



# EnviroWeb



## Manitoba Envirothon ~ coordinators report

### In this Issue:

Glenn's Joke Corner	2
Canon Envirothon	2
Registration Closes February 18	3
Advisor Advice Needed: Envirothon 2012	3
Scouts Canada: New Region Partner	4
Our regional partners	5
Provincial Schedule	6
Regional Schedule	7
Prizes and Awards	7
Changes at the MFA	8
T-shirt colour and style	8
Dr. Alan Beaven Scholarship	9
Funding and education opportunities	10

Envirothon is only 4 months away! Currently we have 32 teams registered for the regional Envirothon events. Twenty of these teams have also registered to participating at the provincial event in Gimli, Manitoba May 26-28, 2011. There is space for 24 teams at the provincial event. Please send in your registration form as soon as possible if you plan on attending an Envirothon event. Registration forms can be found online at

[www.thinktrees.org/Registration.aspx](http://www.thinktrees.org/Registration.aspx) . After February 18 we will open registration for the provincial event to schools with one team already registered for the Manitoba Envirothon.

Past Envirothon trail tests are available online at [www.thinktrees.org/Envirothon\\_Resources.aspx](http://www.thinktrees.org/Envirothon_Resources.aspx) . The past tests will give you a good idea of how the Envirothon tests are structure, and will prove to be a useful study tool,

especially for new teams.

If you have any questions about Envirothon please feel free to contact me: Michaela Knispel  
[envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org](mailto:envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org)  
(204) 453-3182 ext. 2



## The When and Where

### Manitoba Envirothon:

Gimli Manitoba  
Thursday May 26 -  
Saturday May 28, 2011

### Regional Events

Oak Hammock Marsh  
April 29, 2011  
Camp Amisk  
April 29, 2011  
Pine Falls  
May 6, 2011  
The Pas  
May 6, 2011

Carman  
May 11, 2011  
Brandon  
May 12, 2011  
Duck Mountain Forest  
Centre  
May 13, 2011

#### Manitoba Envirothon:

- Manitoba Envirothon Gimli, Manitoba
- 7 regions confirmed
- Contact Envirothon Coordinator:  
[envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org](mailto:envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org)  
453-3182 ext. 2

## Glenn's Joke Corner



What did one ocean say to the other?  
Nothing, they just waved

What kind of fur is found underground?  
An aquifer!

~St. Boniface Diocesan High School Envirothon teams 2009 and 2010

Once again we are in search of your most hilarious, and creative environmental jokes for our **Joke Contest**.

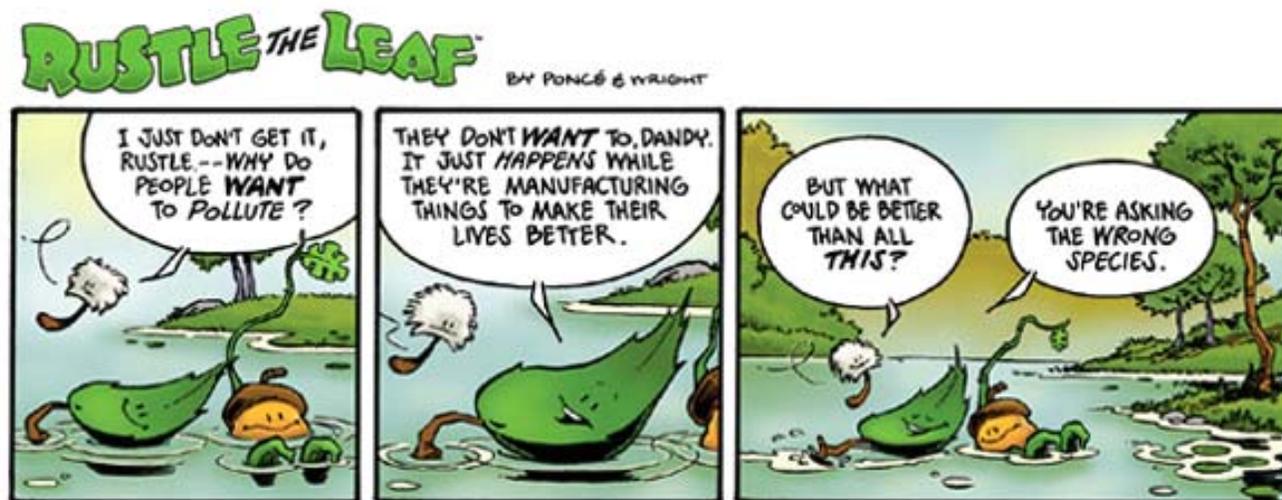
After your team has registered for Envirothon you can submit up to 5 jokes appropriate for the event. A crack team of humour consultants will

read through all jokes and select the best joke. The winning team will receive a **prize pack** and their joke, along with the runner-up jokes, will be used at the 2011 opening ceremonies

The jokes should be of an environmental nature, with theme topic jokes

receiving more points. This year's theme is *Fresh and Salt Water Estuaries*.

