Tuesday mornings throughout January to June 2021.

Sessions are scheduled through Microsoft Teams: Connect with Lee Ann Armstrong: Leader of Experiential Learning for further HWDSB support information: lnarmstr@hwdsb.on.ca Cell: 289 – 339 - 6475

Note: Invitations will be sent out from hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca on the day of the booking. If you have already enjoyed a Live Stream session, these short visits are a great way to follow-up with additional questions.

Additional Note: Teachers are asked to provide 3 key questions or a focus topic in advance of their session. These discussion questions will allow the HCA staff panel to augment their answers with artifacts or demonstration models and research as required.

HCA Conservation Clips

Education Naturalists have recorded some of the key features and interest points found within our Hamilton Conservation Areas. Clips include: **Winter: What's Alive; Weather Wise; Let's Explore Winter! Interactions in the Environment; Forest Nature Hike; Tracking; Wildlife Shelters; and more.**



Sessions are 2 to 5 minutes in length and are available through our HCA web networks or Youtube starting in late spring, 2021.

HCA Eco Outreach Team

- Sandra Root: H.B., Ph.Ed., B. Ed., M.Sc.Ed.; HCA Environmental Education Specialist
- James O'Neill: HCA Environmental Program Co-ordinator
- Supporting Background Panel of Hamilton Conservation Authority Ecology Experts

Funding of these initiatives is provided by the HWDSB in partnership with the Hamilton Conservation Authority

BOOKING PROCEDURES: Option 1: Live Stream Virtual Sessions

- Complete the following **2021 Nature on Wheels, Eco Outreach Booking Request** form and email it in to the Hamilton Conservation Authority Email: hcaenved@conservationhamilton.ca
- Teachers will be contacted to discuss all the details pertaining to the program
- Schools will receive a follow-up confirmation via email with the final program details & schedule

To arrange a booking, contact: James O'Neill: Education Program Co-ordinator: hcaenved@conservationhamilton.ca

PROGRAM LISTINGS:

Option 1: 2021 Live Stream Virtual Sessions

Selection of Programs: Sessions are 45 minutes in length, scheduled Wednesday to - Friday.

What's Alive: Animals and Insects: Find out what lives in the area with the expertise of an HCA instructor, learn what is needed in order for their survival. Students will study the clues that insects and animals leave behind. Additional activities will help students to expand their understanding of our local wildlife and their amazing adaptations.

Recommended for grade 2 – 4 *Curriculum Links: Science & Technology Understanding Life Systems – Habitats and Communities; Growth & Changes in Animals*

Plants and Pollinators: Plants are amazing. They can live almost anywhere and they come in all different shapes, sizes and colours! Explore nature as it changes from one season to the next. Students will observe the seasonal changes in plants and discuss what is a pollinator and why do they need our help? Just as animals depend on plants (*producers*) for survival, flowering plants depend on animals (*pollinators*) for their survival. We will also investigate soil and discover its importance to plants, animals and people.

Recommended for grade 3 – 4 *Curriculum Links: Science & Technology Life Systems – Needs & Characteristics of Living Things; Growth & Changes in Animals; Habitats and Communities.*

Habitats & Communities: There are so many different habitats right in the school yard community! Some habitats are as big as a forest, others as small as a leaf. Find out what makes each habitat unique. We examine interaction and interdependence; food chains and ecological relationships within our environment.

Recommended for grade 4 – 6 *Curriculum Links: Science & Technology Understanding Life Systems – Habitats and Communities*

Diversity of Living Things: A healthy ecosystem is one that has a wide variety of living things. One of the important functions of conservation authorities is the protection of natural areas and the species of wildlife that inhabit them. How do we know what plants and animals need protection? Explore biodiversity, learn about classification, adaptation, local species at risk and what is being done to protect them.

