



2024 EcoBuzz Conference: Bridging the Green Divide Inclusive Environmentalism for All!

Workshop Presenters and Descriptions

Workshop Title and Presenter	Workshop Summary
Rain to Runoff: A Stormwater Story By Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)	Facilitators will present on what is stormwater and the accompanying impacts of pollution, flooding, and erosion all in the context in a changing climate. Students will participate in a hands-on microplastics activity where they will examine collected sand/water samples and discuss impacts of plastics in our ecosystem. Students will learn ways to take action to protect water resources and local wildlife habitat.
Gone Fishin': Taking a look at water quality through fish eyes By Credit Valley Conservation (CVC)	Participants will learn about how ecosystems are protected, monitored, and restored by conservation staff at Credit Valley Conservation (CVC), about local environmental issues facing urban watersheds, and how collecting fish samples help us understand the health of our watershed. Youth will take part in a hands-on "mock" electrofishing activity where they will identify fish as indicator species to determine the health of creeks and rivers. Students will learn about stream ecology and make connections between physical properties of water quality and fish ecology.
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner - How Food & Climate Intersect By Ecosource	Every day, we make choices about food - as part of our routines, as part of our cultures, as part of our identity. These choices link us inextricably to the environment that make us part of our Food System. What is the impact of our food choices on our local (and not so local) environment? How do we make mindful choices that are empowering and have a positive impact on our communities? How can food be used as a tool to bring people together and make environmental change? This workshop will explore the environmental impacts of food, as well as how to navigate our choices around food in a meaningful way that makes an impact - with some delicious recipe suggestions along the way, guided by activities tested and developed by youth from Ecosource's Food Citizen Manual.



<p>New Majority's Tools for Change</p> <p>By New Majority</p>	<p>We know that so many young people want to take action on the issues that matter to them but aren't sure how— and we've crafted this workshop with y'all in mind! Over the course of the session, we're going to be sharing the most valuable tools to engage your friends, communities & powerful decision-makers and take your impact to the next level!</p>
<p>Safe Cycling 101</p> <p>By City of Mississauga</p>	<p>Join us for an introduction to everything you need to know to get on your bike and ride safely through Mississauga! Topics will include equipment and bike fit, safe riding techniques, rules and responsibilities, interactions with other road and trail users, choosing your route, and more.</p>
<p>Keep it Cool Classrooms</p> <p>By Project Neutral</p>	<p>Are you feeling anxious, overwhelmed or hopeless about climate change? We often hear a negative story about the state of the climate: "we're all doomed and there's nothing we can do about it". But there's another story, and it's hopeful! The truth is, we still have time to change the course of climate change and avoid the worst impacts! Our interactive workshop aims to frame climate change in an approachable, hopeful light that empowers students with the tools to take action. The workshop begins with a brief overview of the climate basics, then dives into climate emotions: what are they, and how can they hinder or help us in our shift towards a carbon-free future? Then we will dive into the solutions! Because the truth is, we have the solutions, we just need to implement them. And a powerful tool for creating the future we want is using our imaginations to picture it first!</p>
<p>The Urban Birder (outdoors)</p> <p>By the Riverwood Conservancy</p>	<p>Wander the UTM landscape and discover how Birding can connect you to the land, no matter where you find yourself. Binoculars and a birding ID cheat sheet will be provided for the walk.</p>
<p>Climate Change Trivia</p> <p>By City of Mississauga</p>	<p>Gather with a team of your friends and test your environmental knowledge! Answer questions about climate change, the environment and sustainability for a chance to win some sustainable swag!</p>
<p>Drops of Change: How Schools Can Make a</p>	<p>Through interactive discussions and activities, students will learn where Peel's drinking water comes from, how water is</p>



<p>Splash in Water Conservation</p> <p>By Region of Peel</p>	<p>treated at our treatment facilities, and what they can do to save water. Discover actionable tips for reducing water usage in daily life, both at home and at school, and recognize how small changes can make a big difference. Students will be challenged to complete a water efficiency audit to assess their daily water use and explore further ways to conserve their water footprint. Let's come together to make every drop count!</p>
<p>Avengers Assemble! Protecting Neighbourhoods from Climate Change</p> <p>By Credit Valley Conservation SNAP</p>	<p>A neighbourhood in Mississauga called Cooksville needs your help. Flooding, air pollution, and declining natural habitats are putting the residents, schools, and businesses at risk and threatening their future in the city. You've been asked to assemble with your fellow superheroes to investigate the threats to the community and come up with a plan of action to protect the local community. Join CVC for this interactive workshop to learn what it takes to explore environmental issues concerning you and your community and inspire climate action in your community.</p>
<p>Medicinal Tea</p> <p>By Mark Sault</p>	<p>Elder Mark Sault from Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation will showcase the medicinal uses of traditional plants to make tea. He has gathered and studied some of the local plants and trees that are used to make herbal teas that help with many of the health problems that plague our population. He will share his knowledge of plants, harvesting and the holistic uses of sacred medicines.</p>
<p>Local Climate Impacts in Peel Region</p> <p>By Community Climate Council</p>	<p>Climate change is here and now! Our Climate Hub is a space where Peel residents can learn about all things climate in the Peel Region. But, navigating climate information can be daunting. So, we created a solution to amalgamate what you need to know about local climate impacts in your region in one place.</p> <p>Join us to discuss and understand local climate hazards and impacts and how youth can take action. Let's build a more resilient community that adapts to our changing climate together.</p>
<p>Paths to Sustainable Fashion for Every Body</p> <p>By Canary Kids Club</p>	<p>Practice hands-on mending of a garment while learning about different ways to thoughtfully approach alternatives to fast fashion. Will discuss current concerns around exclusivity of sustainable brands and gentrification of the second-hand clothing market.</p>



<p>Connecting with Nature Through Tree Monitoring and Tree Identification (partly outdoors) By Association for Canadian Educational Resources (ACER)</p>	<p>We will teach the basics of identifying, measuring and assessing trees and how these activities help people understand how trees grow. Participants will work hands on with forestry equipment to measure trees and enter field collected data. They will also learn about tree id and be able to understand the process of using tree id keys for deciduous and coniferous trees.</p>
<p>Embracing an Inclusive Community By Community Living Mississauga (Career Connection department)</p>	<p>We will provide an overview of our services pertaining to youth, the impacts of embracing an inclusive community and the environmental impact and benefits of youth working within their communities. As well as a discussion around advocating for accessibility and accommodations in the workplace.</p>