Submit your jokes to [envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org](mailto:envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org) with "Envirojoke" in the subject line.



### Canon Envirothon: Fresh and Salt Water Estuaries



Canon Envirothon:  
July 24– July 29, 2011  
Mount Allison University  
Sackville, New Brunswick

The winner of the Manitoba Envirothon will have the opportunity to compete at the Canon Envirothon competition, this year held in Sackville New Brunswick. Sackville is located near the Tantramar Salt Marshes. Since the arrival of the

Acadians, the Tantramar marshes and estuaries have been threatened by habitat destruction. The area has been dyked, drained for farming and mined for salt.

Last year 54 teams from Canada and the United

States represented their provinces and states at the Canon Envirothon. Manitoba place 12th overall at Canon Envirothon in Fresno, California.

## *Registration Closes February 18*

Registration for Envirothon 2011 closes February 18. After this date we will open registration to the provincial event for additional teams from schools with one team already registered for the event. The second wave of registration will be done on a lottery system to ensure that there is a fair representation from schools.

This year is our second and final pilot year of the regional format. This year teams can register for both the provincial and regional competitions without having to place at a regional event to advance to provincial. However all teams must attend and compete at the regional level in order to also participate at the provincial event.

In 2012 teams will have to compete at a regional event, and only those that place within the top teams from each region will advance to the provincial competition. Each region will send teams from their competition.

## *Advisor Advice Needed: Envirothon 2012*

As Manitoba Envirothon continues to evolve the Steering Committee is seeking ways to reach a greater audience of students, teachers, parents, and volunteers. We would like teachers to come to this year's Envirothon teacher debriefing on Saturday May 28 in Gimli to discuss the possibility of future Envirothon competition being a condensed two day competition on Thursday–Friday, rather than the traditional Thursday-Saturday event. The reasons behind this change are as follows:

**1. Increase media coverage**  
Newsrooms deadlines most often fall on Friday with offices closed for the

weekends; Envirothon is more likely to make the headlines if we are able to provide reporters with final results on Friday afternoon. With increased media coverage public awareness about Envirothon will grow and in turn we will attract more participants, funders and volunteers.

### **2. Volunteer recruitment**

A weekday event will be more appealing to volunteers. Many workplaces generously donate their employees' time to Envirothon, whereas people's busy schedules often prevent them from attending a Saturday event.

We understand that teachers and students cannot afford to miss yet another day from the classroom, thus we are proposing a condensed Thursday-Friday event, not a change in dates. No decision has been made on the matter. We have heard from a few teachers already and ask all advisors to come ready to discuss the issue at the advisor debriefing on Saturday May 28.



## *New Region Partner: Scouts Canada*



Scouts Canada will be partnering with Manitoba Envirothon to host a regional Envirothon competition this year. Scouts Canada will hold the competition at Camp Amisk, on Friday April 29, 2011.

Schools in the south end of Winnipeg and South-eastern Manitoba fall into the Scouts regional catchment area and will attend this regional competition. Schools in the Scouts catchment area that have already registered for the Oak Hammock Marsh (OHM) competition will now be attending the