Recommended for grade 6. *Curriculum Links: Science & Technology Understanding Life Systems - Biodiversity*



Option 2: E.Y.E. Wonder Live Stream Sessions

Sessions are 15 to 30 minutes in length and are scheduled for Tuesday mornings throughout January to June 2021.

Bring the Education Naturalist to your school with **E.Y.E. Wonder** (Exceptional Youth Explore) live stream.

PROGRAM SAMPLE LISTINGS:

Winter: What's Alive. Winter offers us a glimpse of the unique plants and animals that exist in our Hamilton Conservation Areas. Discover what's alive in winter! From rabbit runways to deer beds; milkweed seedpods to chickadee chirps - nature is inspirational!

Weather Wise: Let's Explore Winter! Look around for the seasonal changes and observe some of the natural treasures in your backyard, local park system or school yard. Watch for flocks of migrating birds; hibernating insects and other natural phenomenon. Let's ask our Naturalists!

Interactions in the Environment – We are all connected: Our food, clothing and even the clean water we drink is connected to a healthy ecosystem. Our forests, wetlands, fields and meadows all support a huge variety of life. Take a closer look at the way in which energy moves through ecosystems through food chains and food webs.

Tracks in the snow: Tips and tricks about how to read the signs left behind by wildlife. Tracks, scat and tunnels can be a way to find out what lives in our area.

Let's Talk Snowshoes: We take a look at a variety of snowshoes and discuss the importance of this method for winter travel from a historical perspective.

Winter Birds: Wondering why you are still seeing some birds during winter? Don't all birds migrate south? Let's take a closer look at a few birds that tough it out during the winter season and what they do to survive!

Frogs and their Calls: What is our tiniest frog that has such a loud voice in the spring? What frog sounds like a banjo and which one is telling us to 'get out of the swamp'? We will talk frogs in this segment.

What Lives in the Soil: Alive with life, soil is fundamental to the growth of all living things. Let's take a closer look at what lies below the surface of a forest floor. Interested in gardening and plants ... ask us!

BOOKING PROCEDURES: E.Y.E. Wonder virtual sessions

HCA Contact: James O'Neill hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca sessions scheduled through Microsoft Teams.

HWDSB Contact: Lee Ann Armstrong: Leader of Experiential Learning: lnarmstr@hwdsb.on.ca Cell: 289 – 339 – 6475.

Note: Invitations for **E.Y.E. Wonder** will be sent out from hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca on the day of the booking. If you have already enjoyed a Live Stream session, these short visits are a great way to follow-up with additional questions.

Additional Note: Teachers are asked to provide 3 key questions or a focus topic in advance of their session. These discussion questions will allow the HCA staff panel to augment their answers with artifacts or demonstration models and research as required.



2021 Booking Request Form

Option 2: E.Y.E. Wonder Virtual Sessions

Submit by Email to: James O'Neill, Education Program Co-ordinator; Hamilton Conservation Authority

Email: hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca

Note:

- Teachers will be sent a confirmation email following the pre-planning to identify details of the live stream visit.
- Due to Pandemic Restrictions, one application is required for each attending Teacher, to be completed by that Teacher.

SCHOOL / GROUP	
MAILING ADDRESS	
TEACHER CONTACT NAME	
<i>Sample Student Questions</i>	<p><i>Why are garlic mustard plants called an Invasive Species?</i></p> <p><i>Why do the leaves of some trees change colour in the autumn?</i></p> <p><i>What is the difference between a Habitat a Niche & an Ecosystem?</i></p>
GRADE	
NUMBER OF STUDENTS	
PROGRAM SELECTION <i>Please list your student questions</i>	1. 2. 3.
PREFERRED Date and Session 15 to 30 min E.Y.E. Wonder Series	Date: Session 1. 9 – 930 or Session 2 9:45 - 10 or Session 3 10:30 - 11
TEACHER CONTACT EMAIL	

PLEASE NOTE It is the responsibility of the school to participate in a pre-planning session to provide student questions in advance of the program. Thank you.