

2023 Ontario Envirothon Rules and Regulations

General:

- Each team will consist of five (5) students from the same school, home-school group, or local organization (except for teams from joint vocational schools, team members cannot be drawn from different schools i.e. no 'all-star teams').
- All team members must be enrolled in grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 for the entirety of the school year.
- Important documents will be posted to the 2023 Ontario Envirothon Coaches Corner page. Team coaches will be provided access following registration.
- Selection process for Provincial Competition teams will be determined by regional format:
 - Teams participating in the virtual regional will be selected to advance via weighted draw; see the Regional Program Section for more details.
 - Teams participating in in-person regional events will be selected to advance by rankings, top 2 teams per region will receive an invitation to Provincial Competition.
 - Any remaining Provincial vacancies will be filled through wildcard draws which will include teams from in-person and the virtual regionals.
- The top scoring team in the Provincial Competition will be invited to the [NCF-Envirothon](#) to represent Ontario. Host location for 2023 is New Brunswick.
 - The winning team will be determined by a combination of presentation and testing scores.
 - NCF-Envirothon Registration fees will be covered by Forests Ontario. Travel costs for students and team chaperon(s) are the responsibility of the winning team.

Regional Envirothon:

Virtual:

- Regional winners advancing to the Provincial Competition will be selected by weighted draw; the more iNaturalist challenges a team successfully completes, the greater their chance of advancing.
- Online challenges will leverage iNaturalist.ca and the iNaturalist mobile app. To participate, teachers must submit their or their students' iNaturalist username(s) to Forests Ontario so that observations can be verified on the [2023 Ontario Envirothon project](#).
 - Only observations from participants who have joined the iNaturalist project will be visible on the map.
 - Participating teams must review the [introduction to the iNaturalist project](#) in advance of submitting observations.
 - Please note that house plants, domestic garden plants, and pets are not acceptable submissions.
 - Challenges will be posted as journal entries on the 2023 Ontario Envirothon project.
 - Google Forms links will be provided for each team to fill once they have completed a challenge.
- Proof of completion of iNaturalist challenges must be submitted to Forests Ontario no later than April 28th, 2023 to be considered in the regional winners draw.

In-Person:

- In select communities in-person regional events will be offered. Program format may vary depending on local capacity. Teams must contact their local coordinator to verify program details, rules and regulations, etc.

Provincial Competition:

- To participate in the Provincial Competition, teams must meet all eligibility requirements and have completed the Regional Program.
 - See General section for more details.

Presentation:

- Presentation scenarios will be released on Monday May 29th at 9:30 am EST via email and through the 2023 Ontario Envirothon Coaches Corner page.
- The presentation scenario will be focused on the 2023 current issue, Species At Risk.
- Teams will have up to 48 hours to prepare their presentation.
 - Electronic copies of presentations documents (i.e., scripts, PowerPoint) must be submitted to Forests Ontario no later than Wednesday May 31st, 2023 at 9:30 am EST.
- Presentations must be a maximum of ten (10) minutes in length. At the ten (10) minute mark, groups will be asked to stop their presentation. Groups with presentations exceeding ten (10) minutes will have points deducted from their overall score.
- Groups will also have up to five (5) minutes of Q&A with their virtual judging panel.
- Each team will be assigned a team number. Teams must not indicate their school, city, or regional affiliation in their presentation. Inclusion of this information will result in the deduction of points.
- Presentations will be made virtually using Google Meet or another agreed upon video conferencing platform. A phone-in option can be arranged if necessary.
 - Teams may opt to present from one or multiple locations pursuant to local Public Health and government guidelines.
- All five (5) team members are expected to participate equally in the presentation. Unequal participation could result in the loss of points. Teams are encouraged to review the Presentation Score sheet before delivering their presentation.
- Teams are encouraged to use visual aids to augment their presentations. The following materials are acceptable for use:
 - PowerPoint presentation
 - Printer, lined notebook paper, cue cards etc.
 - Bristol board
 - Chart paper
 - Pencils, pens, or markers
 - Erasers
 - Rulers

- The following are not permitted in team presentations and their inclusion or use will result in the deduction of points:
 - Music
 - Props (i.e. costumes, instruments, tools), except for materials on the approved list
 - People not on the Envirothon team (including the team advisor)
- All visual aids must be created during the 48 hours prep period. Teams must submit photos or PDF's of all visuals to be used in their presentation to Forests Ontario by 9:30 am on Wednesday May 31st along with other materials.

Testing:

- Testing will open at 9:00 am EST on Wednesday May 31st, 2023. Online access to the test will close automatically at 5:00 pm EST on Wednesday May 31st.
- Teams will be provided with a username and password which will grant access to the Mobius platform and Ontario Envirothon provincial test.
- Teams are asked to test their login information once received, if there are technical issues please contact University of Waterloo support at mobiushelp@uwaterloo.ca
- Each team will have a maximum of ninety (90) minutes to complete the online test. Timer starts automatically when the test is opened and will remain running even if exited.
 - Test includes the following question formats: multiple choice, matching, identification, short answer and long answer.
- Tests are to be completed as a team using one (1) computer.
- Cell phones and resource materials are prohibited during testing unless expressly permitted by Forests Ontario; teams found to be accessing these materials may be disqualified or have marks deducted.
- A testing proctor is required to observe team throughout the testing process.