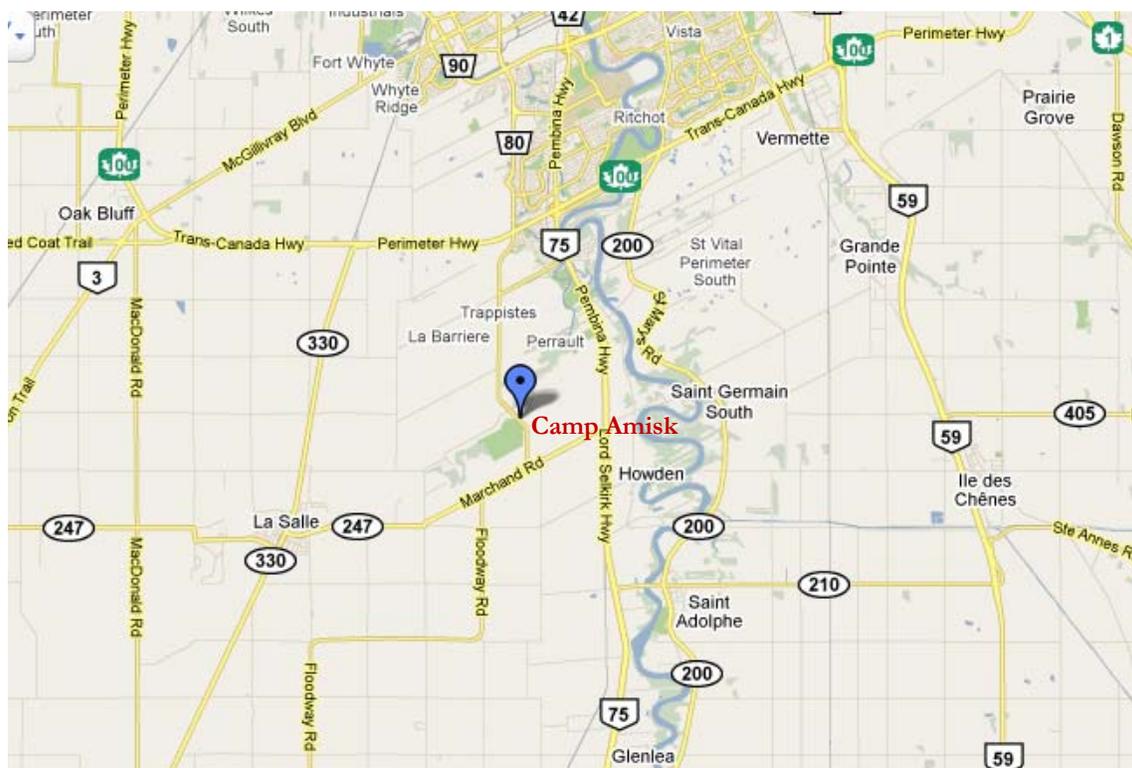
Scouts competition. Both Scouts and OHM competitions occur on April 29, this should avoid any conflicts in schedules. The change in location will mean less travel time for teams, and will alleviate pressure on the OHM regional event. With 20 teams participating at the OHM regional event last year, a second Winnipeg-area region is required.

Schools that fall in the Scout regional catchment area include those in the following school divisions: Borderland, Hanover, Louis Riel, Pembina Trails,

St. James-Assiniboia, Seine River, Red River Valley, and Winnipeg Technical College.

Camp Amisk is located on Waverly Road, south of the perimeter, next to LaBarriere Park. Due to high waters in the spring it may be necessary for teams to reach the site from Marchand Road off of highway 75. Further details and confirmation of your regional competition will be send out closer to the competition date.

For location of Camp Amisk please see map below.



## Our Regional Partners

Oak Hammock Marsh  
April 29, 2011

Camp Amisk  
April 29, 2011

Pine Falls  
May 6, 2011

The Pas  
May 6, 2011

Carman  
May 11, 2011

Brandon  
May 12, 2011

Swan River  
May 13, 2011

The Manitoba Envirothon Steering Committee would not be able to expand the program into a regional format without the help from our Regional Partners. Several organizations are donating their time and resources to help the program grow. We would like to recognize the following groups for the support they have

provided for 2011:

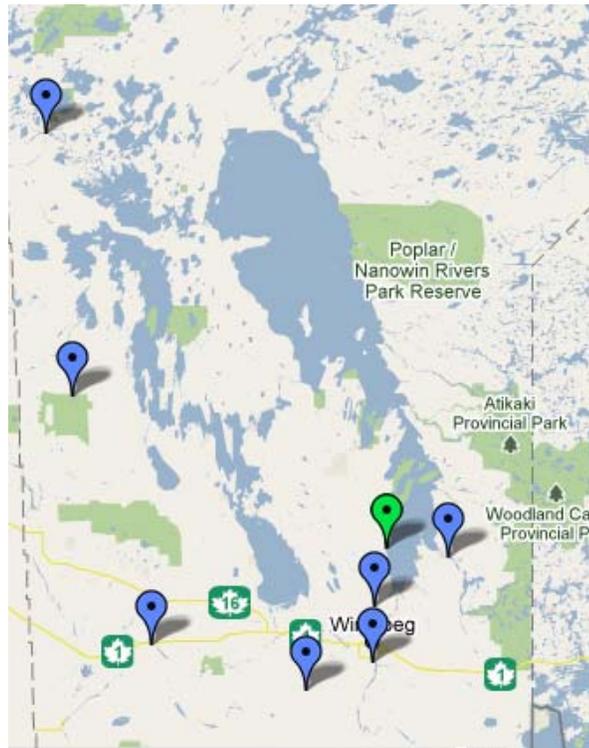
- Oak Hammock Marsh
- Assiniboine Community College
- Duck Mountain Forest Centre
- LaSalle Redboine Conservation District
- Manitoba Model Forest
- Scouts Canada
- Pembina Valley Conservation District
- University College of the North



