

May 2008 Issue



Enviro Web

Newsletter of the Manitoba Envirothon

Mark your calendar!!
May 22nd to 24th, 2008

Coordinator's Corner by Andrea Swain

The 2008 Manitoba is only 6 sleeps away! We are all looking forward to a wonderful Manitoba Envirothon in Pinawa next week. Inside this newsletter, you will find a packing list, the media release form (please bring signed copies with you to the event!), and other important information about the Envirothon.

Hint for the Oral Competition

On page 2 you will find links to two websites that will give you a little more insight into the them topic for 2008.

Trading Session Friday Evening

Please note: we usually have a trading session on Friday evening but I failed to mention this in the last newsletter. IT IS NOT MANDATORY but many teams enjoy this fast-paced, "get-to-know-you" activity. Sometimes these items are hand made, some times they represent your community or school, sometimes they are from a team sponsor. Your team can be as creative as possible. You can bring as many or as few items as you want. The more items you have the more trades you can make! Trading an item is a great way to break the ice with members of other teams!

Your team does not have to participate but for those who have participated in the past it is a fun and crazy way to meet the competition!!

Media Release Forms

If you have not already submitted your media release forms please bring them to the event.

Meet your Volunteers-APOLOGY!

I would like to apologize to Rebecca McKay with Manitoba Conservation-Forestry Branch and Shauna Da Costa with Manitoba Water Stewardship who I missed off the last list of volunteers!

I would also like to thank the staff and board of directors of the Manitoba Forestry Association for all of the work they do to make this event a success!

Teachers you have a role to play at the event!

Besides your coaching, advising, chaperoning and "other duties as assigned" we also hope you will be a Trail Guide on Friday, May 23rd. Some of you have already indicated that you are not available but for those of you who are interested please read the details on page 6.

Packing

Please be advised that you will only be given ONE towel for the 2.5 days that you are at Wilderness Edge. Please bring an extra towel if you feel you need one.

There is more information about what to pack on page 2.

Rules and Procedures for Envirothon

I have attached the Envirothon Rules and Procedures Manual for your perusal. There will be hard copies available at the event. Please make note of the sections on the field test and the oral competition.

We look forward to seeing you in Pinawa! Travel Safe!

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2008 Theme Websites-HINT! HINT!

As I mentioned at the Workshop in April, there are two parts to the Manitoba Envirothon: the field test and the oral competition. For those of you who are new to Envirothon, I also mentioned that the oral competition focuses on the theme of "Recreational Impacts on Ecosystems". The following websites will give you a little insight into the oral competition:

Hint

Landscapes from Manidoo Abi Website www.manidooabi.org

Eastside Aboriginal Tourism Inc. www.eastinc.ca

What to Pack

If there is anything we have learned from past Envirothons is that we need to be prepared for any weather! We have had rain, cold, wind, blazing sun, and even snow!! Remember you will be outside all day on Friday!! Here are some things you will want to consider packing:

- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Rain gear
- Hat
- Outdoor shoes
- Pyjamas, indoor clothes
- Medication or other personal items
- Musical Instruments
- Sports equipment (Frisbee, volleyball, etc)
- Warm clothes

Please note:

- Wilderness Edge provides towels & bedding.
- Do not bring anything valuable.
- Electronic equipment (ie: cell phone, MP3 player, etc.) is not allowed on the trail test or in the oral prep rooms.

New for 2008

If you have a room please bring a lawn/camp chair like you did at the workshop.

Remember: you will only be given one towel for the duration of the event so pack an extra if you think you will need one!

2008 Envirothon Sponsors

Legacy Partner

Manitoba Hydro

Sustaining Partner

Manitoba Water Stewardship
Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines
Manitoba Conservation
Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs
Mackenzie Seeds
Jiffy Canada Incorporated
Manitoba Model Forest

Encouraging Partner

Canon Envirothon
Assiniboine Community College

**The Manitoba
Envirothon is made
possible with the
generous support of
our sponsors.**

**The Manitoba Forestry Association
would like to thank all of our
partners in environmental
education.**

Media Release Form

Teams

Please ask your parents to complete this form. It gives us permission to take pictures of you at the event and to use these pictures on our website and in other promotional items such as brochures. We are also filming a new Envirothon DVD so we are asking permission to film you as part of the DVD.

Because of the hands-on nature of the Envirothon program our sponsors, volunteers, and the public want to see pictures of the students "in action". We appreciate you taking the time to read and sign the release. PLEASE BRING THE SIGNED FORM WITH YOU TO THE EVENT.

2008 Manitoba Envirothon Photo/Media Release Form

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Advisor's Name: _____

I agree that my photo may be taken during the Manitoba Envirothon and be used by the Manitoba Forestry Association for non-profit promotion of the Envirothon program. This promotion may include, but is not limited to, our website, educational resources, articles in journals, power point presentations, and a promotional DVD.

Student's Signature: _____

I agree that my son or daughter's name and photo may be used in the above mentioned promotional materials.

Parent's Signature: _____

If you have any questions please contact Andrea Swain,
Manitoba Envirothon Coordinator at 453-3182.

Envirothon Schedule

Thursday, May 22nd

4:00-6:00 p.m.	Arrival and Registration
5:30-7:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:00-10:00 p.m.	Welcome and Introductions
	Team Introductions
	Socializing

During the “team introductions” your team is given 2 minutes to introduce yourselves in the most creative way possible. Some teams come prepared with props, costumes, songs, and others have a less dramatic flair! The choice is up to you!

Friday, May 23rd

7:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:00-8:30 a.m.	Briefing to Trail Guides
8:30-9:00 am	Briefing to Teams and assigned to Trail Guides
9:30 a.m.	Trail Testing begins
11:40 am	Lunches for teams, advisors & volunteers
1:00 p.m.	Reassemble and return to trail
1:30 p.m.	Trail testing resumes
4:00-5:00 p.m.	Free Time
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Supper at Wilderness Edge
7:30 p.m.	Teams and Advisors Workshop on Orals
8:30 – 10:00 p.m.	Recreation and socializing

Advisors we have you scheduled to be trail guide on test day. See page 6. Most advisors really like this but if you are not interested in being a trail guide please let us know!

We don't all fit in the cafeteria at Wilderness Edge so we will eat in shifts. You can also grab your food and eat outside...this is why a camp chair will be useful. We will give you more details about eating when you get to the event .

On Friday evening there will be time to play games, sports, and socialize. TRADING SESSION will happen at this time!

Saturday, May 24th

7:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:00-8:30 a.m.	Team Orientation and Introduction to Oral Competition
8:30-11:00 am	Team preparation for Orals
9:00-11:00 a.m.	Test review & debriefing for Advisors
11:00-11:45 a.m.	Lunch for Teams and Advisors
12:00-2:00 pm	Preliminary Oral Presentations
2:15-2:30 p.m.	Announcement of finalists
2:30-4:00 p.m.	Final Orals
4:15-5:00 pm	Awards and Closing
5:00-5:45 p.m.	Dinner
6:00 pm	Departure

After breakfast you and your advisors will be separated so that you can concentrate on preparing for the oral presentation. You will get the question in the morning and we will give you the space and supplies...you just need to bring your knowledge, sense of humour, and team work skills!

While the students are preparing for their orals, advisors can attend the teachers debrief with the test writing committee. This will give you a chance to ask questions about the test and make other comments about the event.

Wilderness Edge-Your Home Away From Home!

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Emergency contact phone # for the Envirothon is Jim Potton, 612-0163 or parents can call Wilderness Edge Retreat and Conference Centre at 753-2535.

First Aid arrangements for the Envirothon are: we have a registered nurse who will be carrying a First Aid Kit and is prepared to respond to any injuries throughout the event. On the field test day we have made arrangements to have St. John Ambulance on site. For more serious injuries we will call the Winnipeg River Ambulance Service, which is stationed in Pinawa. The emergency phone number is 911. The Pinawa Hospital has 24-hour emergency service.