### Sustainable Envirothon

How can the Manitoba Envirothon decrease its ecological footprint? Do you have an ideas on how Envirothon can become more sustainable? Please send us your ideas so we can work towards an Envirothon with minimal ecological impact.

envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org



-  Manitoba Envirothon
-  Regional Envirothon

# Schedule for Provincial Competition

“The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe about us, the less taste we shall have for destruction”  
~Rachel Carson

If this is your first year with Envirothon you may be wondering what exactly to expect at the competition, below is a draft schedule for the provincial competition which will give you a better idea of what to expect. All times are subject to change. Further detail about the competition, what to bring and directions to the Gimli Barracks will be sent out closer to the date.

Thursday May 26, 2011	
TIME	ACTIVITY
3:30pm	Teams Arrive at Gimli industrial Park Barracks
4:00pm	Team Registration
6:00pm	Dinner
7:00pm	Opening ceremonies, team introductions, socializing

Friday May 27, 2011	
TIME	ACTIVITY
8:30am	Breakfast
9:30am	Travel to field site
10:00am	Team Training
11:30am	Lunch
12:30pm	Trail test orientation
1:30pm	Test Begins
4:30pm	Dinner on site
5:30pm	Travel back to Gimli industrial park
7:30pm	Orals competition workshop
8:30pm	Socializing and free time

Saturday May 28, 2011	
TIME	ACTIVITY
7:00am	Breakfast and check out
8:30am	Team orientation
9:00am	Team orals presentation prep
11:30am	Lunch
12:30pm	Preliminary Oral presentations
2:15pm	Final orals, awards and closing ceremonies
5:00pm	Dinner
5:30pm	Teams Depart



## *Schedule for Regional Competition*



The regional events are a one day competition. Teams will attend one regional competition before advancing to the provincial event. Each Regional competition will vary depending on the host organization. A general schedule for the event is as follows:

Teams arrive at the regional site between 8:30

a.m. and 9:00 a.m. There will be a short welcome by the host organization and students will then take part in training sessions. After lunch the trail test will be. The trail test will be three hours, with the orals component built into the test as one of the stops. The event will wrap up around 3:30 p.m. Results of the competition will not be announced until after May

17 once ALL regional events have occurred.

More information on each regional event will be made available when schedules for the regionals are confirmed.

## *Awards and Prizes for Envirothon*

### Calling all MEC Members

To reach out to potential sponsor and to show the benefits of Manitoba Envirothon we are asking our volunteers to help raise awareness about the program. If you are a member of Manitoba Equipment Co-op and a Envirothon volunteer please let us know and we will pass on the message to MEC. All we need to know is that you are a member. Email [envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org](mailto:envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org)

Each year the Envirothon Steering Committee approaches various businesses, and organizations in Manitoba for donations of prizes to be awarded to teams at Envirothon. In the past we have received many generous donation of prizes such as guide books, organic clothing, backpacks, fishing rod, gift certificate to environmental stores, and memberships to environmental organizations. However we know there are many local groups of which we are not aware, if you know of any organizations or businesses in your local community

that may be interested in donating items as prizes, we would like to hear from you! Please contact Michaela and we can work together to approach the groups.

We are looking for a number of different prizes, in addition to awards for the top 3 teams we are seeking awards for teams that demonstrate an excellence in the five different topic areas as well as the oral presentation. We usually ask for six of an item, one for each team member and one for our volunteer door prizes

In keeping with the mandate and message of the Envirothon, the committee

would like to reward the students for their hard work with prizes that encourage environmental education and leave a minimal impact on the environment.

To discuss this further please contact Michaela: [envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org](mailto:envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org) (204) 453-3182 ext. 2

## Changes at the MFA



Welcome Jane Epp

The Manitoba Forestry Association has gone through some changes over the past few months, there are new faces around the office and some others have moved on.

Jane Epp has joined us as our new administrative assistant, and in charge of the seedling sales program here at the MFA. You will see her around the provincial Envirothon.



Happy retirement Ken Fosty

After 20 years with the woodlot program Ken Fosty has retired from the MFA. Ken was instrumental in organizing and delivering the many seminars, field days and bus tours for the Manitoba Forestry Associated. To date over

1,200 management plans have been completed in the province through the Woodlot Program. In his retirement Ken will continue his mushroom and maple syrup businesses as well as many trips south.

Andrea Kraayeveld has a new role here at the MFA as the Trees for Tomorrow extension officer, working closely with the staff at Manitoba Conservation. Andrea is also working with the woodlot program.

As many of you know Andrea Swain returned as Education Program Director at the MFA this July after a year of maternity leave with her son Archer. In addition to her work on the in-school

program, Forest Centres and teacher workshops Andy will also be working with our partners to establish the regional Envirothon program.

I (Michaela) have taken on a greater role with the Envirothon program, working closely with the steering committee to organize this year's provincial event. I will also work closely with Andy on other MFA education programming.

Lisa Tack, former Envirothon coordinator, has left her position at the MFA to pursue her career in massage therapy, but you will likely spot her at some of our events this year.

## Envirothon T-shirts

The steering committee is in the process of ordering t-shirts for the regional and provincial Envirothon competition; after 15 years of Envirothon competitions I think we've seen t-shirts in all colours of the rainbow! Or have we? Send us your opinion on which colour you would like to see this

year's Envirothon shirt to be.

We are also planning on changing the design of the shirt for 2011. Can you guess what the change may be? Send your guesses and colour requests to [envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org](mailto:envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org).



### *Dr. Alan B. Beaven Forestry Scholarship*



The Alan B. Beaven Scholarship is awarded annually to a by the Manitoba Forestry Association to a Manitoba resident. To qualify you must be a student who has recently graduate of high school, entering first year forestry at a Canadian university or technical school. The Scholarship of \$500.00 will be paid, in the student's name, to the university or school as part of the tuition.

Application must be submitted by the 31<sup>st</sup> of July of each year to the **Manitoba Forestry Association**  
 900 Corydon Avenue  
 Winnipeg, Manitoba  
 R3M 0Y4  
 Phone: (204) 453-3182 Fax: (204) 477-5765 info@thinktrees.org

**Please include** - A transcript of marks for final year of high school, a letter of reference from a teacher, and any other information you feel is relevant.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of the University or Technical School you plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Course(s) that you will be taking: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Career you hope to pursue: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief summary of financial status: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Year you graduated grade 12: \_\_\_\_\_

If not current year, what have you done since graduating grade 12 ? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Work Experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies & Other Interests: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## Funding and Educational Opportunities



### Forest Ed: Beyond Large Scale Forestry: Sustaining Forest Communities

Hosted by: Manitoba Forestry Association  
March 4-5 2011  
Pine Falls and Gimli

A two day workshop that will address the pillars of sustainability as they relate to forestry operations with a focus on alternative economic development opportunities to sustain communities in the face of the closure of a large scale forestry operation. We will visit a private woodlot to learn about harvesting techniques, see the operation of a small scale sawmill, and examine the potential of non-timber forest products as a source



of income. Cost of workshop is \$75 per person, includes accommodations, food and tours. Please contact Andrea Swain at the MFA [aswain@thinktrees.org](mailto:aswain@thinktrees.org) or 453-3182

### Caring for our Watershed Contest

Answer the question: What can you do to improve your watershed? and enter to win a \$3,550 reward. Research your idea and explain it in an approximately 1,000 words proposal. For more information contact the Manitoba coordination Nathalie Bays at 467-3308 or [n\\_bays@ducks.ca](mailto:n_bays@ducks.ca) [www.caringforourwatershe](http://www.caringforourwatershe)

[ds.com](http://ds.com)

### Grant: Education For Sustainable Development

Deadline: February 11, 2011  
Manitoba Ed and MB Hydro offer the *Education for Sustainable Development Grant* to support teachers who promote sustainability in their classroom.

The grants, of up to \$2,000.00, will cover expenses such as teacher release time for planning, professional development and teaching/learning resources.

For more information, visit: [www.edu.gov.mb.ca/edu/grants.html](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/edu/grants.html)

As Manitoba's oldest environmental education organization, the Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA) is a leader in the field of forest education. Our mission is to educate all Manitobans about wise management of trees and forests, to ensure they will remain healthy and productive for today, and for future generations.



Manitoba Forestry Association  
900 Corydon Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3M 0y4

Phone: 204-453-3182 ext.2  
[enviroordinator@thinktrees.org](mailto:enviroordinator@thinktrees.org)  
[www.thinktrees.org/Envirothon.aspx](http://www.thinktrees.org/Envirothon.aspx)

In 1996, MFA explored the idea of Envirothon. Four teams participated in the first Manitoba Envirothon in 1997 at Birds Hill Provincial Park. In 2006, MFA made Envirothon one of its core programs. Today, the Manitoba Envirothon is still going strong with over 35 teams participating annually.