HOW TO GET TO WILDERNESS EDGE

Get to Winnipeg's Perimeter Hwy. #101 and travel to Hwy. #59 North.

Take #59 Hwy. North to the #44 Hwy. Go East past Beausejour to Hwy #11 North

Take Hwy, #11 North to Provincial Road #211. Follow the #211 until the Pinawa "Welcome" sign and turn into town.

Drive until you reach the gas station and turn left. Drive for 250 ft. and turn right into the Wilderness Edge parking lot.



REGISTRATION

Registration will take place in the foyer inside Wilderness Edge from 4 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 22nd at which time rooms will be assigned, keys will be distributed, etc.

KEY DEPOSITS AND REFUNDS

A \$10.00 key deposit will be required at registration. This can be paid by cheque or cash at registration. The deposit will be collected from the teacher/advisor accompanying the team, and returned to the same teacher/advisor when the team "checks out" on Saturday. If a key is lost your key deposit will not be returned. Teacher/Advisors will be required to sign a waiver accepting responsibility for all keys issued to their team.

ACCOMMODATION

All teams are expected to stay in residence. We will do our best to satisfy special requests as far as rooms are concerned. Bedding and towels are provided however if you can't sleep without your favorite pillow then please do what you need to do to make yourself comfortable! Please note: in some cases you will be required to share a bed with one of your team mates (of the same gender, of course!).

CURFEW

All Envirothon teams should be in their rooms by 11:00 pm. It is the responsibility of the team and the advisor to ensure that the curfew is followed.

Trail Guide Job Description

Trail Guides are non-biased chaperones who serve as an assistant to a team during the trail testing component of the competition

A Trail Guide:

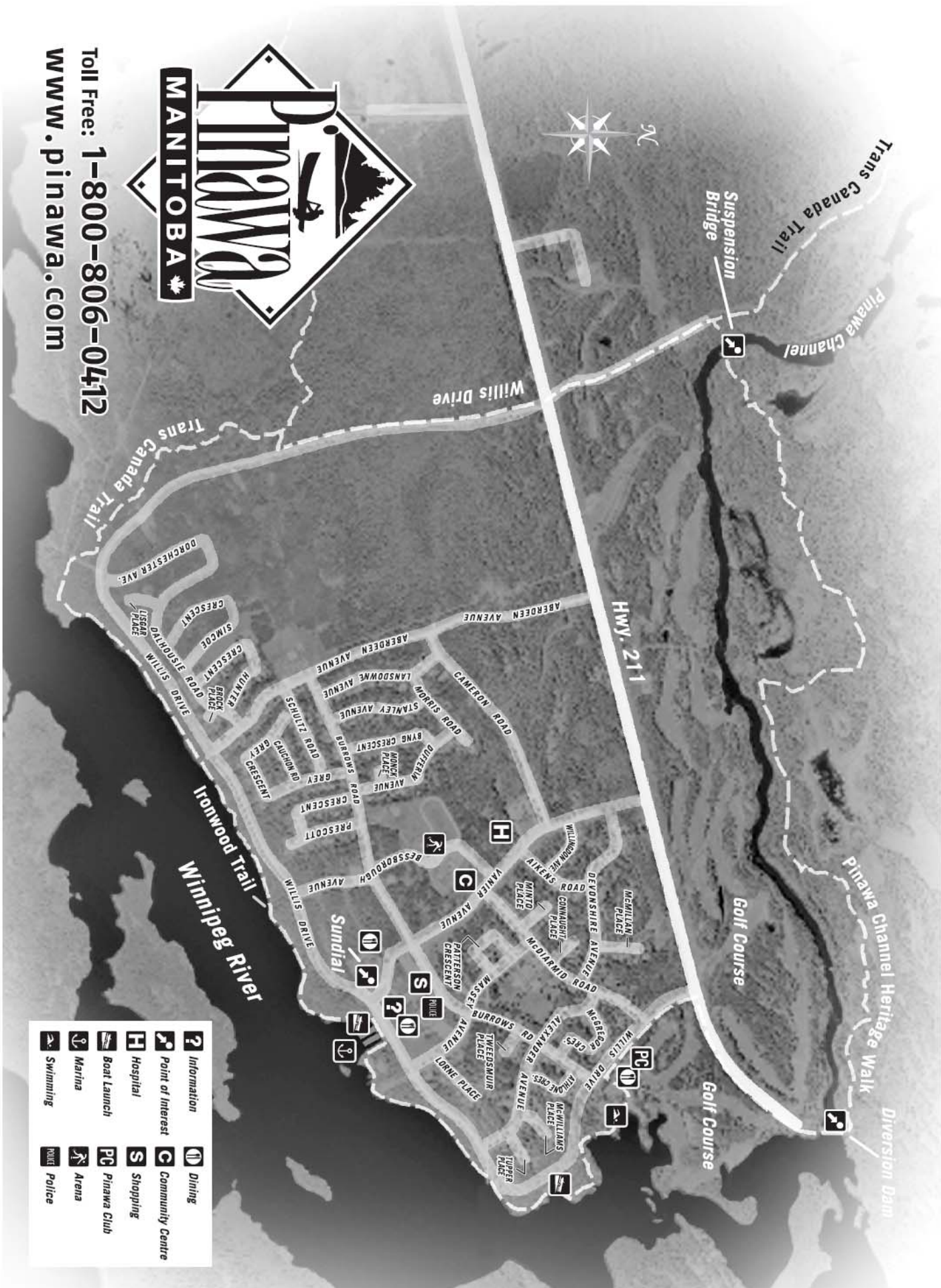
- Is assigned to a team and will accompany this team throughout the trail testing.
- Ensures that team members have clipboards and pencils.
- Keeps close track of time. It is important to stay on schedule.
- Distributes the appropriate test for each trail.
- Encourages team members to be thoughtful and courteous of other teams that will be using the same trail. Keeps enough distance to allow each team to take the necessary time to complete the test questions.
- Collects the test at the end of each trail.
- Ensures all clipboards and equipment are collected at the completion of the trail testing.
- Visits with the team members but doesn't help them with the questions.
- Has a great time and enjoys the experience of getting to know other team members.

Unless you tell us otherwise, advisors are assigned to be trail guides for a team that is not their own.

This gives advisors a chance to see the trails, see the equipment at the stops and listen to the team answer the questions. This will help with your team discussion after the test and at the advisor debriefing on Saturday morning.



Toll Free: 1-800-806-0412
 www.pinawa.com



TD Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup

This September, we would like to invite you to join thousands of Canadians from coast to coast as we clean up rivers, lakes, streams and ocean shorelines during the 2008 TD Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup!

This year's national cleanup week will take place:

September 20th – 28th, 2008

(Registration closes August 31st)



By organizing or joining a shoreline cleanup in your community, you'll be contributing to a national effort to keep Canada's waterways clean, safe, and beautiful. What's more, you'll also be gathering data about the items you collect, that will help us in our work to prevent litter at its source.

Organizing a cleanup is easy! Individuals who organize cleanups are called **Site Coordinators** and they are the lead contact and organizer for their shoreline cleanup. They select a location, pick a date and time for the cleanup, and act as the recipient for the Cleanup Supply Kit which we will send you completely free of charge! Additionally, you will receive online access to an instruction manual and other helpful resources.

For more information on how to register, please visit our website at:

www.vanaqua.org/cleanup

What are the Benefits of Participating?

- Easy and free to organize – we provide the basic supply kit you will need to host a fun and successful cleanup!
- Anyone can participate – suitable for all ages and all levels of ability
- Provides a wonderful opportunity for environmental education

You can also email our office at: shorelinecleanup@vanaqua.org
or call (toll-free): 1-877-427-2422

